



Ben LeRoy Boerger

February 26, 1933 - January 4, 2021

Ben LeRoy Boerger, 87, died on the 4th of January, 2021, in his home in Grand Island, Nebraska, surrounded by family. A Rock County native, Ben was born on February 26, 1933, to Herman and Eunice (Everingham) Boerger in Bassett, Nebraska. He welcomed a little sister, Lois Jean, in 1935.

Ben attended school through eighth grade at Duff School District #4 at Duff, Nebraska, before boarding with Bessie Bennett for \$8.50 per week to attend Rock County High School in Bassett. Ben graduated from RCHS in 1951 and received his draft notice in 1952. After riding the train from Bassett to Omaha to take his physical, he was assigned to Fort Bliss in El Paso, Texas, for basic training. After completing basic training, Ben was stationed in Fort Devens in Massachusetts and Camp Crowder in Missouri. Ben's training focused on the use of a 90-millimeter arterial shell. Ben gave the command to fire with a headset and microphone. The target was a small sock that was pulled along by an airplane. After an honorable discharge from the US Army in 1955, Ben returned home to help on his family's ranch at Rose, Nebraska.

Ben's life changed when he, accompanied by his cousin Harry Swanson, attended a dance at Hidden Paradise in Long Pine, where he met the love of his life, Judy Farber. Ben and Judy were married on July 12, 1959, at the United Methodist Church in Ainsworth. The newlyweds made their home by Rose on the family ranch, which was homesteaded by his grandparents Emma (Baumeister) and Gustav Boerger in 1885. They were blessed with two daughters, Lori and Carole. Ben took great pride in his wife and instilled the ethics of hard work, kindness, and compassion in his children. The Boergers were the proud recipients of the Nebraska Pioneer Farm Award in 1995, honoring the ranch's 100-year heritage. Ben was also a great believer in community service. He served on the Duff District #4 School Board and helped to consolidate it with the Rose District #72 in 1967. Ben was also elected to the Rock Country Rural Fire District Board, serving as the Secretary/Treasurer, as well as serving multiple terms on both the ASCS Committee and the FMHA Board.

In 1996, Ben and Judy retired from ranching and moved to Grand Island, Nebraska, to make their home. They greatly enjoyed their church family at St. Paul Lutheran Church, often sharing coffee and brunch with their dear friends after Sunday services. They also enjoyed twenty-three winters in South Padre Island, Texas, where they made many lifelong friends. Ben and Judy enjoyed traveling to many countries and national parks through the years. They adored their four grandchildren and three great granddaughters and loved having time to spend with them.

Ben was a member of the Grand Island Lions Club, Bassett Legion Club Post #123, Grand Island Elks Lodge #604, and the Grand Island Saddle Club. He was a proud supporter of the Nebraska State Fair and 1868 Foundation. Ben was a John Deere tractor lover, a stained glass artist, a South Padre snow bird, a friend to talk to, a holiday cranberries maker, a fisherman, a Cow Palace morning coffee boy, and a kind and gentle soul.

He is survived by his wife of sixty-one years, Judy; daughters Lori (Rod) Stolcpart of Newport and Carole (Brian) Urbom of Grand Island; grandchildren Brad (Tara) Stolcpart of Kearney, Jenna (Ryan) Pickel of Johnson Lake, Michaela Ostdiek (fiancée Chayse Gulzow) of Ainsworth, and Allison Ostdiek of Grand Island; as well as his sister, Lois Nydle of Ottumwa, Iowa and sister-in-law, Marie Dodd of Ainsworth. He will also be missed by his three great granddaughters Brynlee & Marley Stolcpart and Emma Pickel, nieces, nephews and a host of great friends and neighbors.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Herman and Eunice Boerger, and by his brother-in-law, Fred Nydle.

Services will be held at 10:00 AM Monday, January 11, 2021 at St. Pauls Lutheran Church in Grand Island. Pastor Bill Pavuk will officiate. Livestreaming will be available at St. Pauls Lutheran Church Facebook page. A family burial will be at the Duff Cemetery following the service at 2 PM. Military rites will be provided by Bassett Legion Club #123.

Visitation hours without the family present will be from 5-7 PM Sunday at All Faiths Funeral Home, Grand Island. To help protect others, facemasks are required during the visitation, the service and the cemetery rites.

Memorials are suggested to St. Paul's Lutheran Church of Grand Island, the Grand Island Lions Club, or to the donor's choice.

