



Celebrating
THE LIFE OF
MERWIN PETERSEN



God saw him getting tired,
a cure not meant to be,
So He put His arms

AROUND HIM, AND WHISPERED...

“Come With Me.”

FUNERAL SERVICE

United Methodist Church
Breckenridge, Minnesota
2:00 p.m., Monday, June 16, 2025

PARTICIPANTS

Rev. Shandon Klein, Officiant
Mary Jane Pauly, Musician

PALLBEARERS

Bruce Roeder | Gregg Roeder | Mark Roeder

HONORARY PALLBEARERS

All of Merwin's Loving Grandchildren
Harvey Andel | Donna Holden
Christina Aigner | Susan Cremers
Jacob Caspers | Joseph Caspers | Nicole Howitz
Jennifer Rau | Bradley Harris | Jessie Harty
Rick Olthoff | Patrick Petersen | Miranda Adams

SPECIAL MUSIC

Go Rest High on That Mountain

CONGREGATIONAL SONGS

Amazing Grace | On Eagle's Wings

BURIAL

Riverside Cemetery | Breckenridge, Minnesota

The family wishes to express their gratitude for your kind expressions of sympathy and for honoring Merwin with your presence at the service.



Merwin was born on January 24, 1931, near Wheaton, MN, the youngest of six children born to Fredrick and Christina (Theisen) Petersen. He began his education in a country school and later attended Campbell School, graduating with the class of 1949. On September 23, 1951, Merwin was united in marriage to Annabel Burhans at Doran Presbyterian Church. Together, they embarked on a life full of enterprise and partnership.

Merwin and Annabel farmed until 1963, then they acquired Breck Lanes which they operated for 20 years. In 1977, they acquired Cal's Diner, which they managed for five years, and then opened Ann's Shoebox for the next decade.

Merwin was always a 'farmer' and spent many years owning and operating his custom combining operation. His crew, consisting of himself and a young team of valued workers, would take his school bus/camper along with trucks, headers, and combines and drive from Breckenridge to start combining in Enid, Oklahoma. Then they traveled northward as the crops were ready for harvest. He did this until 1989 when he began working at Wil-Rich with his friend Harvey Anandel.

Merwin and Annabel were dedicated members of the Eagles Club in Wahpeton where they enjoyed dancing on Saturday nights, and volunteering to help serve meals. Merwin found great joy in the outdoors, particularly in fishing and hunting with Harvey Anandel, family, and friends. He was an excellent bowler who delighted in competing with any and all whenever he had the chance. Merwin loved watching and listening to his favorite Minnesota sports teams, but his favorite team by far was the Minnesota Twins, whether winning or losing. He took the time, daily, to have coffee and/or play pinochle—he so enjoyed socializing and playing with his many friends. And through it all, he skillfully balanced his responsibilities as a family man, farmer, and businessman.

Merwin will be greatly missed by his daughters, Sharon (Brian) Caspers of Fargo, ND; Diane (Tim) Fox of West Fargo, ND; and Patricia (Gene) Harris of Wahpeton, ND; Harvey Anandel, his lifelong best friend; and Donna Holden, his beloved niece. He is also survived by 11 grandchildren, many great-grandchildren, one great-great-grandson, and numerous nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his beloved wife, Annabel Petersen; his son, James Petersen; grandson, Michael Cremers; daughter-in-law, Judy Petersen; his parents, Fredrick and Christina Petersen; his brothers, Orville, Dale, and Robert Petersen; and his sisters, Ardis Kuehn and Bernice Evert.

Merwin will be remembered for his unwavering dedication to family, friends, community, and hard work. He gave the best hugs and will be deeply missed.

SPECIAL THANKS TO CHI HOSPICE & ALL THE STAFF AT TWIN TOWN VILLA
FOR ALL OF THEIR ATTENTIVE AND LOVING CARE.

