

VERNON ERNEST "VERN" TOLLEFSON, age 66, of Hoople, North Dakota, passed away on Monday, June 29, 2026, surrounded by his loving family after a courageous battle with cancer.

Vern was born on March 5, 1960, in Devils Lake, North Dakota, to the late Olaf and Grace (Kisner) Tollefson. Raised in a farming family, he was a lifelong farmer and trucker, continuing the family tradition with dedication and pride. He finished schooling in Hampden, North Dakota and later became the owner and operator of Tollefson Farming & Trucking, a business that reflected his strong work ethic and commitment to farming. Vern was also a proud father to his sons, the late Joseph Vernon Tollefson and Jeffrey Gary Tollefson.

In 2000, Vern met the love of his life, Kristi Twamley. The two were united in marriage in July 2009 in Park River, North Dakota, and together they made their home in Hoople, where they built a life filled with love, laughter, and hard work.

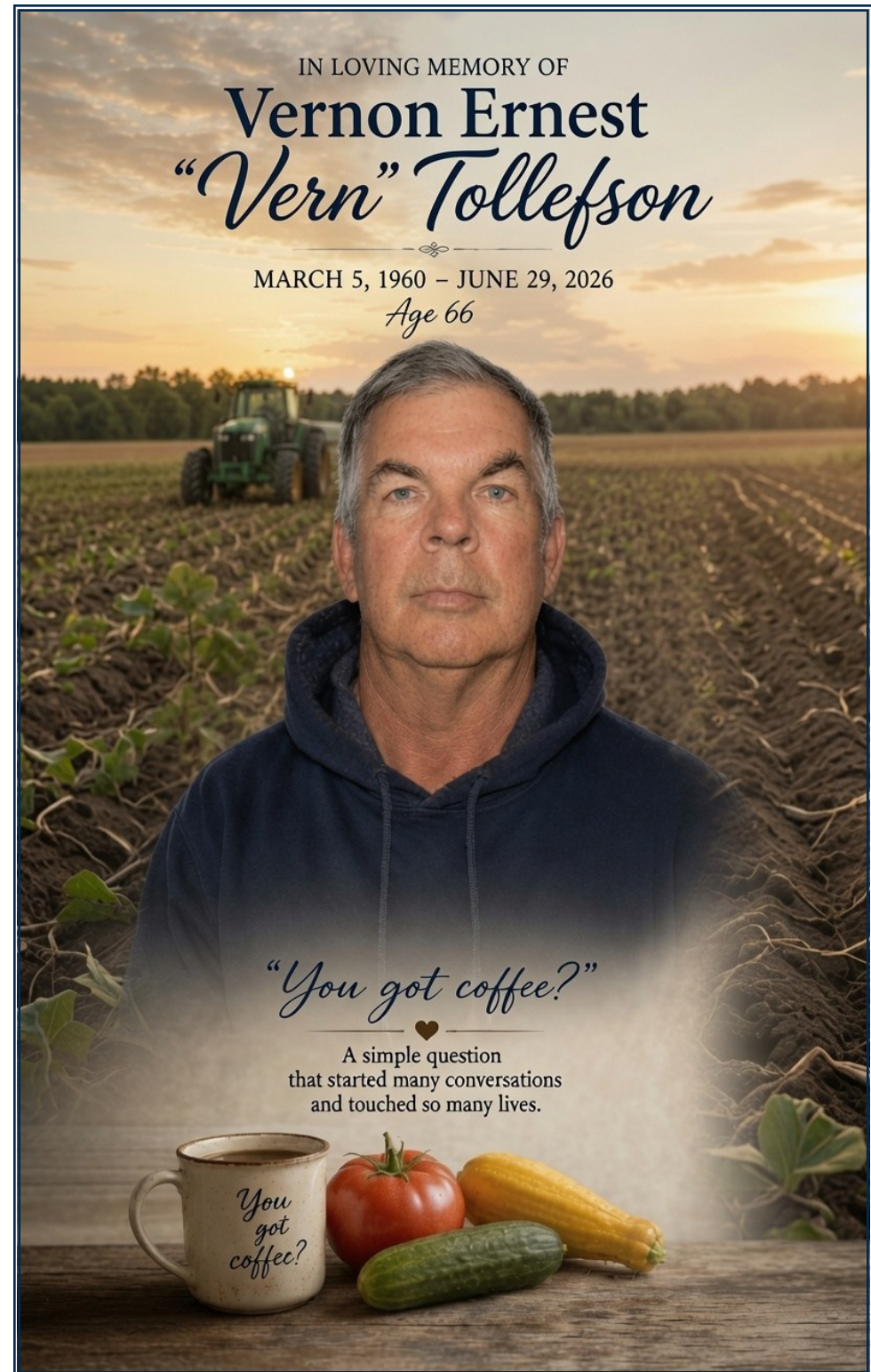
Vern had a gift for fixing just about anything and found great joy in gardening. His garden was well known for producing enormous tomatoes—often known to be "bigger than the bun"—along with impressive squash and cucumbers. His late brother-in-law, Jim, was always amazed and would jokingly ask how Vern managed to grow such huge produce.

More than anything, Vern loved visiting with family, friends, and neighbors. He never missed an opportunity to visit with anyone, usually beginning the conversation with his signature question: "You got coffee?" It was a phrase that became one of the many things those who knew him will always remember with a smile.

Vern is survived by his loving wife, Kristi Tollefson, of Hoople; his son, Jeffrey Gary Tollefson; his brothers, Mike Tollefson of Edmore and Steve Tollefson of Edmore; his sisters, Lova (Jim) Hodny of Newfolden, Minnesota, and Myrna (Steve) Landblom of Elma, Washington; as well as many grandchildren, nieces, nephews, great-nieces, and great-nephews.

Vern was preceded in death by his parents, Olaf and Grace (Kisner) Tollefson; his beloved son, Joseph Tollefson; his brother, Gary Tollefson; his sisters, Loretta Parrish and Selma Holmen; and his mother-in-law, Maxine Twamley.

Vern's passion for farming and his love for his wife, Kristi, will forever be remembered. He will be deeply missed by all who knew and loved him.



*In Loving Memory of a
Very Special Husband*

When God was making husbands
as far as I can see,
He made a special soulmate
especially for me.
He made a perfect gentleman,
compassionate and kind,
With more love and affection
than you could ever wish to find.
He gave my darling husband
a heart of solid gold,
only my heart can hold,
He was someone I could talk to
that no one can replace,
He was someone I could laugh with
till tears ran down my face.
Next time we meet
will be at Heaven's door,
When I see you standing there
I won't cry anymore.
I will put my arms around you
and kiss your smiling face.



IN LOVING MEMORY OF
Vernon Ernest
"Vern" Tollefson

MARCH 5, 1960 – JUNE 29, 2026

Age 66

Date & Time of Service

11:00am ▪ Friday ▪ July 10, 2026

Victory Free Lutheran Church
Park River, North Dakota

Officiating

Robin Dill

Musical Selections

"Wind Beneath My Wings"

"How Great Thou Art"

"Amazing Grace"

Pallbearers

Kaisin Twamley ▪ Nicholas Twamley ▪ Zachary Twamley
Bobby Martinson ▪ Shannon Martinson ▪ Tyler Welsh

Burial

Hoople City Cemetery
Hoople, North Dakota

Please join the family for lunch immediately
following the service. Your presence and
fellowship are greatly appreciated.