

Mathias “Matt” Jr. Dettling was born June 8, 1942 in Rugby, ND, the son of Mathias “Matt” Sr. and Mary Ann (Fix) Detling. He grew up on the family farm near Manfred, ND alongside his 14 siblings. Matt attended school through the eighth grade and helped his parents on the farm. In 1959, he enlisted to serve in the U.S. Navy at Norfolk, VA. Matt was on the U.S.S. Hector for two years in Long Beach CA serving on a submarine repair ship. For the next 18 months he served aboard the U.S.S. Telfair as the Boiler Division leading mechanic. Matt was honorably discharged in 1963 as Second Class Petty Officer. With a Letter of Recommendation, he attended Auto Mechanics & Diesel School that year and worked in Harvey, ND as a gas station attendant at Enco and later at Harvey Ready Mix alongside good buddies, Dave Heil and Marty Kittleson. On July 1, 1964 Matt married Lois Goldade in Harvey. They were blessed with a daughter, Kandas and a son, Mark. The family continued to live and work in Harvey until 1979, when Matt became the owner of Watford City Ready Mix, New Town and Stanley. He later invented and built “All in One Docks”. In 2011, Matt and Lois moved to Bismarck where he continued to build the docks and finally retired. They moved to Jamestown in June 2025. Matt was an active man who simply loved to work. His brain never quit. He was proud of his many inventions such as a pickup camper, pontoon, icehouses, portable cement plant, light up fishing pails and a revolving Blitz board. There were plans of building a floating icehouse. He

was a member of the Eagles in Harvey, served on the ND Ready Mix Association and served two terms on the McKenzie Bay board. He loved lake cabin life at his second home, McKenzie Bay on Lake Sakakawea. He was a ‘huge’ Minnesota Vikings fan! Friends and family were everything to him. Matt will be dearly missed by Lois and his entire family. Matt is survived by his wife, Lois of Jamestown; daughter, Kandas Wold (Corey Riedinger and daughters Tiana and Brielle) of Jamestown; son, Mark (Jennifer) Dettling of Bismarck; grandsons, Derik (Joya) Weckerly, Kirk Weckerly, Tanner (Angela) Wold, Steven (Kylee) Dettling; great-grandchildren, Natalie, Quinn, and Presley Weckerly, Trae and Emri Weckerly; siblings, Burga, Joe, Garry, Harry, Ned, Bill, and Lorretta; special buddy George (David) Dally. Many brothers and sisters in law and nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his parents, Matt Sr. and Mary Detling; brothers, Emanuel and Leo; sisters, Ann, Betty, Grace, Lena, and Clara.

Matt Dettling Jr.

June 8, 1942 - November 2, 2025



Matt Dettling Jr.

God saw he was getting tired,
And a cure was not to be,
So He put His arms around him,
And whispered, "Come with me."



With tearful eyes we watched him suffer
and saw him fade away.
Although we loved him dearly,
We could not make him stay.

A golden heart stopped beating,
Hard-working hands to rest;
God broke our hearts to prove to us
He only takes the best.



GRAVESIDE SERVICE

Friday, November 7, 2025 2:00 pm
North Dakota Veterans Cemetery
Mandan, North Dakota

OFFICIATING

Pastor Scott Skones

MILITARY HONORS

American Legion Post Honor Guard

PALLBEARERS

All of Matt's McKenzie Bay Friends

ARRANGEMENTS BY

Stevenson Funeral Home
Dickinson, ND

*Lunch will be served at the Mandan Eagles,
1400 Collins Ave, Mandan, ND
immediately following the service.
Everyone is welcome.*

