

Kenneth George McNenny was born December 10, 1935, the only son to Tom and Mabel (Jorensen) McNenny. He grew up on the Homesteaded McNenny Ranch on the Belle Fourche River. Kenny attended a one room school country school from first thru eighth grade. He then was "boarded out" to attend High School in Sturgis, SD. He was the graduating class of 1954.

Being the only son of a rancher, it was inevitable that he would take over the family ranch which he did proudly. After many months of logging timber in the Black Hills to build a home, Kenny married the love of his life, Henrietta Young, on May 11, 1957. The couple had four children: Lyle Wayne, Lynn Del, Larry Allen, and Denise Doreen.

Kenny was also able to pursue a rewarding career in politics. In 1986, Kenny made a run for District 29 State Representative which he won. He started his first term in January 1987. Kenny served seven 2-year terms as a District 29 State Representative. During his time as a Representative, he served on the Health and Welfare Committee and was the Majority Whip from 1997 thru 2000. After Kenny "termed" out of the House he then went on to serve two 2-year terms as a District 29 State Senator. As a Senator, he was made Chairman of House Ag & Nature Resources Committee, Chairman of Legislative Research Committee, Chairman of Taxation, and Vice Chairman of House of State Affairs.

Aside from his government politics, Kenny was a very active member of the community. He held many offices in the Meade County Farm Bureau. He served on the Local School Board, Meade County Extension Board for three years, was a Soil Conservation Supervisor for thirteen years, Chairman of the High School Rodeo Booster Club, served on the Finance Committee for S. D. A. Conservation Districts, Director of S.D. Beef Cattle Improvement Association, and the Committees of S.D. and Meade County Stock growers.

Kenny was awarded the Meade County Outstanding Young Farmer in 1968. In 2007, he won the National Conservative Award, and in 2011, he was appointed to the South Dakota Ellsworth Development.

Survivors include his wife, Henrietta McNenny, Sturgis, SD; sons, Lyle McNenny, Spearfish, Lynn (D.D.) McNenny, Sturgis, and Larry McNenny, Spearfish; daughter, Denise (Mike) Johnson, Kill Devil Hills, NC; sister, Verna Greenfield, Mesa, AZ; grandchildren, Kalyn (Jacob) Harlow, Ellinwood, KS, Daine McNenny, Sturgis, Hunter Johnson, Kill Devil Hills, NC, M'Kenzi McNenny, Sturgis, Aspen Johnson, Cary, NC, and Connor McNenny, Sturgis; four great-grandsons, Landyn, Maxton and Owenn Harlow, Ellinwood KS, and Cleo Underwood, Cary, NC; one great-granddaughter, Noah Lynn Harlow, Ellinwood, KS; and several nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Tom and Mabel McNenny; sister, Darla Huddleston; brother-in-law, Roger "Red" Huddleston; brother-in-law, Don Greenfield; nephew, Korby Greenfield; sister-in-law, Judy Schweigerdt; brother-in-law, Gerald Young; niece Kim Reeves; and sister-in-law, Shirley Young.

A memorial has been established for the Meade and Butte County (District 29) Legislative Pages and Children's Care Hospital and School of Sioux Falls.





“Our Son”

*We looked on you together
A new life had just begun,
I tenderly said “my baby”
He proudly said “my son”*

*Time passed, you grew
Years vanished one by one
I’d gently say “my little boy”
He’d proudly say “my son”*

*His helper, his companion
His business partner too,
Those things he would accomplish
He did with help from you*

*A big man and strong man
Pushed you ahead to lead,
To take the reins, to carry on
If there should be the need*

*So soon his life was over
His earthly work was done,
Now as I lean on you, ‘tis I
Who proudly says, “My Son”*

*Poem by Mabel McNenny
(Kenny’s Mother)*

In Loving Memory Of Kenneth George McNenny

Born

December 10, 1935
Rapid City, South Dakota

Died

January 17, 2017
Belle Fourche, South Dakota

Funeral Service

Saturday, January 21, 2017, at 2:00 p.m.
Sturgis Community Center Theater

Officiant

Pastor Harold Delbridge

Musical Selections

“The Old Rugged Cross”
“How Great Thou Art”

Soloist

Danny Chapman

“On the Wings of a Snow White Dove”
“Peace in the Valley”

Eulogy

Mike Johnson
Daine McNenny

Pallbearers

Eddie Grubl~Keith Keffeler ~Jim Lintz
Marlowe Kinkade~Darrell McNenny
Bill Plooster~Don Plooster

*The family extends an invitation to join them for fellowship and light meal at the
community center gym immediately following the service.*