

Remembering...

Milan Jerome Drewlow was born on November 1, 1950 to Reinhart and Florence (Zarling) Drewlow. A special day in his life was December 10, 1950 when he was baptized into Christ, leading to his lifetime membership at Grace Lutheran Church where he served in various roles from youth group leader to long-time chairman of the congregation.

Milan grew up on the treasured family farm in Nordick Township and soon had the love of the land deep in his bones. His education started in a one-room schoolhouse that he attended through sixth grade then finished his high school education at Breckenridge High School. Milan then attended North Dakota State University where he studied Agricultural Education. While at NDSU, Milan met his wife Laurie at a snowball fight, and they married in 1971. After graduation, his intention was to return to the land he loved to be the next generation of farmers, but a phone call changed his path. Instead, he took a teaching job at Ulen-Hitterdal High School, and it was the beginning of his true calling; he was a natural born teacher. Milan also taught at Breckenridge High School and NDSCS. He had a way of bringing humor into his classroom which his pupils never forgot.

Eventually, Milan returned to farming but was soon called to be an Extension Agent and a 4-H Coordinator in Travers County and later Wilkin County where he retired in December of 2017. Once again, he was working with youth, especially his beloved Clover Buds. When he wasn't working, he ran Red River Pedal Pulls, traveling to county fairs and community events, for over 30 years.

Early in his adult life, Milan was recognized for his leadership abilities and served as chairman for various groups such as Valley Lake Boy's Home, National Pedal Pullers Association and the Wilkin County Agricultural Society. He attributed his leadership skills to his involvement in 4-H and FFA, two organizations dear to his heart. Closest to his heart was the Wilkin County Fair. His dedication to the annual event was beyond measure. Milan was able to attend all four days of the 2025 fair, exhausted, but happy. An avid collector, Milan accumulated hundreds of farm toys, trucks and model railroad pieces, filling every available space in the basement of his home.

Being a true "people person", Milan found pleasure in visiting with just about every person he met, telling jokes and stories earning him the nickname 'Smilin' Milan.' But most of all he loved being with his grandsons Austin and Tyler. Whether it was restoring tractors, grooming pigs or goats to show at the county fair, or taking trips in the summer, he was happiest when he was with the boys.

Milan is survived by his wife of 54 years, Laurie; sons Matthew (Jodee) and Eric (Lora); grandsons Austin and Tyler; sisters Marlys Balfour and Bethany (Dennis) Beyer; three nieces and three nephews; and sister-in-law Judy Maxson.

He was preceded in death by his parents Reinhart and Florence; brother Lyndon; brothers-in-law: Don Balfour, Ken Maxson and Bill Saunders.

Milan Drewlow, 75, Breckenridge, MN, passed away on November 18, 2025, following a 12-year cancer fight.

May His Memory Be Blessed

In Celebration For The Life Of **Milan J. Drewlow** November 1, 1950 ~ November 18, 2025



I was born to be a FARMER

It is what I know...

And what I love. Up before the crack of dawn with a morning ritual that includes a strong cup of joe, a quick glance at the weather and always a check on the market, because

I was born to be a FARMER

It's overlooking the beauty...

Of the earth and the smell of freshly tilled soil, entrusted to the vastness of what we call a field. It's watching and waiting to see all those millions of little seeds start to sprout through the ground in rows as straight as a ruler, bringing great satisfaction, because

I was born to be a FARMER

It's having great faith...

As the storm comes in, knowing that the green, tender plants could be wiped out in a matter of seconds. Or, when the rain simply doesn't come, and watching the plants wither until at the last minute of almost losing hope, a rain cloud comes. And the sky opens right at that moment, with just enough to get a little relief and a renewed faith, because

I was born to be a FARMER

It's keeping up...

With technology, realizing that it's a sure necessity. But always looking back with the fondest memories and great admiration of how Dad and Grandpa did things, because

I was born to be a FARMER

It's a partnership...

A 'working' partnership with the good Lord Almighty. Without Him, it could not be done. It is His divine guidance that gets me through each season from planting to the harvest. Through the storms and the drought, the highs and the lows. Some say it's a gamble, but to me, it's a way of life, because

I was born to be a FARMER

-Marla Rae Anders

In Loving Memory of
Milan Jerome Drewlow

MEMORIAL SERVICE

Monday, November 24, 2025, 11:00 AM

Grace Lutheran Church
Breckenridge, Minnesota

OFFICIATING

Reverend Ryan Drevlow

MUSIC

Kathy Radig ~ Organist

Kelly Voss ~ Soloist

Selection

"Precious Lord, Take My Hand"

Congregational Hymns

"Jesus Lives! The Victory's Won" - LSB 490

"God's Own Child, I Gladly Say It" - LSB 594

"What A Friend We Have In Jesus" - LSB 770

SCRIPTURE

Old Testament Lesson ~ Isaiah 25:6-9

Psalms ~ Psalm 23

Epistle Lesson ~ Romans 6:3-10

Gospel Lesson ~ John 14:1-6

APPRECIATION

On behalf of Milan's family, thank you for your love and support throughout his life. We appreciate your prayers and your time as his life is honored. Please join us for a time of food and fellowship following the memorial service.

Thank you to HIA Hospice for their excellent care and compassion for Milan in his final days.

Thank you to a special neighbor for making Milan's urn.

*Arrangements Entrusted to Joseph Vertin & Sons Funeral Home
Breckenridge, Minnesota*