

So God Made a **FARMER**

And on the 8th 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 and 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 rustle a calf and yet gentle enough to deliver his own grandchild. Somebody to call hogs, tame cantankerous machinery, come home hungry, have to wait lunch until his wife's done feeding visiting ladies and 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 harness out of haywire, feed sacks and shoe scraps. And who, planting time and harvest season, will finish his forty-hour week by Tuesday noon, then, pain'n from 'tractor back,' put in another seventy-two 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 and race 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 tame 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 meadow lark. 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 he wants to spend his life 'doing what dad does.'" So God made a farmer.

- Paul Harvey—



SERVICES IN CARE OF
Furness Funeral Home
Clark, South Dakota
www.furnessfuneralhome.com



In loving Memory of
Robert Keith Steffen

January 13, 1973—May 14, 2023

Robert "Bob" Keith Steffen, age 50, of Clark, passed away peacefully Sunday, Mother's Day morning, May 14, 2023 in his home.

Bob was born on January 13th, 1973 in Watertown, the son of Stacey Lee Steffen and Nancy Marie (Foster) Steffen. He attended Clark High School where he was actively involved in football, wrestling, 4-H, and FFA and then graduated from Clark High School in 1991. Following high school, he attended Southeast Technical College for Autobody. He and his then girlfriend, Joie, moved into a trailer house with some roommates and that is where they also brought home their first child, Hannah Fay. After Bob was involved in an accident at the elevator injuring his arm, he went back to school at Mount Marty in Watertown for Ag Business. After graduating from Mount Marty and letting his arm heal, Bob opened B.J's (Bob and Jo's) Bar in Bradley, South Dakota.

On August 17th, 1996 he was united in marriage to Joie Ann Reidburn, classmates since kindergarten. The couple lived in Watertown and then moved to Clark in 2004. Bob sold B.J's and began taking over the family farm in Garden City which he continued to do until the day he passed.

Bob was an active member on the Clark School Board, where he sat as President. He was also active in the PDR Youth Hunt, Clark County Pro Pheasants, Bradley Fire Department, and had just recently joined the Clark County Riders. In his free time, he enjoyed going to Clark Wrestling meets where he often ran clock for home matches, going to SDSU wrestling matches, fishing with his sons, going to concerts where he always managed to get the best seats, fixing Gunther (Hannah's car), checking up on his siblings, online shopping, going out for a CC7, and just being the absolute best dad he could be. Bob was confirmed into the Garden City United Methodist Church as a middle schooler, and as his kids were growing up, he and his wife would attend Cornerstone and Clark United Methodist Church. However, if you were to ever ask Bob, he did most of his talking to the Lord in the cab of a tractor working his fields or the seat of his 4-wheeler tending to his livestock.

Preceding him in death were his wife and best friend, Joie Steffen on November 29th, 2018, his grandparents, Oliver and Billie Steffen of Clark, Ann (Ronnie) O'Conner of Clark, and Robert Keith Foster (the man he was named after).

Survivors include his children, Hannah Fay (Cody) of Watertown, Hudson Oliver and Hayse Robert of Clark, his father Stacey Lee Steffen and mother Nancy Steffen of Garden City, brother, James (Lori) Steffen of Becker, MN, sister, Sandra (Sam) Koedam of New Underwood, SD, and extra sister, Anna West of Lantry, SD, nieces and nephews, Chelsea, Jerad, Logan (God son), Shelby, Lydia, Lincoln, Brooke, Justus, Emma, and Averi and a great niece, Emma, and great nephew Weston, along with his God sons, Trevor and Trace Kruthoff.

*The family of Bob Steffen thanks you for your presence here today,
for your thoughts, prayers, & other acts of kindness shown to them.*

Celebrating the Life of Robert "Bob" Steffen



Services from

Clark High School Gymnasium
Clark, South Dakota
Tuesday, May 23, 2023
3:00 PM

Officiant

Pastor Mark Tracy
Pastor Rob Salmonson

Reader

Cody Gregg

Music

Pat Seefeldt—Pianist

"Hymn of Promise"

"God's Amazing Grace" - Alleluia Bell Choir

"On Eagle's Wings" - Harrison Wookey

Honorary Casketbearers

Clark High School Class of 1991	CWL Wrestling
Clark County Pro Pheasants	PDR Youth Hunt
Bradley Fire Department	Clark County Riders
Clark School Board & Staff	

Casketbearers

Todd Orris	Bill Karber	James Rosenau
Chris Olson	Dennis Kruthoff	Scott Jongbloed

Interment at a Later Date

Rose Hill Cemetery
Clark, South Dakota



*Please join the family after the service for refreshments
and a time of fellowship in the school commons.*