

In Loving Memory Of



Leslie L. Jensen September 24, 1937

March 17, 2023

Leslie LaVerne Jensen was born September 24, 1937, to Clifford and Nellie (Heggen) Jensen at Mitchell. The family lived at Storla for the next 5 years. They then moved to Alpena where Leslie attended all 12 grades of school. While in high school, he participated in basketball, track, yearbook and class officer. In track, he pole-vaulted at the State Track Meet for several years, including the year he had to hitch hike to the meet.

Les continued his education at Blair, Nebraska where he played basketball for a short time.

He was a proud Marine, as he served his country from July 31, 1956 to July 30, 1958 at Camp Pendleton, California. One job there was to drive people around, which included Matt Dillon and Miss Kitty from Gunsmoke.

On January 27, 1963, Les married Mary Louise Elliott at Woonsocket. They made their home at Alpena, where they raised their family for 60 years.

Leslie played with the Alpena Amateur Baseball team and later managed the team. He also played with the Alpena Independent Basketball team, played slow -pitch and bowled.

Professionally, Les was a truck driver, livestock producer, corn shelling in all weather conditions, bonded cattle order buyer sitting for hours at sales and partner in owning Jensen Grain. He loved being around cattle all his life and watching horse races especially #3.

Les and Mary Louise enjoyed traveling 35 states, following their grand-children's activities, watching basketball all over and watching the birds and squirrels out the window. He had an extensive collection of red birds, moose and hats. They also enjoyed making multiple trips wherever Leo would send them. Les was famous for his statement "sleep on it."

He was preceded in death by his parents, Clifford and Nellie Jensen; siblings and their spouses, John and Barbara Jensen, Lloyd Jensen, Marian and Martin Anderson, Jr. Ardis and Les Grace, Nellie Jensen at birth, Willis Jensen, Betty Jensen, Bobby Jensen; his parents-in-law, Orval and Sarah Elliott; and brother-in-law, Charles Elliott.

He is survived by his wife of 60 years, Mary Louise; two daughters, VaLynda (Todd) Weller of Aberdeen and Brenda (Alan) Schmidt of Huron; one son, Leo (Annette Bowen) Jensen of Alpena; three grandchildren, Kirby Weller of Jamestown, North Dakota, Sabrena (Robert) Brooks of Huron and Tabitha (Dylan) Unruh of Redfield; four great-grandchildren, Nolyn Weller and Ezekiel, Ezra and Eliza Brooks; two bonus children, Kyle Uttecht and Kelly Uttecht; one sister-in-law, Ruth Jensen of Wessington Springs; his in-laws, Howard Elliott of Avon, Gary (Rita) Elliott of Jefferson City, Missouri and Ethel (Kenneth) Kruger of Papillion, Nebraska; as well as nieces and nephews that Les always enjoyed seeing, including the greats, great-greats and great-greats.

Funeral Service

Saturday, March 25, 2023 11:00 AM First Presbyterian Church Huron, South Dakota

Officiant

Rev. Zach Kingery

Scripture Reader

Robert Brooks

Music

VaLynda Weller — Pianist

Leo Jensen — Soloist Special Selection

- Family Selection-The Lord's Prayer

- Congregational Hymns I Come To The Garden Alone
Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God Almighty
Hymn Of Promise

- Recessional Selections Marines Hymn
Notre Dame Victory March
Take Me Out To The Ballgame

Casket Bearers

Todd Weller Alan Schmidt
Kirby Weller Sabrena Brooks
Robert Brooks Tabitha Unruh
Dylan Unruh Kyle Uttecht

Kelly Uttecht

Interment

Rest Haven Cemetery Alpena, South Dakota

Military Honors

Hershman-Gordon American Legion Post #53 Wolsey, South Dakota

Owen Kunze American Legion Post #116 Alpena, South Dakota