



## Harley D. Mathias

August 4, 1941 - January 20, 2017

Harley Dwaine Mathias, 75, passed away on January 20, 2017 in his home surrounded by his loving family, after a long battle with cancer. He was born in Stirum, ND on August 4, 1941 to John and Ella (Brockman) Mathias.

He attended grade school in Stirum and graduated from high school in Oakes, ND in 1959. He worked at JCPenny in Oakes while in high school, and continued working with JCPenny when he moved to Valley City to attend what is now VCSU.

He was united in marriage to Judy Ubben on August 12th, 1962 and to this union was born two daughters. Harley and Judy settled in Valley City where he continued to work at JCPenny until 1967, when he began his career with American Family Insurance, retiring in 2004.

In his free time, Harley enjoyed many outdoor activities. Some of these hobbies included fishing, hunting, and gardening; which he liked to do with his grandchildren.

Harley was a valued member of many organizations over the years including: Jaycees, Kiwanis, Eagles, Elks, the Shrine Flag Corp, and V-500. Harley was also a huge supporter of both Valley City High School and Valley City State University, always finding time to attend activities at both schools.

Harley is survived by his wife, Judy; two daughters: Debbie (Rodd) Svenningsen, Luverne, ND; Vickie (Tom) Gentzkow West Fargo, ND; Five grandchildren: Amy, Jordan, and Austin Svenningsen, Greg (Andrea) and Chelsea Gentzkow; three great grandchildren: Jonah, Kai, and Selah

Gentzkow, one sister Bev Benda Oakes, ND and one brother Stan (Angeline) Mathias Casselton, ND and many nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents John and Ella, and his sister Shirley Bergeman.

The funeral service will be 11 am Tuesday, January 24 at Our Savior's Lutheran Church, Valley City. Visitation will be 5 pm to 7 pm Monday at the Oliver-Nathan Funeral Chapel, Valley City, with a prayer service at 7pm in the chapel. Visitation will continue one hour before the service at the church.

Burial will be in Hillside Cemetery, Valley City.

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

# Cemetery Details

**Hillside Cemetery**

Valley City, ND

# Tribute Wall

RG

“ Harley was a great man and insurance agent. My prayers are with you.

Ryan and Lori Graalum - January 24, 2017 at 07:46 PM

CJ

“ We will miss you, Harley at Bayshore for Sunday breakfast. There will always be a chair at the table for you.

Curt and Joy - January 24, 2017 at 04:30 PM

KL

“ Judy and family, our deepest sympathy on the loss of Harley. I always admired and respected Harley both in his personal life and professional career with American Family. He will be missed. You are in our thoughts and prayers.

*Kent and Laureen Larson*

Kent Larson - January 24, 2017 at 02:49 PM

BT

“ Harley was a very big influence to me when I was getting started with American Family back in the early 80's. He helped me many time to overcome situation in the business. I will never forget his leadership and knowledge of the business.

*How grateful I am to have known him.*

*He is and was a VERY special person.*

*Bob Tiff*

*Redfield, SD*

Bob Tiff - January 24, 2017 at 02:02 PM

CM

“ Our deepest sympathy on the loss of Harley. We will miss his warm handshake and gentle smile. He took good care of us in the insurance business. Curt and Christine Marshall



Christine Marshall - January 24, 2017 at 01:14 PM



“ I shall miss seeing Harley around Lake Ashtabula during Sunday coffee at Zwicks and Bayshore breakfasts.

Todd Christie - January 23, 2017 at 10:30 PM

AN

“ Arlene Nelson lit a candle in memory of Harley D. Mathias



Arlene Nelson - January 23, 2017 at 10:23 PM

RN

“ Ray,Kandice,John And Casey Nelson lit a candle in memory of Harley D. Mathias



Ray,Kandice,John and Casey Nelson - January 23, 2017 at 09:25 PM

GS

“ *Judy ,Debbie, and Vicki*  
*Our thoughts and prayers are with you at this difficult time. Harley*  
*was a good friend and insurance agent for many years. Will miss*  
*him.*

*Greg and Darlene Shanenko*

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**Greg and Darlene Shanenko** - January 23, 2017 at 08:22 PM

JL

“ *Harley was a great guy and great insurance agent.Our deepest*  
*sympathy.Jim and Marie Leadbetter.*

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**Jim and Marie Leadbetter** - January 23, 2017 at 07:27 PM

VM

“ *Jack and Val Moritz*



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**Val Moritz** - January 23, 2017 at 07:09 PM

