



Gerald "Gerry" Eugene Opdahl

November 20, 1928 - September 5, 2015

Gerald (Gerry) Opdahl, age 86, Jamestown, North Dakota, formerly of Litchville, North Dakota, died peacefully at home on September 5, 2015. Gerry was born on November 20, 1928 to Iver and Hilda (Christianson) Opdahl and raised in rural Litchville, ND. He graduated from Litchville High School, served in the U.S. Army and spent the majority of his adult life living and working in Litchville. Gerry married Lois B. Gudmestad on June 22, 1951 in the First Lutheran Church in Litchville. Together they raised a family of six children. He loved to work. He was a skilled tinkerer, dabbling in mechanics, carpentry, plumbing, and electrical tasks. He worked at C.H. Carpenter Lumber Company and owned the Opdahl Café in Litchville. For over 25 years, Gerry was a fixture at the school in Litchville, working as a custodian and bus driver. Gerry was treasurer and a faithful trustee of First Lutheran Church for many years. Upon retirement, he enjoyed his convertible, bowling, cutting firewood, coffee sessions at the café and Bumper to Bumper and numerous projects in his shop.

He was preceded in death by his parents and all of his siblings including Isabelle, Henry, Ingulf, Alfred, Clarence, Elmer, Muriel, Lyle, Donald and their spouses. He is survived by his wife, their six children, Christine Opdahl of Bismarck, Michael (Diane) of Larimore, Brian (Sharon) of Grand Forks, Gary of Hastings, David (Paulette) of Litchville, and Lisa Baeth of Devils Lake as well as 16 grandchildren and 13 great grandchildren.

The funeral service will be 11 am Saturday, September 12, at First Lutheran

Church, Litchville, with Pastor Marsha Hegna officiating. Burial will be in Bethlehem Cemetery, rural Litchville. Visitation will be 5-7 pm Friday at the Oliver-Nathan Funeral Chapel, Valley City. Visitation will continue one hour before the service at the church.

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

Cemetery Details

Bethlehem Cemetery

Litchville, ND

Previous Events

Visitation

SEP 11. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

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

Visitation

SEP 12. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

First Lutheran Church
506 5th St.
Litchville, ND

Funeral Service

SEP 12. 11:00 AM (CT)

First Lutheran Church
506 5th St.
Litchville, ND

Tribute Wall

RA

“ Can't think about my school years without thinking of Gerry. He was my favorite bus driver! Always had a smile on every morning! He always had time to talk. Deepest sympathy to his family. Gerry will never be forgotten.

Rachel (Roorda) Alber

Rachel - September 12, 2015 at 03:30 PM

YF

“ Yvonne Stegner (Sortland) and family purchased the Garden Accent Stone - "Wherever a Beautiful Soul..." for the family of Gerald "Gerry" Eugene Opdahl.



Yvonne Stegner (Sortland) and family - September 11, 2015 at 10:59 AM

RM

“ I worked with Gerry every summer from my Freshman year through my senior year. I am sure he wasn't too thrilled to have a girl working beside him, but he never made me feel that way. He was always patient and fun to work for. He had a schedule for how far we should be at certain times of the summer and his schedule always included coffee breaks!! I will cherish those memories. My thoughts and prayers are with his family.

Robin Miedema (Regner)

Robin Miedema - September 11, 2015 at 08:57 AM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Gerald "Gerry" Eugene Opdahl.*



September 09, 2015 at 04:09 PM



“ *My sympathy to the family. Gerry was a tremendous role model for the many students he interacted with while working at the school. His work ethic dictated that you get the job done promptly and without complaint.*

Mark Berge - September 09, 2015 at 08:07 AM



“ *Opdahl Family,
While teaching in Litchville I had coffee with Gerry in his room many times. Sanka was his brand of choice for school. We chatted about anything and everything. I was sorry to hear of his passing. Please cherish the memories and know Gerry is in a better place. God Bless his memory.*

John Monilaws - September 08, 2015 at 08:14 PM

BW

“Lois and family, We were sorry to hear about Jerry passing away. Oh the wonderful memories we have about school. Gerry helped us so much. He could fix anything. We were lucky to have him as part of the school family. Our prayers and thoughts are with all of you. Remember all the good to.rd you had with your husband, father, and grandfather.
Bob & Kay Willson

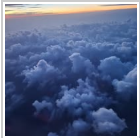


Bob/Kay Willson - September 08, 2015 at 07:03 PM

VH

“So very sorry for your loss - Gods Blessings to you all - I remember Gerry as a very kind and patient man. Litchville was lucky to have him as part of the community. Thoughts and prayers to the family.

Vicky Justesen Hlubek - September 08, 2015 at 08:31 AM



“Gerry was such a kind soul. He and Lois were always willing to lend a helping hand when I stayed in Litchville to help out Dave and Sisy. My thoughts and prayers go out to the family. Love you all.

Jennifer Jackson - September 07, 2015 at 10:22 PM



“I have so many memories of Gerry in school and being best friends with Lisa. I can hear his laugh to this day. The Opdahl are wonderful and loving people. May God guide them through their sorrow.

Kelli Schwehr Kourajian - September 07, 2015 at 08:24 PM