



*Neil Walter Hodges, P.E., 70, passed away peacefully to be with his savior on Thursday, March 3, 2022 while in Mesa, AZ after a brave battle with cancer.*

Neil was born on May 9, 1951 in Estelline, SD to Joyce (Barstow) and Howard Hodges, the oldest of four brothers. He spent his youth on the Hodges family farm in the Lake Preston, SD area, also excelling in sports, academics and vocal music. He graduated from Erwin High School in 1969. He met and married the love of his life, Eileen (Tveidt) Hodges in 1971 while in college. He graduated from South Dakota School of Mines and Technology in 1973 with a Civil Engineering degree and

started his career with Hormel in Austin, MN. Engineering took him next to the state of Washington where he worked for Rockwell at the Hanford Nuclear Facility. The pull of family brought him back to South Dakota to help operate the Tveidt family farm near Sturgis. He worked for the Forest Service and fought forest fires in the Black Hills National Forest for several years. He then joined the Veteran's Administration Hospital at Fort Meade as an Engineer and Project Manager where he proudly served his country's veterans until his retirement.

Following retirement, he split his time between grandchildren in South Dakota, grandchildren in Kansas and chasing the sunshine with friends in Mesa, AZ. He loved watching all of his grandkids' activities. He stayed busy with fishing, hunting, and golfing, traveling and seeing new sites via cruise ships, hosting Pierre Trapper baseball players during the summer and home remodeling and landscape care. He was active in church, especially the choir, and in the Lions Club where he was serving as Mesa-Fountain of the Sun Lions Club President at the time of his death.

He charmed his family and friends with his giving spirit, humor, and patience. He passed on his tremendous knowledge only when asked, whether it was coaching or advice in sports, teaching how to hunt, fish, or water ski, strategy playing cards, sharing car or home repair tips, or giving career advice to his children and other fellow engineers.

He is survived by his wife, Eileen; brother Scott (Nancy) Hodges of Sioux Falls, SD; sister-in-law Sue Hodges of Omaha, NE, daughter Estell (Will) Johnson of Benton, KS; son Darin (April) Hodges of Pierre, SD; grandchildren Nick (Maggie) Stensaas, Erin, Emma and Weston Johnson and Luke, Seth and Zach Hodges; great-grandchildren Cooper and Tucker Stensaas; and numerous nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents and brothers Brett and Reid Hodges.

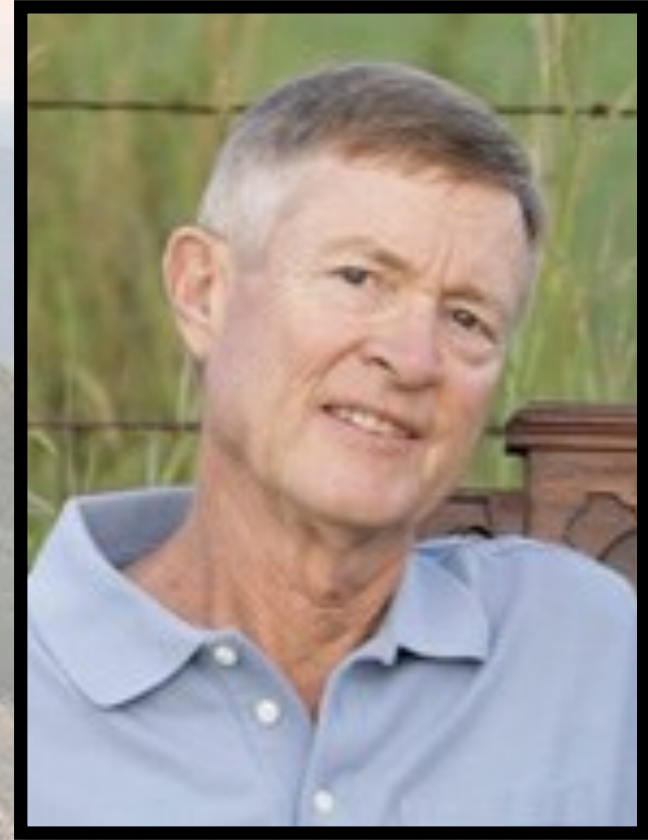
Memorials are being established thru Lions Club International Foundation and First Congregational Church UCC - Pierre.

Condolences may be sent to [www.kinkadefunerals.com](http://www.kinkadefunerals.com).

## *In Loving Memory Of*

*"Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God's grace in its various forms"*

*1 Peter 4:10*



*Neil Walter Hodges*

*May 9, 1951 ~ March 3, 2022*





# *In Loving Memory Of Neil Walter Hodges*

## ***Born***

May 9, 1951  
Estelline, South Dakota

## ***Died***

March 3, 2022  
Mesa, Arizona

## ***Memorial Services***

Thursday, March 17, 2022, 10:30 a.m.  
Kinkade Funeral Chapel  
Sturgis, South Dakota

## ***Officiant***

Pastor Emily Munger

## ***Music***

“Amazing Grace” “The Old Rugged Cross”  
“The Lord’s Prayer” “Keeper of the Stars”

## ***Honorary Pallbearers***

All Grandchildren

## ***Final Resting Place***

Bear Butte Cemetery  
Sturgis, South Dakota

*The family invites you to a luncheon at the Loud American Roadhouse,  
following the burial. Thank you for your presence and condolences.*

