



Willis John Hanssen

September 15, 1927 - May 25, 2020

Willis “John” Hanssen, 92, passed away on Monday, May 25, 2020 at St. Francis Hospital with his family by his side.

Gathering of family and friends will be held from 4 to 7 on Thursday at All Faiths Funeral Home. CDC guidelines will be observed.

Memorial Services will be held at 2 p.m. on Friday at All Faiths Funeral Home.

Livestreaming will be available on the All Faiths Funeral Home Facebook page. Dan Naranjo will officiate. Casual dress is requested by the family.

Burial of ashes will follow at Grand Island City Cemetery with military honors rendered by the U.S. Army and the United Veteran’s Honor Guard.

In lieu of flowers memorials are suggested to the family to be designated at a later date.

John was born September 15, 1927 in Grand Island to Arnold and Paula (Keuscher) Hanssen. He was a great grandson of Detlef Sass, an original settler of Hall County.

He grew up in rural Hall County attending District 4 country school and Senior High.

He farmed all of his life south of Grand Island on the family farm, making him a fourth-generation farmer.

He spent two years in the military, from 1951-1953, being stationed in Colorado Springs and Alaska.

On June 23, 1951 he married Sharon Sanders in Grand Island. They were married for 63 years before her passing on June 1, 2013. This union was

blessed with five children. Deb Thuernagle (fiancé Jim Novacek) of Cedar Rapids; Brad (Shari) Hanssen of Pensacola, FL; Dara Placke; Steve and special friend, Lynn Pinkal and John Hanssen all of Grand Island.

John served on the District 4 School Board, Washington Twsp. Board, ASC Committee, Farmers Union Co-op Board and the Rural Fire Dept.

Besides his children, he is survived by a brother, Harold (Bonnie) Hanssen; brother-in-law, Gary Sanders; sisters-in-law, Charlene Sanders, Colleen (Jim) Cummings, and Carolyn Hehnke.

Other survivors include his grandchildren, Tammie (Hector) Centeno and their daughters, Taylor and Jaiden; Brandy Thuernagle and daughter, McKenna; Jamie Thuernagle and special friend, Ken Mond; Eric (Sheryl) Hanssen and daughters, Huntlee and Harbour; Jennifer (Tim) Baldwin and children, Abby, William, Justin, and Rachael; Lauren (Cory) O'Connell; Brooke (BJ) Wentzlaff and children, Jaysa and Jack.

He is preceded in death by his wife; parents; grandson, Kyle Hanssen; son-in-law, Arny Placke; brother, Norman (Thelma); brothers and sisters-in-law on his wife's side of the family, Gene and Betty Sanders, Shirley and Dick Waskowiak, Jack Sanders, Ramona and Bud Cox, Jo Sanders, and Jerry Hehnke.

Cemetery Details

Grand Island City Cemetery

Grand Island, NE

Previous Events

Celebration of Life Gathering

MAY 28. 4:00 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

MAY 29. 2:00 PM (CT)

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

Tribute Wall



“ *Willis John Hanssen*

October 08, 2023 at 11:02 PM



“ *My condolences to the John Hanssen Family. I always enjoyed coming to Neb. with my father Fred Lape. He had wonderful times with the Hanssen boys and love of the farm. I all so enjoyed my time out there too.*

*Love to all,
Vivian LaBorn (Lape)*

Larry LaBorn - May 29, 2020 at 03:30 PM



“ *Im sorry for your loss. I'm praying for the Hanssen family*

Christopher K. Keuscher - May 29, 2020 at 12:28 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Willis John Hanssen.*



May 29, 2020 at 08:16 AM

RW

“ Thoughts&prayers for the Hanssen family! 🙏
🙏 So sorry for the loss of your
Dad,Grandpa.Hug's to all especially Deb..



Renee Widga - May 28, 2020 at 07:01 PM

BH

“ Heartfelt condolences to the entire family. I remember the wonderful sense of humor John always had. funny the wonderful times you remember like picking up haybales at the hayland. In the late 50's I recall uncle John showing us kids how to prime a syphon tube to water each corn row. We will all miss him, but not forget the many great memories. Bill Hanssen

Bill Hanssen - May 28, 2020 at 04:22 PM

BS

“ John and Sharon were more than relatives to my family. My parents Albert and Luella always enjoyed seeing them at the Platt Deutsch, Farmers Union and other organizations. Your parents were caring friends and they are missed. Peace and comfort to you and your entire family.
Bert and Sharon Sass

Bert and Sharon Sass - May 27, 2020 at 07:01 PM

DK

“ My condolences to the John Hansen family you are in my prayers.
Your dad had a nice long life. 🕊

Delyce Knuth - May 27, 2020 at 12:47 PM

DW

“ *Dave, Pat, and Andrew Waskowiak. purchased the Strength & Solace Spray for the family of Willis John Hanssen.*



Dave, Pat, and Andrew Waskowiak. - May 27, 2020 at 11:29 AM

KR

“ *Heartfelt condolences to the entire family. May you all find peace in celebrating a life well lived and a happy heavenly reunion with Sharon.*
Kimberly and Fernando Rodriguez



Kim Rodriguez - May 26, 2020 at 04:21 PM

JW

To the family of John Hanssen from an old babysitter for four of the kids. Brings back so many memories. Did not realize he attended Dist. 4 school like the kids and me! My relationship with John and Sharon and children was very special to me as I grew up. Judy Wixson

Judy Wixson - June 01, 2020 at 11:26 PM