



## Donald Keith Knutson

January 7, 1931 - November 3, 2025

Donald Keith Knutson (94) was born on January 7, 1931, in Valley City, ND., the son of Thorvald & Helga (Andreason) Knutson. He died peacefully on November 3, 2025, at The Legacy Place in Valley City, ND., surrounded by his loving family. His Celebration of Life service will be held 10 am Saturday at the Oliver-Nathan Funeral Chapel, Valley City. Visitation will be one hour before the service at the chapel. Burial will be at St. Thomas Cemetery, Litchville, North Dakota.

Don grew up on a farm where he milked cows, worked the fields, and attended the country schools of Greenland & Rosebud 72 through his elementary years. His high school years were spent at Svea country school where he graduated in 1948. After graduation he helped his dad and brother on the family farm & for a couple of those years he also worked in Jamestown at Carters (Filling) Gas Station.

Don served in the US Army from 1955-1957, toward the end of the Korean War. He attended T-Dozer school in Germany & became a heavy construction equipment operator. He was stationed in France at Dreux, Paris & the last four months were spent in Bordeaux. While serving in the Army he became a Corporal. Don was a member of the American Legion & VFW.

In 1958, he married Carol Jean Hanenberg in Sanborn, ND. They made their home near Litchville, ND & farmed in the Svea-Rosebud area with their three

children. Don & Carol also maintained a dairy operation during their married life. They were married 55 years when Carol passed away on November 17, 2013. They were members of the First Lutheran Church in Litchville, ND. Throughout the years that Don farmed he was in partnership with his brother, Arlen.

In 2014 he moved to Valley City, ND and lived in an apartment until 2017 when he became a resident of The Legacy Place in Valley City, ND. He enjoyed fishing, hunting, watching football, playing Pinochle, working puzzles, and taking a drive in the country, taking a different road each time.

Don is survived by his three children; son, Scott Knutson, Litchville, ND; daughter, Penny (Craig) Mattheis, Bismarck, ND; and son David (Kathy) Knutson, Litchville, ND; eight grandchildren; 12 great grandchildren; two great great grandchildren; sister-in-law, Gloria Knutson, Valley City, ND and numerous nieces & nephews.

He is preceded in death by his parents, Thorvald & Helga Knutson; wife, Carol Knutson; brother, Arlen Knutson; sister, Lois Aase; sisters-in-law, June Orner, Betty Blakovich, MaryAnn Hanenberg; brothers-in-law, Vernon Aase, Norman Orner, Steve Blakovich, & John Hanenberg.

## Cemetery Details

### St. Thomas Cemetery

Litchville, ND

## Previous Events

### Celebration of Life

NOV 8. 10:00 AM (CT)

Traditions Funeral Services - Oliver Nathan Funeral Chapel  
251 Central Ave. S.  
Valley City, ND 58072  
(701) 845-2414  
o-nchapel@bektel.com

# Tribute Wall



“ *View and Download the Funeral Program*

Oliver-Nathan Funeral Chapel - November 06, 2025 at 03:07 PM



“ *Our sincere condolences in your father's death... many years of working the land and milking the cows. His picture is just how we will remember him. May each of you, Scott, Penny and Dave treasure the memories you have of your family and let them be a comfort in the days to come. Share those memories with the younger generation and in doing so... may it bring a sense of peace to each of you! He has seen a lot of living in his 94 years.*

Durward & Phyllis Otterness and family - November 07, 2025 at 11:19 PM



“ *Strength & Solace Spray was purchased for the family of Donald Keith Knutson.*



November 07, 2025 at 09:32 AM



“ *Jed, Brenda, Airen, and Maxine Blakovich purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Donald Keith Knutson.*



Jed, Brenda, Airen, and Maxine Blakovich - November 06, 2025 at 12:32 PM

JB

“ Jed, Brenda, Airen, and Maxine Blakovich planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Donald Keith Knutson.

Jed, Brenda, Airen, and Maxine Blakovich - November 06, 2025 at 12:32 PM

DO

“ Don & Joan Orner purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Donald Keith Knutson.



Don & Joan Orner - November 05, 2025 at 05:46 PM

KW

“ Kathie A Winters purchased the Enchanted Cottage for the family of Donald Keith Knutson.



Kathie A Winters - November 05, 2025 at 01:23 PM

KW

“ Kathie A Winters planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Donald Keith Knutson.

Kathie A Winters - November 05, 2025 at 01:23 PM



“ *Fairest of All was purchased for the family of Donald Keith Knutson.*



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November 04, 2025 at 04:38 PM



“ *Wade & Kim, Les & Rhonda, Russ & Tani purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Donald Keith Knutson.*



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**Wade & Kim, Les & Rhonda, Russ & Tani** - November 04, 2025 at 10:36 AM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Donald Keith Knutson.*



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November 04, 2025 at 09:06 AM



“ *Charmaine & Troy, Katie and family, Matt planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Donald Keith Knutson.*

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**Charmaine & Troy, Katie and family, Matt** - November 04, 2025 at 09:06 AM

BO

“ Don's warmth and humor won't be forgotten. He clearly meant a great deal to all of us. May the memories you shared bring you strength and peace as you navigate your loss. Don definitely left a legacy of love and kindness. Our love and support go out to you all.  
Dennis and Barb Orner

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**Barb Orner** - November 03, 2025 at 11:45 PM

JP

*I met Don playing pinochle at the Eagles years ago. He was always pleasant and nice to visit with plus a good pinochle player*

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**Jane Plecity** - November 04, 2025 at 09:26 PM