

# Merle Edward Vig

Merle Edward Vig was born July 25, 1936, in Faith, SD. He was the second of five children born to Cecil and Edith (Weiss) Vig, and was raised on the family ranch in Opal, SD. Elementary education included Vig School, Cecil Vig home, and Tama School. Merle attended Faith High School for three years and graduated from Newell High School.

After high school, Merle worked on the ranch and started hay moving and dirt moving businesses. Merle

invented the chain bed stackmover, which, eventually, he mounted onto a Mack truck.

Merle was a radio communication enthusiast and was proud of his pilot's credentials. He was also involved with the SD Pilot's Association. He enjoyed playing saxophone and harmonica.

On May 22, 1965, Merle married Adelia Heitz. To this union, four children were born: Darrell, Dale, Denise, and Dean.

In 1966, Vig Manufacturing, later becoming Vig's Reddi-Mix, was established and was operated for 50 years. Highlights include the invention of the "Dakota Mudslinger," a self-manufactured trencher, and a self-manufactured haygrinder.

Summer of 1989, Merle was involved with the SD Centennial Wagon Train and thoroughly enjoyed himself. Merle was involved with Opal Community Church for many years.

Merle, 82, Opal, died Tuesday, August 14, 2018, in Rapid City.

Merle is survived by the mother of their children, Adelia Vig of Montana;

sons, Darrell (Tammy) Vig of Opal, SD, Dale (Sheila) Vig [military assignment], and Dean (Elizabeth) Vig of Montana; daughter, Denise Meyer; sisters, Faith (Ronald) Miller of Mud Butte, SD, Hope Vig of Opal, SD, and Rose Tysdal of Florida; brother, Dwayne (Zona) Vig of Opal, SD; 10 grandchildren; 3 greatgrandchildren; and numerous nieces, nephews, and cousins.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Cecil and Edith Vig.

In lieu of flowers, people are encouraged to donate to: Opal Volunteer Fire Department, Opal Hall, or Opal Community Church.

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



# The family invites you to join them for fellowship and lunch immediately following the funeral service. We thank you for your presence and condolences.

# In Loving Memory Of



Merle Edward Vig





### I'm Free

Don't grieve for me,
for now I'm free
I'm following the path God
has laid you see.
I took His hand
when I heard His call
I turned my back and left it all.

I could not stay another day
To laugh, to love, to work or play.
Tasks left undone must stay that way
I found the peace at the close of day.

If my parting has left a void Then fill it with remembered joys - -A friendship shared, a laugh, a kiss Oh yes, these things I too will miss.

Be not burdened with times of sorrow.

I wish you the sunshine of tomorrow.

My life's been full, I savored much,

Good friends, good times, a loved one's touch.

Perhaps my time seemed all too brief - Don't lengthen it now with undue grief.
Lift up your hearts, and peace to thee - God wanted me now: He set me free.

# Merle Edward Vig

#### Born

July 25, 1936 Faith, South Dakota

#### Died

August 14, 2018 Rapid City, South Dakota

#### Funeral Service

Wednesday, August 22, 2018, at 1:00 p.m. Faith Community Center Faith, South Dakota

## **Officiants**

Pastor Steve Talley Pastor Harold Delbridge

# Musician

Danny Chapman

#### Musical Selections

"Mansion Over The Hilltop"
"The Old Rugged Cross"

#### **Pallbearers**

J. T. Vig ~ O. J. Heidler ~ Morgan Vig Jason Ingalls ~ Justin Ingalls ~ Jonathan Cowles

# **Honorary Pallbearers**

Marty Vig ~ Dwayne Vig ~ Hugh Ingalls Dale Ingalls ~ John Heidler ~ Myron Weiss

#### Interment

Opal Cemetery Opal, South Dakota