 Kristi  
Anderson

“ *Kristi Anderson lit a candle in memory of*  
*Harley D. Mathias*



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**Kristi Anderson** - January 23, 2017 at 07:07 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Harley D. Mathias.*



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January 23, 2017 at 05:21 PM



“ *Emma & Lowell Spitzer*



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**Emma & Lowell Spitzer** - January 23, 2017 at 11:02 AM



“ *Beverly Benda sent a virtual gift in memory of Harley D. Mathias*



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**Beverly Benda** - January 23, 2017 at 02:04 AM



“ *Rhonda Harris lit a candle in memory of Harley D. Mathias*



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**Rhonda Harris** - January 23, 2017 at 02:03 AM

BW

“ To the Mathias family,  
I was fortunate to visit with Harley at Roger  
Maris while my wife was having a chemo  
treatment. What a wonderful, dedicated, and  
compassionate man he was. We had  
American Family Insurance with Harley for years. He will be missed.  
Remember all the good times. You are all in our prayers and  
thoughts.  
Bob and Kay Willson



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**Bob/Kay Willson** - January 23, 2017 at 01:01 AM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of  
Harley D. Mathias.



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January 22, 2017 at 07:47 PM

MZ

“ Mike Metcalf And Vicki Zinck lit a candle in  
memory of Harley D. Mathias



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**Mike Metcalf and Vicki Zinck** - January 22, 2017 at 07:26 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Harley D. Mathias.*



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January 22, 2017 at 05:03 PM



“ *Lori Hilde Jorgenson lit a candle in memory of Harley D. Mathias*



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**Lori Hilde Jorgenson** - January 22, 2017 at 04:17 PM



“ *Loving Lilies and Roses Bouquet was purchased for the family of Harley D. Mathias.*



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January 22, 2017 at 04:06 PM



“ *JOHN AND JO LAWRENCE lit a candle in memory of Harley D. Mathias*



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**JOHN AND JO LAWRENCE** - January 22, 2017 at 03:51 PM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Harley D. Mathias.*



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January 22, 2017 at 03:43 PM



“ *To Debbie, Judy, Vickie and families: I'm so sorry to hear of Harley's passing. Despite not being around much in our adult lives due to our moving away, I feel I grew up in your house as much as in mine. I have such fond memories of Harley in those formative years when we were kids running free on 2nd Avenue. I wonder how many meals and sleepovers I had at your house? Harley always had a smile and a laugh for us kids, or a whisker rub, or would drive us to the Omwick for a matinee and tell us to "be good". Another great memory of course is when he tricked me with the "magic" remote control of your new television. I'll never forget standing in your living room in awe of the channels changing all by themselves with Harley hiding the remote ready to bust out laughing. And I'll always remember his nickname for me...Mushy. Cherish your memories of him, he was special and will never be forgotten.*

*Love, Lori (Hilde) Jorgenson*

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**Lori Hilde Jorgenson** - January 22, 2017 at 03:25 PM

NH

“ Judy Wish I could be their with you, our thoughts and prayers are with you and your family. Don & Harley never got to go fishing, but got to talk about it. Cherish the memories.

*Don and Nancy Hansen*

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**Nancy Hansen** - January 22, 2017 at 02:26 PM

KR

“ Judy and family, We are sorry to hear about Harley. Our thoughts and prayers are with you. Cherish the memories and happy times. Take care.

*Ken and Diane Rasmusson*

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**Ken and Diane Rasmusson** - January 22, 2017 at 12:47 PM

SN

“ Judy and girls, I am so sorry to hear of Harley's passing. My thoughts and prayers are with you all. I remember going into JC Penney's to buy shoes from him and I was told he was the one that helped my mom talk my dad into letting us kids wear tennis shoes. Prayers are with you all

*Sharon Nilles*

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**Sharon Nilles** - January 22, 2017 at 11:26 AM

BJ

“ *Judy and Family,  
We are so saddened to hear of Harley's passing. Harley had a special place in the Valley City community and in the hearts of many. He will be greatly missed. May your fondest memories of him support you in the trying days ahead.*  
*Bill and Roxanne Jahn*

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**Bill Jahn** - January 22, 2017 at 08:10 AM

KJ

“ *I'm so sorry Judy, thinking of you and all your family*

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**Kathy Jacobson** - January 22, 2017 at 06:03 AM

BR

“ *So sorry to hear about an Old Friend! Our thoughts and prayers are with Judy and the family today!*  
*Bob and Judy Reed*

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**Bob Reed** - January 21, 2017 at 05:27 PM