So God Made A Farmer

And on the eighth day, God looked down on his planned paradise and said, "I need a caretaker."So God made a Farmer.

God said, "I need somebody willing to get up before dawn, milk cows, work all day in the fields, milk cows again, eat supper, then go to town and stay past midnight at a meeting of the school board."

So God made a Farmer.

"I need somebody with arms strong enough to wrestle a calf and yet gentle enough to deliver his own grandchild. Somebody to call hogs, tame cantankerous machinery, come home hungry, have to wait for lunch until his wife's done feeding visiting ladies, then tell the ladies to be sure and come back real soon and mean it." So God made a Farmer.

God said "I need somebody willing to sit up all night with a newborn colt and watch it die, then dry his eyes and say, 'Maybe next year.' I need somebody who can shape an ax handle from a persimmon sprout, shoe a horse with a hunk of car tire, who can make a harness out of hay wire, feed sacks, and shoe scraps, who at planting and harvest season will finish his 40 hour work week by Tuesday noon, and then painin' from 'tractor back' put in another 72 hours.

So God made a Farmer.

God had to have somebody willing to ride the ruts at double-speed to get the hay in ahead of the rain clouds and yet stop in mid-field to help when he sees the first smoke from a neighbor's place.

So God made a Farmer.

God said "I need somebody strong enough to clear trees and heave bales, yet gentle enough to yean lambs and wean pigs and tend the pink combed-pullets, who will stop his mower for an hour to splint the broken leg of a meadowlark."

It had to be somebody who'd plow deep and straight and not cut corners.

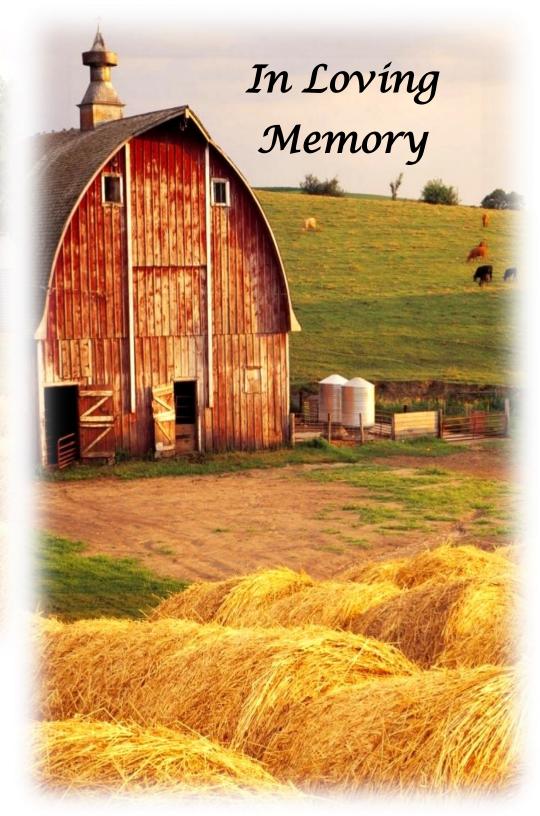
Somebody to seed, weed, feed, breed, and rake and disc and plow and plant and tie the fleece and strain the milk and replenish the self-feeder and finish a hard week's work with a five-mile drive to church. Somebody who'd bale a family together with the soft strong bonds of sharing, who would laugh and then sigh and then reply, with smiling eyes, when his son says that he wants to spend his life 'doing what Dad does'. So God made a Farmer.

-Paul Harvey



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James L. "Jim" Hurlbut, age 88, Clark, died in Watertown on Tuesday morning, November 10, 2020 following a brief illness.

James Lester Hurlbut was born in Raymond Township on June 28th, 1932 Raymond SD to Lester and Mattie "Young" Hurlbut. The family started Hurlbut Angus in 1943. Jim attended school in Raymond, SD, where he played basketball and baseball. This is where his love of sports started. He graduated from Raymond High School in 1950.

Jim served honorably in the military from 1953-1955 as a Corporal in the U.S. Army. He married Darlene Corkin in 1951 and they were blessed with their son, Rod in 1956 and daughter, Tami in 1959. The couple would later divorce. Jim married Janet Hanson on Dec 8th, 1979 and he gained step-children Scott, Bruce and Pam.

Jim kept busy as he officiated basketball games, was a member of the SD Jaycees, a member of the SD Angus Association & the American Angus Association, one of the original members of the Raymond 4H Club, a Clark County 4-H Leader for 30 years, a member of the Amercian Legion Baker Post #209 in Raymond, and a member of the First Presbyterian Church of Raymond.

He loved his family above everything and he was a very proud man. You could always find him in the bleachers at Clark Comets/Cyclones events as he was a huge fan. Jim loved hunting pheasant and deer with friends and family. Opening weekend was a national holiday! He was a St Louis Cardinal fan from the time that he could swing a bat. He thoroughly enjoyed coming to the farm every day, attending the events of grandkids and great grandkids, livestock shows, rodeos, and sporting events. Jim was an avid story teller, whether they were tall tales or the truth that is for you to decide!

Grateful for having shared in his life are his wife Janet; children, Rod (Mary) Hurlbut of Raymond SD, Tami (Lowell) Pfleger of Rapid City SD, Scott (Carol) Hanson of Owatonna, MN, Bruce (Doreen) Hanson of Alexandria, SD; 19 grandchildren and 18 great grandchildren; brother Dean (Gloria) Hurlbut of St. Joseph, MO; sisters-in-law Wylla (Claire) Konold of Watertown, SD, Arlene (Dennis) Milton of Watertown, SD, Darlene Martinson of Pella, IA, and Peggy (Wayne) Knutson of Toronto, SD.

Preceding him in death are his parents Lester and Mattie; step-daughter Pam Hanson; and brother-in-law Allyn Martinson.



Celebrating the Life of James "Jim" Hurlbut



First Presbyterian Church Raymond, South Dakota Saturday, November 21, 2020 11:00 AM

Officiant CRE Michelle Mehlberg

Musíc

Debra Waldner – pianist "How Great Thou Art" "Amazing Grace" "On Eagle's Wings"

Honorary Casketbearers

Jim's Pride and Joy – his grandchildren and great grandchildren & Anyone who was lucky enough to share a cup of coffee with him in the morning at the Corner Diner

Casketbearers

Terry Schlagel Brian "Odie" Bolcerek
Scott "Lite" Lietheiser Dana "Bacon" Hink
Mario "Mayor" Guzman Gale "Uncle Gayle" Filipek
Wade "Tator" McGraw

Interment with Full Military Honors

Prairie Valley Cemetery Raymond, South Dakota

The family of Jim Hurlbut thanks you for your presence here today, for your thoughts, prayers, and other acts of kindness shown to them.