Cemetery

Events

Duff Cemetery

JAN

Celebration of Life Service

10:00AM

11

Rose, NE,

St. Pauls Lutheran Church

1515 South Harrison Street, Grand Island, NE, US, 68801

Comments



“ Lori, Rod & Judy, sorry to hear of Ben's passing. Ben was the example of honesty, kindness, and appreciated good service. He is one of my most pleasant memories from the customers that I was blessed to have at Stuart TV & Appliance. When I first met Ben he made an appointment and came to Stuart to visit with me about installing a tower at his house for TV reception. We were about 1/2 done with the plans and price quote and the fire whistle blew. Knowing Ben had driven a long way just to visit with me, I told him that I had to go help with the emergency. During the call I wondered how this would turn out as I had left in the middle of a business meeting. Ben called me the next day and ordered the tower installed, saying that volunteers were needed to respond to others needs, and that was most important. This started a relationship with one of my BEST customers in my business for several years. Ben even hired me to install a satellite dish on his Grand Island house when he moved, commenting that it was worth it to have me do the work for him because he trusted me. That gave me a level of confidence in myself that has impacted the rest of my life to this day. Great Man who will be missed. Gary Walton Rapid City, SD

Gary Walton - January 13, 2021 at 07:50 AM



“ Thank you Gary for those great stories! Yes, he was a fair and caring man! Taught me many great values! He sure appreciated people he could trust to do a good job! You were the best!

Lori - January 17, 2021 at 09:10 PM



“ Sweetest Sunrise Bouquet was purchased for the family of Ben LeRoy Boerger.



January 10, 2021 at 11:39 AM



“ 1 file added to the album Video



Lori Stolcpart - January 09, 2021 at 09:54 PM



“ Thank you for sharing this video. I am now just able to watch this. He was there to great mom and Phill.....guess they are all having a family reunion without us. We all need to stay in touch....LOVE MY FAMILY!!!

Claudia Coffey - June 16, 2021 at 10:55 AM



“ 1 file added to the album Video



Lori Stolcpart - January 09, 2021 at 09:09 PM



“ Our sincerely condolences to Judy and the Boerger family during this time of loss. Ben will be missed by so many.

The Grand Island Elks Lodge 604

Jeremy Brandt
District Deputy GER
Nebraska Central

Jeremy Brandt - January 09, 2021 at 06:50 PM



“ Thank you so much!

Lori - January 17, 2021 at 09:11 PM



“ The Ostdiek's purchased the Lovely One Spathiphyllum Plant for the family of Ben LeRoy Boerger.



The Ostdiek's - January 09, 2021 at 05:20 PM



“ 9 files added to the album Memories Album



Lori Stolcpart - January 09, 2021 at 05:01 PM



“ Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Ben LeRoy Boerger.



January 09, 2021 at 01:47 PM



“ Todd and Julie Nitsch purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Ben LeRoy Boerger.



Todd and Julie Nitsch - January 09, 2021 at 10:01 AM



“ So sorry for you loss. He will be missed by all who knew him. I remember all the years starting with high school and after Judy and he were married as neighbors in the south of Bassett country! Rest in peace, Ben.

Clarice Smith - January 09, 2021 at 08:43 AM



“ Thanks Clarice.

Lori - January 09, 2021 at 04:26 PM



“ My boys, Brett & Spencer, had the good fortune to be able to mow Ben and Judy's yard the past eight years. Ben would always take the time to come out and talk and it was a blessing for my boys because they would always hear words of encouragement and words of wisdom. It didn't take long to realize what a great man Ben was. You saw his caring, compassion, and understanding in everything he did. I would help my son's mow on most occasions and when Ben stepped out of the house, I would shut off the mower and we would talk like two ranch boys out on the range; talking about the weather or what is happening in the world. He wouldn't talk for a long time, not because he didn't want to talk, but because he knew we had work to do. I will really miss those talks and him encouraging my sons. I saw Ben on Christmas day, he smiled and waved and I will cherish that image forever. I am so sorry for your loss. I hope everyone in the family can hold on and cherish all the great memories they have of Ben, I know there has to be countless numbers. My thoughts and prayers are with you. Wayne, Brett & Spencer Wiens

Wayne Wiens - January 08, 2021 at 01:54 PM



“ Wayne, you stopping to talk was the highlight of his day! He looked forward to talking with you. Thank you for your kindness! You and your boys were truly a blessing in Mom and Dad's lives. God bless you!

Lori - January 09, 2021 at 04:33 PM



“ From: The family of Mark Gubser purchased the Days of Sunshine Bouquet for the family of Ben LeRoy Boerger.



From: The family of Mark Gubser - January 08, 2021 at 12:15 PM



“ Ben Boerger was one 'genuine article' and an example of a great human being. Ben always had a smile and always engaged you in conversation. He was interested in you! Ben was loved by his entire family and friends and I know he'll be missed by all.

My deepest condolences to the Boerger family.

Mark Gubser - January 08, 2021 at 12:14 PM



“ Thanks, Mark!

