



May the road rise to meet you.

May the wind
be always at your back.

May the sun shine
warm upon your face.

And rains fall soft upon your fields.

And until we meet again,

May God hold you
in the palm of His hand.



SERVICES IN CARE OF
Furness Funeral Home

Gregory E. Furness
Clark, South Dakota
www.furnessfuneralhome.com



Linus Reilly, age 96, Florence, died peacefully in the Jenkins Living Center at Watertown early Wednesday morning, March 18, 2020.

Linus Eugene Reilly was born in rural Watertown on November 22, 1923, to Thomas "Frank" and Anna Marie (Ronke) Reilly. He was the oldest of four children and grew up on the family farm north of Florence. He graduated as valedictorian from Florence High School and is credited, along with a teacher and classmate, with starting the library at the school. Linus was an avid reader and card player with pinochle and smear being his specialties.

Linus married Marlys Foley on October 22, 1957 at Blessed Sacrament Church in Florence, where both were lifetime members. Linus and Marlys continued the farming tradition on the family homestead, raising their three children. Linus loved the farm and was proud of his pioneer heritage. He could be called on to explain the Miller-Ronke-Reilly family tree and the history of homesteads in South Dakota. Linus experienced the evolution of farming, starting his career as a boy using mules and horses to plant and harvest the crops. His first tractor was an International B-Farmall. Linus was a farm insurance salesman and a local postal mail carrier for many years. Linus had an uncanny sense for weather forecasting and enjoyed telling his experiences of dodging multiple tornadoes throughout his lifetime. Linus and Marlys loved to dance and could be found in their younger days at Sunnyside or the Casino doing the two-step or a polka.

Linus was very active in the community, farm organizations and his church. He was a third degree Knight of Columbus. He was proud of his military service and was stationed at the Ft. Riley Army Base.

He is survived by his children, Linda (Tim) Gergen of Valley, Nebraska, Kathy (Kevin) Pommier and Dave (Beth Sumner) Reilly of Florence; granddaughters, Shannon (Gergen) Tolstedt and Michelle (Gergen) Lanoue, Hollie and Nicole Pommier (Brandon Reichling). Great-grandchildren, Brynn Reilly and Lucas Christian Tolstedt and Michael Eugene, Maren Catherine Reilly and Baby Lanoue. He is also survived by many nieces, nephews, family and friends.

He was preceded in death by his wife Marlys (Foley), parents T.F. (Frank) and Anna (Ronke) Reilly, and his sisters Mary Phyllis Brusie, Shirley (Don) Ries and Frances (Leslie) Jenkins.



Celebrating the Life of Linus Reilly



Mass of a Christian Burial

Blessed Sacrament Church
Florence, South Dakota
Monday, March 23, 2020
10:30 AM

Celebrant

The Reverend Daniel Smith

Honorary Bearers

Shannon and Lance Tolstedt
Michelle and Eric Lanoue
Hollie Pommier
Nicole (Brandon) Pommier

Casketbearers

Pastor Scott, Dan Keszler, Denny Fleming
Mark Sumner, Ron Paulson, Claire Orthaus
Tony Kahnke, Chad Kahnke, Danny Kahnke
Johnathan Kahnke

Interment

St Mary's Cemetery
Watertown, South Dakota

