



## George Schlittenhardt

February 16, 1934 - March 18, 2019

George Schlittenhardt, 85, of Valley City, ND, died on Monday, March 18, 2019 at the Sheyenne Care Center, Valley City, under the care of Hospice of the Red River Valley surrounded by loved ones.

George was born in Temvik, ND on February 16, 1934, to Philip and Emma (Taxis) Schlittenhardt and was the fourth of seven children. George graduated from Bismarck High School and later attended and graduated from Sioux Falls College while also serving in the National Guard.

On June 29, 1956, George married the love of his life, Alyce Edinger. George and Alyce relocated to Valley City in 1959 where they raised their five children.

Throughout the years, George was actively involved in fire fighter organizations, both nationally and throughout the state. He was a member of the ND Fire Prevention Association, the International Society of Fire Service Instructors, the International Association of Fire Chief's and the ND Fire Chief's Association. George is a lifetime member of the North Dakota Firefighter's Association and served the association as East District Trustee for 15 years. He also served as president of the ND Fire Chief's Association.

For 21 years, he served as the Fire Chief in Valley City as well as the Disaster Emergency Director, and Building Inspector. As chief, George continued his

role as a firefighter instructor throughout the state. He also taught American Red Cross and First Aid for more than 25 years. As Disaster Emergency Director, he coordinated six successful flood efforts.

In attempt to thank the youth throughout the Valley City area who had greatly contributed to the successful flood fights, George was one of the founding members of the Valley City Booster Club. This group was created to help improve local facilities for high school students.

George was the recipient of several community awards including the Eagles Civic Award, Mr. Eagle, Valley City Community Service Award. He was inducted into the North Dakota Firefighter's Hall of Fame for his significant contributions and leadership in fire service field in the state of North Dakota.

George's family was his passion. Other passions included making vegetable soup with a bottomless pot, creating all of his famous snacks and sharing his numerous canned food items.

George is survived by his children Connie (Gary) Retterath, Darcy (Mike) Beilke, Kelly (Neil) Pederson, Jeff (Connie) Schlittenhardt, and eight grandchildren, Brady (Kristin) Retterath, Megan Retterath, Dustin (Jill Beilke), Cody (Jenni) Beilke, Melissa (Nate) Cook, Christopher (Jamie) Olson, Talon Schlittenhardt and Kaylee Schlittenhardt and six great grandchildren. He is also survived by a sister Martha Just, and brothers Dennis (Bonnie) and Darrell (Oddie) Schlittenhardt.

He was preceded in death by his parents; his wife Alyce (2012), his daughter Vicky Olson (1996), his sisters Ella Skager and Elma Miller and brother Herman.

The Staff of the Sheyenne Care Center became his second family. The

dignified loving care provided to George will forever be remembered in our hearts.

Visitation will be held on Friday, March 22 from 5-7pm with a prayer service at 7 pm at Grace Free Lutheran Church in Valley City. The funeral will be held at Grace Free on March 23 at 11:00 am.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be given in George's honor to Sheyenne Care Center Therapy Department, the North Dakota Firefighter's Museum and Hall of Fame located in Garrison, or Hospice of the Red River Valley.

Funeral arrangements have been entrusted to the care of the Oliver-Nathan Funeral Chapel, Valley City. An online guestbook is available at [www.oliver-nathanchapel.com](http://www.oliver-nathanchapel.com)

# Previous Events

## Visitation

MAR 22. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Grace Free Lutheran Church  
2351 W. Main St.  
Valley City, ND

## Prayer Service

MAR 22. 7:00 PM (CT)

Grace Free Lutheran Church  
2351 W. Main St.  
Valley City, ND

## Visitation

MAR 23. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

Grace Free Lutheran Church  
2351 W. Main St.  
Valley City, ND

## Funeral Service

MAR 23. 11:00 AM (CT)

Grace Free Lutheran Church  
2351 W. Main St.  
Valley City, ND

# Tribute Wall



“ George was a proud and honorable individual who I respected and appreciated over the years, especially after all the fire alarms he responded to because of burnt popcorn at the Sheyenne Care Center. Our prayers are with George and your family during this difficult time. God Bless.  
Craig and Sandy Christianson

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**Craig Christianson** - March 25, 2019 at 05:27 PM