Lori - January 09, 2021 at 04:34 PM



“ Peggy Derickson lit a candle in memory of Ben LeRoy Boerger



Peggy Derickson - January 08, 2021 at 11:23 AM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Ben LeRoy Boerger.



January 08, 2021 at 11:15 AM



“ Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Ben LeRoy Boerger.



January 08, 2021 at 10:51 AM



“ Dear Judy and family our thoughts and prayers are with you during this sad time. My daughter, Kim brought the news to me and I knew I needed to reach out to you! God bless all of you, you will be in our prayers! Judy Thompson- Doeschot Hickman, NE

Judy Doeschot - January 08, 2021 at 09:39 AM



“ Thanks, Judy!

Lori - January 09, 2021 at 04:35 PM



“ Ben is a cousin who is dearly loved. When I was a kid we'd head out to NE most years. Ben took us in his pickup (kids in the back bed) and drive out to see the cattle. Judy would have a meal ready for us when we got back. He told great stories ... the best was about his grandmother walking out to claim the ranch. Ben, you are loved ... farewell. Judy, I am so sorry you have had to say goodbye to your dearest love. My heart is with you.

Debi Bratthauer Bketko - January 08, 2021 at 01:44 AM



“ Thank you, Debi!

Lori - January 09, 2021 at 04:37 PM



“ Ben was always a very special cousin to me. I am the middle of 19 Everingham cousins and Ben always took time to talk to me and make me feel special when we went to the sandhills to visit my grandparents and the Sandhill relatives. Ben and my dad were pretty close in age and they were good friends. I spent some time a few summers staying out there. Fishing in the pond, baking with Judy and the girls and always enjoying conversations with Ben. Last time I saw him was at South Padre. They took us out to eat and gave us the grand tour of the Island. What a blessing they got to spend so many winters there. I'm sure Ben and my dad are having a time reminiscing about the sandhills.

Karen Finch - January 07, 2021 at 08:43 PM



“ Thank you Karen! Your kind words and memories mean so much to us at this time.

Lori - January 08, 2021 at 08:17 AM



“ remembering the great years at South Padre(23 years) We had great friendship and loving memories . We love you, Judy, and pray for you. Love John and Carla

John and Carla Pierce - January 08, 2021 at 06:59 PM



“ Remembering many good times we had at South Padre Island. My deepest sympathy to Judy and all the family.

Jean Berger - January 07, 2021 at 08:18 PM



“ Thank you. That means a lot.

Lori - January 08, 2021 at 08:17 AM



“ We always enjoyed seeing Ben and his family at church. He always had a smile and a nod with his handshake of peace. Our Thoughts and Prayers are with you all. From the Leplers.

Kelli Lepler - January 07, 2021 at 07:06 PM



“ He sure loved his church family. Thank you for your kind words.

Lori - January 08, 2021 at 08:15 AM



“ It is hard to share just one memory of my Uncle Ben being a part of my life for almost 50 years.

Growing up as a young child in Ainsworth, Ne. Going to Uncle Ben's Ranch was one of my favorite things to do. Working in the meadows riding with him on the tractor in the summer as he prepared to harvest and build hay bales for the winter feeding. Visiting him during the winter months, taking us out snowmobiling through the hills and of course there was Christmas. Ben and my grandmother Verna boy did he like to prank her on Christmas with his gift :). The look on Verna's face every-time she was to open his gift was priceless would almost say she was afraid to know what it was. Playing cribbage on a cold winter night, fishing at clear lake along with Grandpa John. As the years past and after Ben had sold the ranch, I would always try to meet up with him and Aunt Judy to have a bit to eat as they were passing through Dallas on their way back to Grand Island from South Padre. it was always a great time to catch up on things. Ben was never short on words will miss those. Lastly, being able to video chat with him and Lori this past June, this would be the last time i was able to see and talk to him.

Aunt Judy, Lori, Carol and Kids, - Ben was the kid of man that we all try to be like, but know matter how hard we try we always fall short. If we could re-write the definition of a super-hero in Websters dictionary you would find a picture of him in it. (Loving / Firm / Hardworking / Honest / Funny / Self-Serving / Giving / Protector / Etc..)

I will always love and remember you Ben!!!
Your Nephew "Travis"

Travis Dodd - January 07, 2021 at 07:01 PM



“ Thank you Travis, for all the kind words and caring chats. He thought the world of you!

Lori - January 08, 2021 at 08:15 AM



“ Sending our sincere condolences and prayers to Judy and all of the family. God Bless!

Bill &Jolene Cunningham - January 07, 2021 at 03:42 PM



“ Thanks Bill and Jolene. That means a lot during this tough time.

Lori - January 08, 2021 at 08:19 AM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Ben LeRoy Boerger.



January 07, 2021 at 11:24 AM