



Melvin Earl Shuck

Melvin E. Shuck, 89, was born July 1, 1928, in Callaway, NE, and died of a glioblastoma October 9, 2017, at the Department of Veterans Affairs, Fort Meade. His parents, Fred Willis and Sylvia Belle (Rife) Shuck moved to Lantry, SD, when he was nine months old. Melvin graduated from Eagle Butte High School in 1946 and served in the US Army from 1951 to 1953, at Fort Flagler, WA, Fort Belvoir, VA, and helped to build Camp Desert Rock in Nevada where he participated in nuclear blasts (air and tower drops) four times. He was injured by two amphibious “ducks” at Fort Flagler, which caused problems with his left shoulder for the rest of his life.

Melvin married Lorretta Griffith on October 15, 1960, and the marriage was strong and loving until her death on October 31, 2009. They had four children, Nancy residing in Belle Fourche, Harley (Rhonda) residing in Dayton, WY, Lyle (Tracy Hesse) residing in Albany, OR, and Judy (Skip) Hallett residing in Albany, OR. He also has four grandchildren, six great-grandchildren, and several step-grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Melvin worked many jobs in his life very successfully. First and foremost he was a farmer and rancher with his parents until the whole family moved to Oregon in 1969. He also drove truck; had a business with a partner putting up hay and moving hay stacks, building stock dams, building barns and other buildings, and laying concrete for many years; worked as a carpenter; harvested grass seed; and worked for Farm Services at Oregon State University for 22 years, retiring in 1993 as Assistant Manager. After his wife’s retirement, they returned to South Dakota, settling in Belle Fourche in 1998. After he retired, he volunteered with Habitat for Humanity in Oregon and the DAV as a van driver in South Dakota, providing many hours and miles to drive veterans to medical appointments.

Melvin loved his family, animals (mostly dogs and horses), and baseball (playing on the Lantry town team and teaching all his children to play). He spent many hours catching a baseball for his sons and more hours playing games with his children (cards, baseball softball, or basketball). In retirement, he enjoyed coffee with his friends in Belle Fourche and volunteering with the DAV.

He is survived by his children, grandchildren, great-grandchildren, and several more cousins.

Melvin was preceded in death by his wife, his parents, and several aunts, uncles, and cousins.

In lieu of flowers, donations to the VA Fort Meade Hospice (contact VA Volunteer Services at Fort Meade at 605-347-7206) or the cancer-fighting organization of your choice are requested.

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



*In Loving
Memory Of*

***Melvin Earl
Shuck***

1928 ~ 2017





MY ARMY CROSS OVER

*"My army cross over,
My army cross over.
O, Pharaoh's army drowned!
My army cross over."*

*"We'll cross de mighty river,
My army cross over;
We'll cross de river Jordan,
My army cross over;
We'll cross de danger water,
My army cross over;
We'll cross de mighty Myo,
My army cross over. (Thrice.)
O, Pharaoh's army drowned!
My army cross over."*

In Loving Memory Of

Melvin Earl Shuck

Born

July 1, 1928
Callaway, Nebraska

Died

October 9, 2017
Ft. Meade, South Dakota

Funeral Service

Monday, October 16, 2017, at 11:00 a.m.
Kinkade Funeral Chapel
Sturgis, South Dakota

Officiant

Pastor Jean Helmer

Musicians

Butch Samuelson
Deb Stewart ~ Terri Kissack

Musical Selections

"Great Speckled Bird"
"How Great Thou Art"
"Amazing Grace"
"If Heaven Wasn't So Far"

Honorary Pallbearers

Harley Shuck ~ Lyle Shuck ~ Joshua Shuck
Tim Shuck ~ Travis Shuck ~ Tim Rowe ~ Myron Eliason
Dale Kapsa ~ Gary Helmer ~ Emil Wentz ~ Skip Hallett

Military Honors

Sturgis Veterans Honor Guard

Interment

Black Hills National Cemetery
Sturgis, South Dakota

The family invites you to join them for fellowship and lunch at the Sturgis Vet's Club following the committal service. We thank you for your presence and condolences.