Dawn  
Klubben

“ I have known George for many years. Many years of cooking him Breakfast at Kenny's Restaurant , and the Vfw . George and I spent many years making his favorite Vegetable Soup. George and his Family could never get enough of it. We went front a large pot of it to a Stock pot of it then to 2 Stock pots of it the last couple years we made it. I gave him a hard time about it by telling him how much i enjoyed his new cologne "Veg Head " by George-ee ! He would bust out laughing saying, Dawn you sure are one of a kind as he would give me that one arm hug He was known so well for. To make his famous soup , it required each piece be cut the same exact size. A one by one inch cube ,He would bring bags of every vegetable there was to put in his soup, including Beets. One time i made him some of his favorite soup when he wasn't feeling well. He told me the following week, Gee that sure was good Dawn, but did you recruit the elementary school kids to cut those vegetables up because it sure looked like it ! I laughed , saying no..that's the rustic style of soup. He said "Oh" just throw it in the pot no knife needed kind as he would give me one of those hugs. These are only a couple wonderful memories i have of George. My deepest sympathy to all of George's Family. It is a very very sad day for us all today.Knowing a man i grew to call friend that i respected and love is no longer with us. I was greatly blessed to have met George. He will always fill a special place in my heart and my memories. Rest in peace dear friend.



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**Dawn Klubben** - March 23, 2019 at 10:43 AM

KB

“ Connie, Darcy, Kelly, Jeff, and families: Our deepest sympathy in the loss of your Dad , he was an asset to the Valley City community. Treasure the memories and the time you had him. God bless..  
Chuck and Kaye(Tait) Belzer

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**Kaye (Tait) Belzer** - March 22, 2019 at 06:54 PM

BT

“ *Jeff & family-  
Lifting you up in prayer. So sorry for your loss. Peace and prayers.  
Beth Lewellyn Thune*

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**Beth Thune** - March 22, 2019 at 06:49 PM

JP

“ *Jeff and family,*

*My thoughts and prayers are with you at this  
difficult time!*

*Jodi Peterson*



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**jodi peterson** - March 22, 2019 at 05:21 PM

GS

“ *Sorry for your loss. I will always remember the time spent with  
George on the ND Fireman's Association . He always had a way to  
bring life to meetings,I remember one in I witch I still have. Past  
President NDFA 1991-92 may he rest in peace*

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**George Simek** - March 22, 2019 at 12:24 PM

LR

“ *Our thoughts and prayers go out to the entire family. George was a  
great guy in so many ways. He did so much for Valley City. I  
remember him leading the fight for fire departments during the  
legislative sessions. He was respected by all. We have all been  
blessed having George as a big part of our community. He will be  
missed.*

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**Larry Robinson** - March 22, 2019 at 07:50 AM

Julie McClure

“ So sorry for your loss. I really enjoyed visiting with George when he came up to Hilltop for coffee. He will be greatly missed!!



Julie McClure - March 22, 2019 at 02:28 AM

JS

“ So sorry to hear that George passed away, thinking of his family and sending hugs and prayers. I have many fond memories of George and Alice, they are together in heaven now. Rest in peace George, give Alice a hug from me!

Joan Rausch Studebaker

Joan Studebaker - March 22, 2019 at 01:14 AM

PT

“ We were so sorry to hear that George had passed away. He was a great man. The last time we saw him was at the care center and we had a very nice visit. Please know that you are in our thoughts and prayers at this sad time.  
Patty and David Trapp

Patty Trapp - March 21, 2019 at 10:41 PM



“ Beautiful Dreams was purchased for the family of George Schlittenhardt .



March 20, 2019 at 04:46 PM

DG

“ Donna and Don Gutierrez purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of George Schlittenhardt .



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**Donna and Don Gutierrez** - March 20, 2019 at 04:38 PM

DG

“ I am so sorry to learn of George’s passing, he was such a wonderful human being. I will always cherish having the Schlittenhardt family as neighbors, just across the street from our house. George and Alice were wonderful people and I spent a lot there being a dear friend of Connie Schlittenhardt Retterath. I have a couple special memories of George...both when I was Miss ND. He was responsible for bringing me into town on the fire truck after I won the title. Such a rush riding on a fire truck...I never knew! Later that year he also answered an emergency call when I got my fingers stuck in our garage door and had to go to the hospital. Through the years whenever I came back to VC for a visit and ran into George, he always had time to visit. He lived a quality life with his family at the heart of it all. God Bless you George, I know you are in heaven with Alice now. Hug my mom and dad for me! ❤️🙏 Prayers to the entire Schlittenhardt family...

*Donna (Grotberg) and Don Gutierrez*

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**Donna Gutierrez** - March 20, 2019 at 04:27 PM



“ 1 file added to the album *Memories Album*



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**Oliver-Nathan Funeral Chapel** - March 20, 2019 at 02:45 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue* was purchased for the family of *George Schlittenhardt* .



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March 20, 2019 at 02:36 PM



“ *To all of George's family, love and sympathies to you all. George was always a treat to visit with. Lynn*

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**Lynn Hill** - March 20, 2019 at 09:28 AM