



*I'm Just A Farmer, Plain and Simple*

*I'm just a farmer, plain and simple.*

*Not of a royal birth, but rather a worker of the earth.*

*I know not of riches, but rather of patches on my britches,*

*I know of draught and rain, of pleasure and pain.*

*I know of the good and the bad, the happy and the sad.*

*I am a man of emotions, a man who loves this land,*

*And the beauty of its sand.*

*I know of a spring's fresh flow and autumn's golden glow,*

*Of a newborn calf's hesitation, and the eagle's destination.*

*I know of tall pines, and long, waiting lines.*

*Of the warmth of campfires, and the agony of flat tires.*

*But I am a man who loves his job and the life I live.*

*I am a man who works with God,*

*I cannot succeed without his help,*

*For you see, I'm just a farmer.*



Scan to watch Ronald's  
Celebration of Life video.



Scan to share your favorite memories  
and offer words of sympathy.

**WEIGEL**  
Funeral and Cremation Service

 **Buehler-Larson**  
Funeral and Cremation Service

In Loving Memory of

**Ronald  
Berger**





**Ronald Berger**, 81, of Mandan, ND passed away December 24, 2024 at Sanford Health in Bismarck.

Ron was born at the Mandan Hospital to Adam Peter Berger and Clara Ann Berger on Flag Day, June 14, 1943. He completed the 8th grade at Catholic School in Fallon, ND and Oak Coulee #10, a one-room schoolhouse.

Rony had 1 brother, Raymond Berger (Red Ray) and 3 sisters, Marlene Fleck (Edward), Edna Fleck (Florian) and Brenda Backsen (Jerris/Whitey).

He farmed and ranched his entire life southwest of St. Anthony where he grew up. He received a heart transplant at the University of Minnesota in 2011 which gave him a second chance at life.

Ron enjoyed hunting, traveling and driving around town or out in the country. He was an avid collector of International Toy Tractors throwing a few John Deere in the mix just to add a some color. His favorite place to socialize was the Lonesome Dove, where he loved to play bingo, listen to music and dance. He also enjoyed time at the Mandan Eagles and Moose Club where he was a member of both organizations. Ron was always up for traveling with his buddies or his sister Edna who never had to ask him twice. He enjoyed trips to Mexico, the Grand Canyon, many cruises including Alaska, the Caribbean, Hawaii, Australia and a trip to New York City with a cruise up the east coast.

Ron is survived by his sisters, Marlene Fleck, Maple Grove, Edna Fleck, Mandan, and brother-in-law Whitey Backsen, New Salem; nephews: Terry Fleck (Jenny), Clint Berger (Dawn), Troy Fleck, David Fleck, Randy Berger (Jamie) and Dusty Backsen (Mindy); nieces, Rhonda Jennings (Steve), Robyn Olson (Jonathan), Tammy Washburn (Brian), Kathy Berger, Bridget Gerhardt (Nathan), Sydney Backsen (Mitch) and Ashley Backsen (Brad), 17 great nieces and nephews, 6 great-great nieces and nephews, and many cousins and friends.

He was preceded in death by his brother, Raymond Berger; nephew, Danial Fleck; brother-in-law, Edward Fleck, mother, Clara Berger; father, Adam Berger; sister, Brenda Backsen and brother-in-law, Florian Fleck.

The family would like to thank the team of doctors and staff from Fairview Hospital at the University of Minnesota for their years of care following his heart transplant, the care givers from Caring Edge and the medical staff at Sanford Medical Center for the care in his final days.

***You are invited for a time of lunch and fellowship at the Mandan Eagles Club following the graveside service, 1400 Collins Ave, Mandan, ND.***

**Parish Rosary/Vigil**

**Wednesday, January 15, 2025; 7:00 PM**

**Weigel Funeral Home, Mandan, ND**

**Deacon Kevin Leingang**

**Presider**

**Funeral Liturgy**

**Thursday, January 16, 2025; 10:30 AM**

**Spirit of Life Catholic Church, Mandan, ND**

**Fr. Keith Streifel**

**Celebrant**

**Musicians**

**Judy Friesz, Jess Friesz, & Janelle Thomas**

Prelude

*"I Shall Not Want" & "Here I Am, Lord"*

Opening Song

*"Be Not Afraid"*

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**Liturgy of the Word**

Old Testament Reading

Wisdom 4:7-15

Lector

Kathy Berger

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 23

*"The Lord is my shepherd, there is nothing I shall want."*

New Testament Reading

Romans 14:7-9, 10c-12

Lector

Robyn Olsen

Gospel Reading

Luke 24:13-35

Homily

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**Liturgy of the Eucharist**

Preparation of Gifts Song

*"How Great Thou Art"*

Presentation of Gifts

Jayden Reis, Pressley Washburn,  
Cali Gerhardt, & Kinley Backsen

Eucharistic Prayer

Communion Song

*"I Am the Bread of Life"*

Communion Meditation

*"Old Rugged Cross"*

Final Commendation

*"Song of Farewell"*

Closing Song

*"Amazing Grace"*

**Pallbearers**

Troy Fleck ~ Terry Fleck ~ Dusty Backsen  
David Fleck ~ Clint Berger ~ Randy Berger

**Honorary Pallbearer**

In Memory of Danny Fleck



**Graveside Service**

**Mandan Union Cemetery  
Mandan, ND**