



## Harry Antone Wessels

January 11, 1931 - November 2, 2018

Harry A. Wessels, 87, of Aurora, formerly of Grand Island, passed away on Friday, November 2, 2018.

Service and celebration of Harry's life will be at 10:00 a.m. Saturday at All Faiths Funeral Home. Burial will be at Westlawn Memorial Park Cemetery with military honors provided by the United States Army and Grand Island Veterans Honor Guard. Visitation will be from 5-7 p.m. Friday at the funeral home.

Harry was born January 11, 1931 to Anton and Oriol Pearl (Smith) Wessels on their farm west of Franklin, NE on Center Creek. Harry attended school in Franklin until dropping out in January of his junior year and joining the Army the next day. He served his country from 1949-1952, serving in Korea for the last two years. In 1952 he returned and married Florence Kugler. From this union they were blessed with four children, Debra, Diane, Shonna and Tony. In 1968 he married Loretta (Stromburg) and from this union, they were blessed with a daughter, Angie. On August 21, 1980 Harry married the love of his life, Charlotte Skibinski Rowe. With this union, he helped raise his three stepsons, Tom, Kurt and Stephen. Harry and Charlotte were together until her passing March 14, 2015.

Harry worked in the oil fields in Kimble NE, Colorado and Wyoming from 1953-1964. In 1964 he came back to Grand Island and worked for Chief Industries for about a year, then started driving truck for Seward Motor Freight

until his retirement in 1998. He then worked for the State of Nebraska Parks and Recreation at Mormon Island, south of Grand Island. This was a "job" he truly loved!

In their retirement years, Harry and Charlotte enjoyed traveling to the Sandhills, Yellowstone, Estes Park and loved driving around Nebraska. They loved the many dogs they raised through the years, Sarah being the last to be with them both. Sarah brought much joy to Harry after his beloved Charlotte passed.

Harry enjoyed telling stories of his life and loved listening to country music. The Salvation Army was very important to Harry and Charlotte. They believed in what the Salvation Army stood for. Harry always wanted to help people! For years Harry would tinker in his shop on different projects! He enjoyed woodworking and working in his yard.

Harry lived his last few years with his niece, Deborah and Cody Quick in Aurora, NE. July of 2017 Harry gave his life to Christ and on August 27, 2017, Harry was baptized at the Third City Christian Church in Grand Island. He loved sharing the story about when they "dunked" him, and how he came up with "thumbs up" and how, "You wouldn't believe all the hootin' and hollarin' and cheerin', it was the craziest thing I've ever seen." He loved sharing his story and couldn't tell it without tears! It was very special to him! When asked, "What would you say to someone who didn't know Jesus?" he answered, "Don't wait!"

Those left to cherish his memory are his children, Debra (Doyle) Petrey, of Wheatland, WY, Diane (Dave) Dermer of Bridgeport, NE, Shonna (Lyle) Young of Cheyenne, WY, Tony (Diane) Wessels of Kimball, NE, and Angie (Jeff) Davis of Omaha; stepsons, Tom Rowe (Shelly Wheeler) of Doniphan, Kurt Rowe of Grand Island; and Stephen (Lisa) of Kenesaw; many grandchildren, great-grandchildren, nieces and nephews; and his devoted four-legged buddy,

Sarah.

He was preceded by his parents; his beloved wife, Charlotte; sisters, Mabel Brotherton Rhubottom, June Sanford and Lorma Janssen; brothers, Donald and Melvin and infant twins; and grandparents, Samuel and Mary Ann Smith and Gerhard and Anna Wessels.

Memorials are suggested to Third City Christian Church.

# Previous Events

## Visitation

NOV **9**. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

All Faiths Funeral Home  
2929 S Locust St  
Grand Island, NE 68801  
(308) 398-2929  
allfaiths@giallfaiths.com  
<https://www.giallfaiths.com/>

## Celebration of Life Service

NOV **10**. 10:00 AM (CT)

All Faiths Funeral Home  
2929 S Locust St  
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# Tribute Wall



“ *Harry Antone Wessels*

October 08, 2023 at 11:02 PM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Harry Antone Wessels.*



November 08, 2018 at 09:41 PM



“ *Small Garden Dish was purchased for the family of Harry Antone Wessels.*



November 07, 2018 at 03:43 PM



“ *Deb, so very sorry for your loss, I know how much you loved him.*

**Lajeon Dowty** - November 07, 2018 at 09:26 AM

DB

“ As I grew up my father always talked about his Uncle "Little" Harry, That was his name on the Brotherton side of the family because my Granddad was big Harry. Anytime when he was trucking and was within couple hundred miles away my dad would go and meet him and if time allowed bring him home to spend the night. They were as close as brothers. After I grew up I would push to hear stories of their younger days in Franklin but mostly all I would get was a wink and a grin. But for my dad to respect anyone as much as he did Harry that had to be a special person. I surprised Harry with a unexpected visit in October 2011 and was blessed to get to visit again last July at Deb and Cody's home in Aurora. RIP Great Uncle, I know you and Dad are in heaven together again. I wish the family peace during these sad days and I am forever grateful to have known this good man.



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**Douglas Brotherton** - November 05, 2018 at 08:57 PM