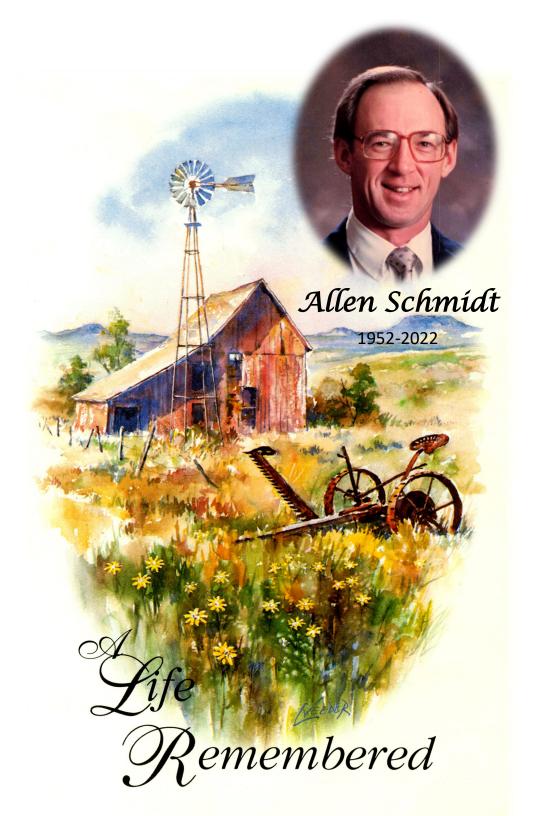




Furness Funeral Home

Clark, South Dakota www.furnessfuneralhome.com



Allen G. Schmidt, age 69, died at his home in Willow Lake, SD on Friday, March 11, 2022 after a courageous battle with cancer.

Allen Gene Schmidt was born on April 16, 1952, to Menno "Babe" and Phyllis (Herker) Schmidt. He graduated from Willow Lake High School in 1970. He joined the military in 1972 and worked in communications in the Air Force for four years. He then married Melana Seehuetter in 1975 and to this union they had a daughter, Heather. Following his honorable discharge, Al graduated from Mitchell Tech with a degree in electrical work.

While Al worked in several different fields, his expertise was in electrical work but his passion was really in farming. He first worked for Muth Electric, sold cars for a brief period and later worked for Super Pumper Inc where he helped design and build gas stations/convenience stores. When that company was sold, he moved back to the Willow Lake area and continued in the construction business working by himself. With the urging of his brother, Al finished his last construction project and went to work with Bob on the Farm. Al was always the technical advisor behind every project on the farm, from grain bins to new buildings and additions. When the new irrigation dealership was opened at Schmidtco Inc., Al served as Service Manager. Through the last twenty years Al was an integral part in building and expanding both the Schmidtco business and the farm.

Al enjoyed woodworking, doing crossword puzzles and loved history, often remembering almost everything he read. He also loved watching basketball and recently was able to see the SDSU championship game with his two nephews. He was a former member of the Lions Club and Jaycees Club. He was also a member of the Willow Lake Legion and the Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter of NE South Dakota. He was a councilman of the City of Willow Lake from January 2006 to September 2009 where he was then appointed to Mayor from September 2009 to January 2012. One of his major accomplishments was to get new sidewalks stamped like boardwalks in front of the main street businesses.

Al will long be remembered for being a "jack of all trades," for his iconic dog "Pete," and for being a loyal brother and friend for life. He was most proud of the success of his daughter and her family and enjoyed being able to spend many winter vacations visiting his grandchildren.

He is survived by his daughter, Heather (Leo) Garcia of Charlotte, NC and his four grandchildren Aili, Elijah, Brielle, and Bella Garcia; his mother, Phyllis (Herker) Schmidt of Willow Lake, SD; his brothers, Terry (Brenda) Schmidt of Watertown, SD, Bob (Melanie) Schmidt of Willow Lake, SD; and niece Michelle (Shawn) Poe and daughters Calista and Elise Poe of Sioux Falls, SD, nephews Michael (Kelsey) Schmidt of Spirit Lake, IA and Garrett (Brooklyn) Schmidt and their children Abram, Vada & Hugh of Willow Lake and numerous aunts, uncles and cousins.

Preceding him in death were his father, Menno "Babe" Schmidt, and his nephew Erik Lee Schmidt.



Furness Funeral Home Chapel Clark, South Dakota Saturday, March 19, 2022, 11:00 AM

Officiant

Pastor Leroy Boender

Music

Marie Rusche—Pianist Beth Vander Wal (cousin) singing "Living Hope" Heather Garcia (daughter) singing "The Rose"

Urn Bearers

Allen's Grandchildren

Mílítary Honors

United States Air Force Honor Guard Willow Lake Johnnie Fonken American Legion Post #113 NE SD Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter 1054

Interment at a Later Date

Collins Cemetery, Willow Lake, South Dakota



With heartfelt gratitude the Schmidt family would like to say "Thank you" to all those who have reached out to us during this time to express your condolences, given gifts of food and offered your prayers for our family. We appreciate you greatly.

Please join the family for lunch & a time of remembrance in the Clark Ullyot Building Community Center. 120 N. Commercial St., Clark, SD 57225