



Robert Clayton Lentz

March 1, 1930 - February 11, 2020

Robert Clayton Lentz was born in Page, North Dakota, the son of Edward and Henrietta (Ness) Lentz. He attended school at Ayr, North Dakota until moving to Valley City where he was a 1948 graduate of Valley City High School. He was united in marriage to Pauline Elston on November 30, 1951 in Hope, North Dakota. They made their home in Valley City. Bob was inducted to the US Air Force on January 3, 1951 and discharged Mar 21, 1951.

He received his Bachelor of Education from Valley City State College in 1954, attained his Masters in Education from the University of North Dakota in 1969, and continued graduate work at North Dakota State University.

Bob's education experience included teaching at: Walhalla, ND – 1954-1957, where he coached football, basketball and baseball and taught social studies and PE; Barnesville, MN – 1957-1958, where he coached basketball, assistant football and track and taught social studies; Walhalla, ND, - 1958-1968, where he taught social studies, served as high school principal and coached football, wrestling and track. He then worked a year for Horace Mann Insurance in Minot, ND. Bob and family then moved to Valley City and worked in the Valley City Public School system from 1969-1992. He was the assistant principal for grades 7-12 from 1969-1972; became the Junior High Principal from 1972-1978; Senior High Principal from 1978-79 and Superintendent from 1980-1992. He retired after 37 years in education in 1992.

He was a past member of the Elks, Eagles, American Legion, and Chamber Red Coat Ambassadors. Bob was a member of the state committee for the

North Central Accreditation Association from 1988-1991. He was a member of ND Council of School Administrators Quarter Century Club. He served as the VCSU Alumni Association President in 1990 and was a member of the Advisory Board of the North Dakota High School Activities Association from 1990-1992. He was a 20 year member of Kiwanis where he served as club president in 1991-1992 and Lt. Governor of Division 13 in 1993-1994.

He is survived by his wife Pauline; his three sons, Barry (Kristi) Lentz, Grand Forks, ND, Paul (Melinda) Lentz, Ankeny, Iowa, and Michael (Kathy) Lentz, Valley City; two daughters, Roberta Jo (Kenton) Holle, Mandan, ND, and Julie Knutson, Longmont, CO; 15 grandchildren and 13 great grandchildren; and a sister Betty (Don) Eckert, Fargo, ND.

Bob was preceded in death by his parents; a sister, Doris Baumgartner; a brother, Edward Lentz; a son-in-law, Douglas Knutson; and granddaughters, Emily Lentz and Stephanie Holle.

The funeral service will be 10 am Saturday, February 29, 2020 at Our Savior's Lutheran Church, Valley City. Visitation will be 4 – 6 pm Friday, February 28, at the church. Burial will be in Hillside Cemetery in the spring. He died February 11, at Mercy Hospital, Valley City.

In Bob's honor, memorials may be directed to Our Savior's Foundation, VCSU - Lentz Scholarship, VCPS Foundation, and CHI Mercy Hospital.

Funeral arrangements have been entrusted to the care of the Oliver-Nathan Funeral Chapel. An online guestbook is available at www.oliver-nathanchapel.com

Cemetery Details

Hillside Cemetery

Valley City, ND

Previous Events

Visitation

FEB **28**. 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM (CT)

Our Savior's Lutheran Church
138 3rd St. NW
Valley City, ND

Funeral Service

FEB **29**. 10:00 AM (CT)

Our Savior's Lutheran Church
138 3rd St. NW
Valley City, ND

Tribute Wall

SH

“ So many Christmas cards sent between the Lentz and Haavig families over the years. Tales of kids in grade school through college and on to grandchildren. Amazing how the Walhalla years cemented a life long friendship.

*Steven Haavig
Paula Scavera
Juneau Alaska*

Steve Haavig - February 28, 2020 at 04:20 PM



“ *Arrive in Style* was purchased for the family of Robert Clayton Lentz.



February 27, 2020 at 09:42 AM

SW

“ *Mr. Lentz was Superintendent of VCHS when my mother served as high school librarian. Sally Hanson held him in high regard as one of her best bosses.*

I was able to reconnect with him and Mrs. Lentz when I returned to Valley City throughout recent years. My sympathy to members of the Lentz Family.

May God grant mr. Lentz in Everlasting Arms.

*Shelley & Jim Williamson
Commerce, GA*

Shelley & Jim Williamson - February 17, 2020 at 06:24 PM

MO

“ *You & your family have our deepest sympathy...*

Marilyn Lahlum/Olstad & Mel Olstad - February 16, 2020 at 07:18 PM

DB

“ *We had a get together with my Dalzell cousins last Sunday and we're reminiscing about Walhalla and our teachers. Both Mr and Mrs Lents's names soon came up as being some of the best teachers we had! Both of your dedications to the teaching profession and to the many students you guided along the way is greatly appreciated.*

A number of years ago Stanley Hutchinson told me that if I ever saw Mr. Lentz, that I should relay to him that Stanley turned out ok.

*Doug and Bea Berg
Class of 1963*

Doug and Bea Berg - February 14, 2020 at 07:04 PM

DM

“ Our thoughts and prayers go out to the Lentz family. When we arrived in Valley City in 1975, Robert was one of the first people to welcome us to town and Our Saviors Lutheran Church. Through the years Bob was a colleague, great mentor, and friend. Please accept our sympathy during this difficult time.

Dave and Beve Melgaard

Dave Melgaard - February 14, 2020 at 05:02 PM

GD

“ Rita and I send our condolences to the Lentz family. Mr. Lentz was one of the best of the best on my list of people who had a positive impact on my life. He was an inspiration to many and will be well remembered.

*Gerald Dalzell
Class of 1960
Walhalla High School*

Gerald Dalzell - February 14, 2020 at 12:45 AM

GD

Me. Lentz was a rock for me as I grew up in Walhalla. He was a man that I deeply admired and respected. I value the lessons I learned from him as my football coach and in many ways I patterned my life on what he taught me. You were a fine man, Mr .Lentz. One who I will always remember. My condolences to his family.

*Gary Dalzell
Bayfield, WI
Class of 63*

Gary Dalzell - February 14, 2020 at 10:06 AM

DA

Would anyone know if this is the Bob Lentz who taught briefly in Barnesville, MN in late 50s?

Dave - February 15, 2020 at 11:27 AM



“ *Thoughts and Prayers to the Lentz family.*
Laurie Anderson

Laurie Anderson - February 13, 2020 at 07:40 PM



“ *Another of our good old Hi-Liners gone. Rest in peace Bob. Heart felt condolences to your family.*
warren loendorf

warren loendorf - February 13, 2020 at 06:22 PM



Our deepest Sympathy Dean & Faye Hoff

Faye Hoff - February 14, 2020 at 04:55 PM



he was in Barnesville in 1957 and 58 He was an assistant football and Basketball coach,and was a good one. Harold

Harold class of 58 - February 18, 2020 at 07:19 PM



My deepest sympathy to the Lentz family. He was nice man always respected as a Principal and Superintendent.

Kaye (Tait) Belzer - February 26, 2020 at 04:48 PM



My condolences to the Lentz family. Both Bob and Pauline left a legend in Walhalla. I was a former student of Pauline. I would appreciate it if someone would send me her address. Margaret Urlaub Viebrock - smviebrock@nwi.net Thanks!

Margaret Viebrock - March 08, 2020 at 02:18 PM