



## Merlyn LaVal Holdt

March 11, 1934 - February 21, 2023

Merlyn LaVal Holdt, 88, of Grand Island, passed away on Tuesday, February 21, 2023.

Service and celebration of Merlyn's life will be held at 10:30 a.m. on Monday at Trinity Lutheran Church. Rev. Adam Snoberger will officiate. Burial will follow in Grand Island City Cemetery.

There is a visitation at All Faiths Funeral Home from 4-6 p.m. on Sunday.

Merlyn was born March 11, 1934, in Sweetwater, NE, which was in rural Buffalo County, the son of Arthur and Anna (Stark) Holdt. He attended school in Kearney, graduating from Kearney High School and then attended Kearney State College.

On February 20, 1955, Merlyn married Donalle "Donna" Trampe at the Immanuel Lutheran Church, a small rural church north of Amherst.

Merlyn and Donna lived in Kearney for 22 years. During this time Merlyn was a member of the National Guard for several years and drove truck. They moved to Grand Island in 1977. Merlyn drove for local and over-the-road companies for 37 years before retiring. Following his retirement, he became head custodian at Senior High School for several years and then drove the school food truck for a few more years.

He was a member of Trinity Lutheran Church and Grand Island Saddle Club. He and Donna enjoyed doing several things as husband and wife, including working in the garden and raising wonderful produce and flowers. Following Donna's passing in 2015, Merlyn continued to enjoy his gardening. He also

enjoyed fishing, Husker Football, Kansas City Royals and Kansas City Chiefs. Those who cherish Merlyn's memory include his children, Melody (Mark) Jacobsen of Fort Collins, CO, Cindy (Duane) Bauer of Lincoln, and Randy Holdt (Cindy Wyman) of Hastings; seven grandchildren, Jessica (Adam) Stover, Chad (Lindsay) Bauer, Eric Holdt, Craig Holdt, Adam Jacobsen, Tyler (Erin) Jacobsen and Alisha Jacobsen; and seven great-grandchildren, Daniel Jacobsen, James Jacobsen, Taylor Stover, Avery Stover, Theo Bauer, Zenora Jacobsen and Silas Jacobsen.

He was preceded in death by his parents; his wife, Donna; brothers, infant Kenneth, Harold (Lou) Holdt and Leland (Mary) Holdt; and sister, Betty (Marlowe) Keldson.

The family would like to express their appreciation to Deloss and Carolyn Trampe, Pat Kenney, Rob Schultz and his neighbor's, the Voss family and the McDowell family; and his hospice nurse, Nikki, who is a true angel.

Memorials are suggested to Trinity Lutheran Church. Online remembrances may be left at [www.giallfaiths.com](http://www.giallfaiths.com).

# Cemetery Details

## Grand Island City Cemetery

Grand Island, NE

# Previous Events

## Celebration of Life Service

FEB 27. 10:30 AM (CT)

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

# Tribute Wall



“ *Merlyn LaVal Holdt*

October 08, 2023 at 11:02 PM



“ *To the families of Merlyn Holdt.....We are so sorry for this difficult time you are all having to experience at this time. While death is a natural part of life, it just not make those earthly goodbyes any easier. We can only hope that one day you will meet again with a glorious shout of "hello!" While you who are left behind for now, we hope your wonderful memories of your dad, grandpa, great grandpa will make you smile and help the healing process. Personally (this is Lynda speaking now), I just really, really, really liked this man. I found him to be a gentleman and a gentle man. He loved you all so much and I know he even loved my son Adam and Adam him too. I also had the honor of caring for your Mom and Grandma a few times and I saw the love he had for her too. You will miss him just a whole bunch, but keep his memory tucked away in your hearts.*

**Lynda Stover** - March 01, 2023 at 01:05 AM



“ *Melody, Cindy, Randy & families,*

*We send our sympathy on the loss of your dad/grandpa. We have made a donation to St Jude's Children's Research Hospital in his memory. Prayers for all of you.*

*Delman & Marlene*

**Marlene Trampe** - February 27, 2023 at 10:31 AM

BG

“ *Cindy and Family,*

*You will all be in our thoughts and prayers during this difficult time!  
We only met your folks a few times , but we got to see why Cindy is  
who she is and we remember them both fondly!! Sorry we can't be  
there, we will be there in spirit!❤️*

*Bill and Shelly Gauthier*

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**Bill and Shelly Gauthier** - February 26, 2023 at 11:46 AM