

Leonard Orlando McVay

Leonard Orlando McVay, 96, of Piedmont, died Tuesday, October 13, 2020, at Westhills Village Healthcare in Rapid City.

Leonard was born on November 22, 1923, at Platte, SD to Byron B. and Ida (Buchtel) McVay. He grew up in Platte and Black Hawk, SD. He graduated from Rapid City High School in 1941. Leonard married Alta E (Cooper) McVay on January 22, 1947, and they moved to Piedmont, where they purchased their first home. They celebrated 72 years of marriage before Alta passed away in 2019. They were blessed with three children: Sheila (RT) Shaw, Don (Rita) McVay, Janet Mattern; seven grandchildren; 14 great-grandchildren; and 1 great-great-grandchild.

Leonard joined the Army during WWII. He served his country proudly in England in the Army Air Corp working on B-17's. As a civilian, he worked on B-25's and B-36's as an aircraft mechanic and sheet metal worker. He also worked as a Quality Control inspector on the Minuteman missiles and Housing Maintenance Supervisor at Ellsworth Air Force Base, retiring after 37 years of civil service. He was an active member for many years in the American Legion Post #311 serving as treasurer, Honor Guard and Memorial Day programs.

Leonard was a very active community member in Piedmont for all of his adult life until he & Alta moved to the retirement community, Westhills Independent Living in Rapid City. He was a Grace United Methodist Church board member, volunteer fireman, school board member, Piedmont Cemetery Board, instrumental in constructing the Piedmont gymnasium, which is still in active use today and presenting a program on our USA flag to the Piedmont grade school students on Veteran's Day. He also was Worthy Patron of Job's Daughters Bethel #12 in Sturgis and a Master Mason.

Leonard & Alta worked very well together, remodeling and building several homes in Piedmont. Their entire adult life was spent in Piedmont, the little town they loved! Carpentry was a favorite hobby of Leonard's. He was a wonderful role model for his grandchildren and taught them an admirable work ethic.

Leonard & Alta loved to go camping, fishing, dancing, playing card games and travelling. They were blessed to visit all 50 states!

Leonard gave much of his life, labor and love to his church, Grace United Methodist in Piedmont. He was a good friend to all and loved to strike up a conversation wherever he went and never met a stranger. He will be truly missed by all his numerous friends and family.

Survivors include his children and their families.

Leonard was preceded in death by his parents; and his wife, Alta.

Memorials have been established to Grace United Methodist Church in Piedmont and American Legion Post 311.

"Love many, trust few
Always paddle your own canoe"

The family would like to thank the caregivers at Westhills Courtyard and Westhills Healthcare facility for their compassionate care and kindness for Leonard.

Condolences can be sent to www.kinkadefunerals.com

The family invites you to join them for fellowship and lunch at the American Legion facility in Piedmont following the committal service. We thank you for your presence and condolences.



In Loving Memory

Leonard Orlando McVay

November 22, 1923 ~ October 13, 2020



*God saw you were getting tired,
And a cure was not to be.
So He put His arms around you
And whispered, "Come To Me."
With tearful eyes we watched you,
And saw you pass away.
Although we loved you dearly,
We could not make you stay.
A golden heart stopped beating,
Hard working hands at rest.
God broke our hearts to prove to us,
He only takes the best.*



In Memory Of
Leonard Orlando McVay

Date of Birth

November 22, 1923
Platte, South Dakota

Date of Death

October 13, 2020
Rapid City, South Dakota

Service

Saturday, October 17, 2020, at 2:00 p.m.
Grace United Methodist Church
Piedmont, South Dakota

Organist

Mary Wilson

Clergy

Pastor John Britt

Pianist

Sheila Shaw

Songs

"When The Roll Is Called Up Yonder"
"Just A Closer Walk With Thee" "I'll Fly Away"

Pallbearers- Great-Grandchildren

Tate McVay ~ Tice McVay ~ Riley McVay
Connor McVay ~ Madalynn McVay ~ Jonah Musilek
David Musilek ~ Grayson Tech

Honorary Pallbearers- Grand, Great, and Great-Great Grandchildren

Winn McVay ~ Reese McVay ~ Brody McVay ~ Andrew Dubie
James Dubie ~ McKenzie Dubie ~ Kristine Dubie ~ Amanda Mattern
Jeremy McVay ~ Jamie McVay ~ Justin McVay ~ Stephanie Musilek
Michelle Tech ~ Sloan McVay ~ Sierra Lynch

Military Honors

Piedmont American Legion Post #311
Taps by David Musilek

Final Resting Place

Piedmont Cemetery
Piedmont, South Dakota