



Perry Bernard Grotberg

December 30, 1921 - October 16, 2015

Perry B Grotberg, 93, Valley City, North Dakota, died at Sheyenne Care Center on Friday, October 16th. He was born December 30, 1921 to Bernard and Sophie (Weir) Grotberg in Blue Earth County, MN. Perry graduated from VCHS in 1939.

After graduation, Perry moved to Boulder City, NV and began working on the construction of Boulder Dam (Hoover Dam). In 1942, Perry received a job invitation from Uncle Sam and reported for duty. He fought in Belgium, Luxemburg, Netherlands, Germany and France.

After the war, Perry married Margaret Thiel at Trinity Lutheran Church in Valley City and returned to work on Boulder Dam. In 1947, Perry and Margaret moved back to Valley City where Perry took over farming some family land and began his wiring career. He stored tools and inventory in the back of his car and in the garage, then in 1948, Perry obtained his wiring license and began Grotberg Electric.

Perry and Margaret, along with several other parents, formed a local and the state chapter of the ARC. These parents worked with legislators to pass laws to include the education of the handicapped in the public schools in ND. As a result, a Special Education classroom at Lincoln School was begun in VC.

They were also instrumental in establishing a day facility for the developmentally disabled and helped to secure the basement of the City Auditorium as the first home for the Open Door Center. When Grafton State Hospital and San Haven were depopulated, the local ARC chapter promoted

the building of group homes for the developmentally disabled in Valley City Perry served 4 years as a ND State Senator representing District 24 then 1 term as Secretary of the Senate. During retirement, Margaret and Perry enjoyed traveling and were able to return to Europe to see the countries in which Perry fought during the war. He retired from farming in 1969 and sold Grotberg Electric in 1984. He was an active member of Trinity Lutheran Church and VC Chamber of Commerce.

Perry is survived by daughters, Amy (Bruce) Anderson and Carol Grotberg both of Valley City and Donna (Don) Gutierrez of Chagrin Falls, OH; grandchildren, Tracey (Chad) Zaun, Jason and Aaron Anderson all of Valley City and Alyssa and Grace Gutierrez of Ohio, and 6 great grandchildren; brother Maurice (Myrna) Grotberg of Memphis TN, and sisters Mary (John) Heath of Valley City and Jean (Ross) Huffman of Colorado Springs, CO. Perry was preceded in death by his parents; his wife, Margaret; brothers Bruce and John, and his sisters Betty (Leonard) Uloth and Shirley (Charles) Licha.

The funeral service for Perry will be 11 am Friday, October 23, 2015 at Trinity Lutheran Church, Valley City. Burial will be in Memory Gardens, Valley City. Visitation will be 4-6 pm Thursday at the Oliver-Nathan Funeral Chapel, Valley City.

An online guestbook for Perry is available at www.oliver-nathanchapel.com

Amy Anderson's address is: 426 4th Ave. SW, Valley City, ND 58072

Previous Events

Visitation

OCT **22**. 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM (CT)

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

Funeral Service

OCT **23**. 11:00 AM (CT)

Trinity Lutheran Church
499 - 4th Ave. NW
Valley City, ND

Tribute Wall

JS

“ *My sympathies for a notable man with a great history of accomplishment and purpose in life. John H Slone Anchorage Alaska*

John Slone - November 20, 2015 at 12:43 AM

TG

“ *Dear Family*

You have my sympathy on the passing of Perry. I enjoyed knowing him as a friend and through his involvement with public service. He will always be remembered as "Senator Perry." It is hard to lose him but he is in a better place.

Tom Goven

Tom Goven - October 22, 2015 at 03:05 PM

DB

“ *Diane, PJ, Carolyn and Natalie Bucher purchased the Sentiments of Serenity Spray for the family of Perry Bernard Grotberg.*



Diane, PJ, Carolyn and Natalie Bucher - October 22, 2015 at 12:19 AM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Perry Bernard Grotberg.*



October 21, 2015 at 06:19 PM



“ *Amy & Bruce so sorry for your loss. Your father was and exceptional man. People would be amazed of how many people he helped in the electrical field and life. He treated me like one of his own and i have never forgot him. God Bless you and your family.*

Glen M Striefe - October 20, 2015 at 09:46 AM



“ *I have great memories of Perry and Grotberg Electric when I worked for him while I was in Valley City.*
Ben Herr

Ben Herr - October 20, 2015 at 08:16 AM



“ *My thoughts are with Perry's family today.*
Bruce Bakkegard

Bruce Bakkegard - October 19, 2015 at 09:24 AM

LR

“ We have lost a great friend in Perry Grotberg. Perry was a key player in encouraging me to run for the legislature. He cared for people and it showed. His accomplishments speak for themselves. I often sought his advice and counsel. He was a man of common sense and a deep concern for his neighbors and community. He touched many and will be missed. I have always had great respect for Perry. His legacy will live on! Perry and Magaret were special people. They will be missed.

Larry and Mary Lee Robinson, Valley City.

Larry and Mary Lee Robinson - October 19, 2015 at 09:23 AM

JH

“ Carol I am sorry you lost your dad. He is in heaven now with your mother. I send you a big hug. JULIE HASS

julie hass - October 18, 2015 at 10:25 PM

SG

“ So grateful for Uncle Perry and Aunt Margaret in our lives! Hard work, caring, stories, singing, humor, and the importance of family are legacies they leave us. Much love to my aunts, uncles, and cousins as we mourn Perry's passing and give thanks for his life. <3

Sandy Grotberg - October 18, 2015 at 01:38 PM

MB

Mike and I were heavy hearted to hear of Perry's passing. He was simply put "a good man". Perry's generosity, kind spirit and wonderful sense of humor touched our lives and many others. We will never forget him.

Mike and Gail Bresnahan

Mike and Gail Bresnahan - October 21, 2015 at 11:30 AM

DI

As the family knows, Perry was a special person -- intelligent, funny, kind, and a hard-worker with an admirable code of ethics. We're all saddened by his passing. Take comfort in knowing the world is a better place because of Perry and Margaret.

Dorothy Iwan - October 21, 2015 at 04:16 PM