

Arthur Heitz, Jr., 81, Rapid City, SD, and formerly of Vale, SD, died Friday, May 26, 2023, at Platte Valley Medical Center, Brighton, CO.

Art was born February 27, 1942, in Belle Fourche, SD, to Arthur Sr. and Adelia (Erdman) Heitz. He was one of five children, and the family lived on a farm in Arpan. Art attended school in Arpan and Nisland through 11th grade and transferred to Newell High School his senior year, graduating in 1961. He enjoyed singing in the chorus, the glee club, and playing football, and basketball.

Art attended Evangel College in Springfield, MO, in 1961-1962 and was a member of the Crusader basketball team.

He married Maureen Schnell on September 22, 1962, and they had four children together. They farmed in the Vale area for 35 years until Maureen's death in 1998. They were lifelong members of the Newell Assembly of God Church.

Art married Jeanne Smith on November 27, 1999. They farmed in the Vale and Rapid City areas for 23 years and attended Rapid Valley United Methodist Church.

Art was saved at an early age and loved his Lord and Savior. He loved singing hymns and playing alto and soprano saxophone in church. Art also loved his family and enjoyed spending time with his children and grandchildren.

Other passions were his love of farming and inventions. In 2005, he invented the Bale Caddie and Bale Grapppler. The following year, he was chosen as one of the top 10 finalists for an inventor's challenge in Iowa. In 2008, Art won first place in the SD Governor's Giant Vision Award Contest in Sioux Falls, and in 2009, Art received a US and International patent on the Bale Caddie.

Survivors include his wife, Jeanne Heitz, Rapid City, SD; four children: Brenda Castaldo (Ken), Springfield, MO, Norman Heitz (Lana), Pierre, SD, Lurlene Klein (Phil) Brighton, CO, and Tamera Heitz-Peek, Bolivar, MO; two step-children: Shanti Noreika, Eugene, OR, and John Noreika Jr. (Dorothy), Belgrade, MT; 11 grandchildren; two step-grandchildren; nine great-grandchildren; sisters: Adelia Vig, and Elaine Edwards; and sister-in-law, Beverly Heitz; and many nieces and nephews.

Preceding him in death was his wife, Maureen, parents, Arthur and Adelia Heitz, brothers, Norbert Heitz, and Clarence Heitz, and brother-in-law, Bob Edwards.

Condolences may be sent to the family at [www.kinkadefunerals.com](http://www.kinkadefunerals.com).

*The family invites you to join them for fellowship and lunch,  
at the church, immediately following the service.  
The family thanks you for your presence and condolences.*

## *In Loving Memory Of*



***Arthur "Art" Heitz, Jr.***

***February 27, 1942 ~ May 26, 2023***

*Psalm 23*

*The LORD is my shepherd;  
I shall not want.*

*He maketh me to lie down in green pastures:  
he leadeth me beside the still waters.*

*He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me  
in the paths of righteousness  
for his name's sake.*

*Yea, though I walk  
through the valley  
of the shadow of death,  
I will fear no evil:  
for thou art with me;  
thy rod and thy staff they comfort me.*

*Thou preparest a table before me  
in the presence of mine enemies:  
thou anointest my head with oil;  
my cup runneth over.*

*Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me  
all the days of my life:  
and I will dwell in the house of  
the LORD for ever.*

*In Loving Memory Of*

*Arthur Heitz, Jr.*

*Born*

February 27, 1942  
Belle Fourche, South Dakota

*Died*

May 26, 2023  
Brighton, Colorado

*Funeral Service*

Monday, June 5, 2023, 10:00 a.m.  
Rapid Valley United Methodist Church  
Rapid City, South Dakota

*Officiants*

Reverend Quaya Ackerman    Reverend Gary Walters

*Eulogy*

Nolan Klein  
Written by Norman Heitz & Elaine Edwards

*Musician*

Adelia Vig

*Music*

“Wonderful Words of Life”    “In the Sweet By and By”

*Pallbearers*

Todd Angyal    Pat Martin    Nathan Castaldo  
Ken Castaldo    Phil Klein    Nolan Klein  
Colin Klein

*Final Resting Place*

Pine Slope Cemetery  
Belle Fourche, South Dakota