



John M. Vainio

John M. Vainio was born October 17, 1930, on a farm northwest of Newell, SD, to Werner and Lydia (Anderson) Vainio. The family moved to Whitewood Valley where his father operated a farm during the Depression years and through the 1940's. In 1947, the family moved to St. Onge. John graduated from Spearfish High School in 1948. In 1953, John started in the dairy business with his father. After the death of his father, John continued to operate the dairy farm.

On August 25, 1963, he married Laurie Fair at Lead, SD. Together, they continued to operate the dairy until 1997. They changed to beef and range cattle after 1997.

John was an avid musician and played the steel guitar in many bands. He started playing in 1950 and joined the Jim Fabricius Orchestra in 1951. They played for 21 years at the Golden Wheel Dance Hall in Whitewood. In 2004, he joined the Classic Country Band and played with them the rest of his life.

John collected antiques. He had a large collection of radios and clocks.

John, 80, Whitewood, died Sunday, August 28, 2011, at his home.

Survivors include his wife, Laurie Vainio, St. Onge; one daughter, Tina (Chris) Reeves, St. Paul, MN; one son, Curt (Debbie) Vainio, Stafford, VA; one sister, Frieda (Will) Waterson, Spearfish; one brother, Paul Vainio, Albuquerque, NM; four grandchildren, Alexandra, Haley, Maddie, and John; and several nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Lydia and Werner, and his sister, Vera Boe.

A memorial has been established to the Hospice of the Northern Hills.



In Loving Memory Of



John M. Vainio

1930 ~ 2011



A Farmer's Prayer

*Although I may not bow my head as often as I should,
I'm thankful for the life I lead in this farming neighborhood.
I love the feel of a nice spring shower and the soft green grass in May.
I say thanks when I feel bright sunshine drying out the fresh mown hay.
I am thankful when I look upon a field of tasseled corn,
And I love the sounds of harvest on a frosty autumn morn.
It's such a good feeling at sunset when a long days work is done,
And I like the hours when I work real hard – but am working just for fun.
There are times in the life of a farmer when things don't go our way,
But although I may not bow my head I am thankful every day.*



***In Loving Memory Of
John M. Vainio***

Born

October 17, 1930
Newell, South Dakota

Died

August 28, 2011
Whitewood, South Dakota

Memorial Services

Saturday, September 10, 2011 at 10:00 a.m.
Kinkade Funeral Chapel

Officiating

Rev. Dale Jones and Rev. Dee Clark

Special Musical Selections

Some of John's Favorite Songs

