



Cecil F. Sonnenfelt

February 16, 1921 - January 23, 2017

Cecil F. Sonnenfelt, 95 of Grand Island died Monday, January 23, 2017 at CHI Health St. Francis.

Services will be 11 a.m. Saturday at the Evangelical Free Church.

Entombment will be in the Westlawn Memorial Park Mausoleum. Military honors will be provided by the US Army and United Veterans Honor Guard.

Visitation will be an hour before service time. All Faiths Funeral Home is serving the family.

Cecil was born February 16, 1921 at Casper, Wyoming the son of Frank and Celia (Galloway) Sonnenfelt.

Survivors include his wife of 74 years, Letha; daughters, Diane (Don) Shaver of Grand Island and Sandy Lawrey of Grand Island; daughter-in-law, Debbie Sonnenfelt of Douglas, Wyoming; son-in-law, Bill Lawrey of Grand Island; 12 grandchildren, 19 great grandchildren, 7 great-great grandchildren; brother, Dick Sonnenfelt of Verdigre and a sister, Bonnie Etherton of Grand Island.

He is preceded in death by his son, Denny; his parents; great great-granddaughter, Emory; sisters, Betty Sanderson, Dorothy Soto, Ruthann Holland and Connie Sonnenfelt and brother, Bobbie Sonnenfelt.

At the age of five, he moved with his family to Kilgore, Nebraska. He was baptized in the Kilgore Baptist Church. He attended grade school and graduated from Plum Brush District 73. Later, he was in the CC Camp for two years and attended two years of agriculture classes and received his high school diploma from Valentine High School.

Cecil spent three and half years in the US Army from July 1942-October 1945. Having fought with the 2nd Division all through the European Theatre of War from Normandy Beach on D+1 to Pilzen Czechoslovakia where the war ended. Cecil received 5 major battle stars. On January 18, 1943 he was united in marriage to the love of his life, Letha Robertson.

They lived on a ranch raising three children, Denny, Diane and Sandra. Some of his accomplishments besides ranching included operating a filling station, managing and owning an Ice Cream and fast food drive-in, working in an implement business and after moving to Grand Island serving as shop foreman for the airport. He retired in 1986. They spent many winters in Texas and Mesa, Arizona.

Some of his hobbies included hunting, fishing, woodworking and keeping a beautiful yard. Kids were very special to him. He made life fun and always made others feel special.

Memorials are suggested to either the Central Nebraska Humane Society as he loved animals or to the Disabled American Veterans as he cared for others.

Cemetery Details

Westlawn Memorial Park

3826 West Stolley Park Road
Grand Island, NE 68803

Tribute Wall



“ Cecil F. Sonnenfelt

October 08, 2023 at 11:02 PM



“ I remember Cecil and Letha from when I volunteered at the G.G.C. He ALWAYS had a smile on his face and a kind word for everyone. He took wonderful care for his wife Letha , always getting her a chair and holding her purse. and brought the car up to the door for her. He was a wonderful man and he will be missed. My deepest sympathy to Letha and their family.



Jo F

Jo Fultz - January 27, 2017 at 04:55 PM



“ Cecil was a neighbor of ours a while back when we lived on South Oak. He and Letha were dear people. I will always remember Cecil and Letha always going to AZ for the winter. He was also instrumental in 'fixing' one of our male cats, as we could not afford a vet bill. Funny to think of that now, but was a wonderful neighbor and so very helpful to our young family at that time. I was so sorry to read of his passing. Many thoughts and prayers to the family.

Cindy Kelley-was Spelts at the time - January 26, 2017 at 11:14 AM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Cecil F. Sonnenfelt.*



January 26, 2017 at 09:41 AM



“ *I'm sending my love and thoughts to the entire family. May his memory always be a blessing to you all.*

Suzette Soto-Gasser - January 25, 2017 at 10:01 PM



“ *So sorry for your loss. He was one of a kind. They do not make them like him anymore. His wit, his charm. I loved being a close neighbor. I still catch myself looking over at the house expecting to see him in the picture window watching his favorite RFD TV shows. I'm sure going to miss him.*

Jody Roepke - January 25, 2017 at 07:48 PM



“ *I always enjoyed being around Mr. Sonnenfelt so much. He was always happy, making jokes and just enjoying life. I am sorry for your loss.*

Kay Connery - January 25, 2017 at 01:37 PM

JL

“ Letha, Sandra and Diane-I can't find the words to tell you all how much your dad meant to us. He and your mom opened their hearts, home and family to us when we moved in across the street from them and we have felt like family ever since. We both have such wonderful memories. One of the best for me--Cecil invited my folks over for a "cowboy breakfast" when they were in town. My dad talked about that for years! All the cards we played, the meals we shared, and the many visits back to Nebraska and their visits out here. We cherish them all. We were, and are, blessed to have them in our lives. Thank you, Sandy, for calling and please give Letha a big hug from both of us. Our thoughts, hugs and prayers.....Jim and Leslie

Jim and Leslie - January 25, 2017 at 11:28 AM

LS

“ I have many good memories of Cecil and I cowboying on the river. A good man to ride with. LeRoy Semin

LeRoy D. Semin - January 24, 2017 at 08:56 PM

BH

“ Uncle Cecil was an awesome person. Always making people laugh. He will be missed so much. I may not be there in person but I will be there in spirit. Love you Uncle Cecil. RIP



Billie Herbert - January 24, 2017 at 08:22 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue* was purchased for the family of Cecil F. Sonnenfelt.



January 24, 2017 at 04:20 PM