

Elmer M. Preszler, 91, died peacefully at home in Sturgis, SD, on Oct. 12, 2023.

Born March 31, 1932, in Bowdle, SD, to Helmuth and Rose (Himmerich) Preszler, he grew up on a farm near Roscoe, SD, where he attended country school. When he was 12, the family moved to Roscoe; he graduated in 1950. In 1954, he graduated from Northern State Teachers College, Aberdeen. Later, he earned a graduate degree in Counseling and Secondary School Administration.

Elmer fell in love with Alma Delzer when she was a young teacher in Roscoe. The couple married on June 1, 1953, at Selby. Elmer and Alma were married 52 years plus four days at the time of her death in 2005.

He and Alma were in the field of education for 16 years. During that time, Elmer taught high school at Pollock, SD, Webster, SD, and Wabasso, MN. He was a mathematics and business teacher, guidance counselor and principal. In 1970, they moved to Sturgis and Elmer worked as Office/Business Manager for Delzer Construction Company in Rapid City, SD.

Sports were a mainstay in Elmer's life. A high school and college athlete, he played football and basketball and ran track. Later, he coached each sport. He became an avid Scooper fan and attended high school sporting events into his 90s. Elmer also enjoyed golf, bowling, and Canadian fishing trips.

A man who always tried to be fair, honest, and positive, laughter was important to Elmer. He valued family and friends and was especially grateful to them for their love and support following his wife's death. During Alma's battle with cancer, Elmer was her primary caregiver. After her death, he became a volunteer for Hospice of the Northern Hills and Meals on Wheels.

Throughout his life, Elmer's faith was strong. He was confirmed at the Reformed Church in Hosmer, SD, was a member of St. John's Lutheran Church, Webster; and Grace Lutheran Church since 1970.

Elmer is survived by his daughter, June Preszler, Custer, SD; his grandson, Eric (Colleen) Preszler, Ladera Ranch, CA; his brother, Jerold (Lila) Preszler, Tinton Falls, NJ, and Dunnellon, FL; great grandchildren, Tatum, Macklyn, Hutson, and Quinn, Ladera Ranch, CA; and nieces/nephews. He was preceded in death by his wife, Alma; his parents, Helmuth and Rose; and his sisters, Lorene Kranzler and Ardella Kilber.

A memorial has been established to Grace Lutheran Church.

Condolences may be sent to the family at www.kinkadefunerals.com.

*The family invites you to join them for fellowship and
lunch downstairs, following the burial.
Thank you for your presence and condolences.*

In Loving Memory Of

Elmer M. Preszler

March 31, 1932 ~ October 12, 2023



*Then Jesus again spoke to them, saying,
"I am the Light of the world;
he who follows Me will not walk in the darkness,
but will have the Light of life."*

John 8:12



*When I come to the end of the road
And the sun has set for me,
I want no rites in a gloom-filled room
Why cry for a soul set free.
Miss me a little – but not for long*

*And not with your head bowed low
Remember the Love that we once shared
Miss Me – But let Me Go.*

*For this is a journey we all must take
And each must go alone
It's all a part of the Master's plan
And a step on the road to home.*

When you are lonely and sick of heart

*Go to the friends we know
And bury your sorrows
in doing good deeds
Miss Me – But Let Me Go*



*When we look to
God in prayer,
we are led by faith.
Faith is believing without seeing.
The Holy Spirit guides us.*

In Loving Memory Of Elmer M. Preszler

Born
March 31, 1932
Bowdle, South Dakota

Died
October 12, 2023
Sturgis, South Dakota

Funeral Service
Wednesday, October 18, 2023, 10:00 a.m.
Grace Lutheran Church
Sturgis, South Dakota

Officiant
Pastor Kevin Jensen

Eulogy
Eric Preszler

Musicians
Dan Chapman Marlene Kotab Candy McKay
Grace Lutheran Choir

Special Music
“Softly and Tenderly” “When You Call”
“Precious Memories” “Blessed Assurance”

Pallbearers
Jerold Preszler Eric Preszler Ross Delzer
Brandon Delzer B.J. Delzer Tim Donovan

Honorary Pallbearers
The Morning Coffee Drinkers The Friday Night Crew
The Golfers

Final Resting Place
Bear Butte Cemetery
Sturgis, South Dakota