

Robert Leroy Tapken, 93, Sturgis, died, Friday, March 7, 2025, at the Sturgis Regional Senior Care. He was born February 15, 1932 in Sturgis, SD to Otto G and Marie V. (Burch) Tapken.

He worked for Homestake Mine until joining the US Airforce in December of 1951, serving as a food service supervisor for in-flight meals. Robert became a barber working in Lodi, CA and Hamilton, MT. He was running a barber shop in Montana where he met his last wife Alice "Irene" when she came in to apply for a job. He didn't have any openings but she was a looker so he hired her anyway. The couple loved to fish together. After moving back to Sturgis in 1992, he cut hair for Tarrant's Barber Shop. In his later years, Robert worked for Lynn's Super Value, stocking shelves and helping customers bagging their groceries. He enjoyed the most learning about them and being able to help.

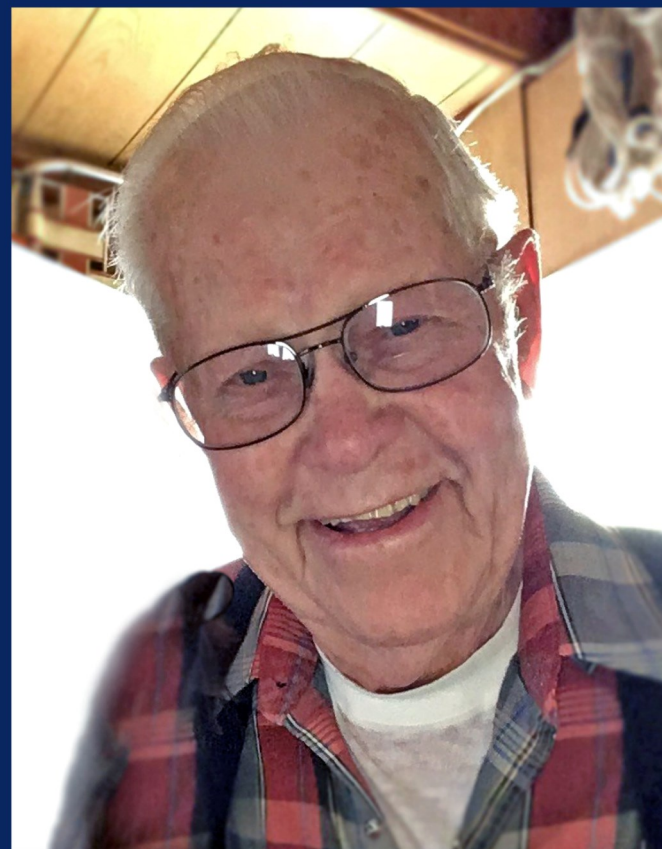
Robert is survived by his, wife Alyce "Irene" Tapken; children, daughter Margaret (Steven) Denton, Sturgis, and daughter Mary Frances; step children Shirley (Gary) Nichols, and Russ Wildey; 7 grandchildren and 8 great-grandchildren.

He is preceded in death by his son, Steven Duane Tapken; brother, George Tapken; and son-in-law Allyn Frances.

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

Thank you for your presence and condolences.

In Loving Memory



Robert Leroy Tapken

February 15, 1932 ~ March 7, 2025

Taps

*Day is done, gone the sun,
From the hills, from the lake, from the skies.
All is well, safely rest, God is nigh.*

*Go to sleep, peaceful sleep, may the soldier
or sailor, God keep. On the land or the deep,
Safe in sleep.*

*Love, good night, must thou go,
when the day, and the night need thee so?
All is well. Speedeth all To their rest.*

*Fades the light;
And afar Goeth day,
And the stars Shineth bright,
Fare thee well;
Day has gone, night is on.*

*Thanks and praise, for our days,
'Neath the sun, Neath the stars, 'Neath the sky,
As we go, this we know, God is nigh.*

In Loving Memory Of Robert Leroy Tapken

Born
February 15, 1932

Died
March 7, 2025

Funeral Service
Friday, March 14, 2025 at 12:00pm
Kinkade Funeral Chapel
Sturgis, South Dakota

Officiant
Pastor Ken Reschke

Musical Selections
“Green, Green Grass of Home”
“How Great Thou Art”

Pallbearers
Jerry Ross

Final Resting Place
Black Hills National Cemetery
Sturgis, South Dakota