



Leonard Welken

October 16, 1912 - June 7, 2010

Leonard Ernest Welken was born on October 16, 1916 in Skandia Township, rural Barnes County, ND, the son of Iver L. and Olga (Larson) Welken. He attended Skandia District 40 Grade School. He graduated in 1930 from Green School, and then went on to Valley City State Teachers College for a year.

He farmed in Meadowlake Township north of Marion, ND from 1930 to 1952. On October 3, 1935, he married Clara DeVries. They were avid gardeners. Leonard worked at Grotberg Electric for 4 years before starting his own electrical business, Leo Electric, in 1958. Clara and Leonard spent two years as care takers of Red Willow Bible Camp. In 1991, they moved to Litchville and in the mid 90's back to Valley City. Clara died in 1994. Leonard married Ruby Adams Risser in 1998. She died in 2009. He continued to make his home in Valley City, becoming a resident of the Sheyenne Care Center in March of 2010. Some of Leonard's pastimes included singing for KOVC and at funerals. He also played the harmonica and accordion.

He was a member of Zion Free Lutheran Church in Green Township.

Leonard is survived by his sons, Larry (Deloris) of Valley City, James (Anita) of Wheatland, WY, and Ivan "Ike" of Valley City; 6 grandchildren; 7 great grandchildren; 2 great great grandchildren; and a sister, Thelma Benson of Bismarck.

He was preceded in death by his parents; wife, a baby daughter, and a brother Elias.

Previous Events

Visitation

JUN **10**. 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Oliver-Nathan Funeral Chapel
251 Central Ave. S.
Valley City, ND

Service

JUN **11**. 2:00 PM (CT)

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

Tribute Wall



“ From my childhood days - - I remember the beautiful voice of your father - Leonard Welkin - at the Clark City School. My mother - Lillian - - also sang and my cousin Violet Lee. John and Augusta Lee played the accordians. Today I thought - - one more member of their music group has joined the others singing around the Throne of God!! Blessed be our memories of Leonard.LH###imported-begin###Lois (Monson) Hofmann###imported-end###

June 18, 2010 at 10:04 PM



“ Holding you in our thoughts and prayers. I will never forget his gift for music and the enjoyment he shared with others.###imported-begin###Terry, Claudia & Christine Gilbertson###imported-end###

June 11, 2010 at 12:14 PM



“ I am so sorry to hear about the passing of Uncle Leonard. He was a wonderful man and will always remember him. He was so kind and I will always remember his smile, his laugh and his music. My heart goes out to his family and all that knew him and loved him. With my sincere condolences to all.
Love, Jerilyn
Don & Rena Huber's daughter###imported-begin###Jerilyn Huber Anver###imported-end###

June 09, 2010 at 11:39 PM



“ Dear Family of Leonard-

Please accept my sincere sympathy on the passing of Leonard. It is hard to lose a loved one but trust that he is in a better place.

Tom Goven###imported-begin###Tom Goven###imported-end###

June 09, 2010 at 04:32 PM



“ We will all miss 'the music' you brought to us all and your generous good laugh. How nice you took so many home movies of our fun days of youth. Now we will have many good memories to make us smile and remember. You were one fun Uncle to all of the DeVries cousins.##imported-begin##Rena (Boom) Huber and Don Huber and familyEC##imported-end##

June 09, 2010 at 10:07 AM



“ Deepest Sympathy Larry, Deloris and family. So sorry to hear of the death of you Dad. My thoughts and prayers with your family. Gayle##imported-begin##Gayle Lewellyn-Hoff##imported-end##

June 08, 2010 at 10:46 PM



“ Thank you for being a wonderful grandfather. I am going to miss you.##imported-begin##Steve Welken##imported-end##

June 08, 2010 at 05:17 PM