Day is done,
gone the sun,
From the hills, from the lake,
From the sky.
All is well,
safely rest,
GOD is nigh.

To view Ron's LifeTribute Slideshow please use the camera on your smart phone to scan the QR code.



Ronald Eugene McDaniel, 94, passed away peacefully on October 12, 2026, in Pipestone, Minnesota, surrounded by loved ones.

Ron was born on August 2, 1932, in Fowler, Indiana, the youngest of seven children to Elmer and Blanche (Stanton) McDaniel. When Ron was eight years old, the family moved to Pipestone when his mother, Blanche, inherited the Royal Hotel, which she and her husband, Elmer, owned and operated. When Ron was 17, he enlisted in the United States Air Force, where he served honorably for 21 years, including serving in the Korean and Vietnam wars. He retired in 1970, with an honorable discharge with a rank of Major, at the age of 38.

In February of 1971, in San Diego, California, Ron married the love of his life, Emma Louise Lairson, and became the father of Louise's two daughters, Niki and Nita Lairson. In the summer of 1972, he moved with Louise and Nita to Holland, Minnesota to be near and care for his parents. Ron and Louise moved to El Reno, OK in 1984 where they lived for over 30 years before returning to Pipestone.

Ron will be remembered for his generosity, discipline, wit, and loving but firm nature. For his technical and creative mind. For his ability to fix or build anything. If he didn't know how, he would figure it out. He was a mentor and role-model. For his seemingly endless energy. For his tenacious and positive attitude, even in difficult times.

He was a beloved Papa to seven grandchildren, fourteen great-grandchildren, and four great-great-grandchildren.

Ron is lovingly remembered by his daughters, Niki Morrow and Nita (Dave) Rolph, and grandchildren, Melanie (Mike) Threhane, Greg (Crystal) Versteeg, Aaron Gamrak, Eric (Connie) Versteeg, Adam (Kelli) Gamrak, and Kaci (Hayden) Hall.

Ron was preceded in death by his parents, Elmer and Blanche McDaniel; wife, Emma Louise McDaniel; grandson, Matthew Hagan; brothers, Howard, Cecil, Ralph and Francis McDaniel; and two sisters, Ruth Gamber and Julene Swanson.

In Loving Memory Of

Ronald E. McDaniel

†

Memorial Service
Saturday, October 17, 2026
2:00 PM
Hartquist Funeral Home
Pipestone, Minnesota

Officiating
Rev. Jennings Wallace

Scripture Readings
Psalm 46 Ecclesiastes 3:22-33
John 10:11-16 I Thessalonians 4:13-14

Music Selections
"How Great Thou Art" - as recorded by Dolly Parton
"I'll Fly Away" - as recorded by Johnny Cash

Urn Bearer
Spencer Gamber

Military Honors
Michael Boock American Legion Post 6
Pipestone, Minnesota

Inurnment
El Reno Cemetery
El Reno, Oklahoma

Arrangements Entrusted To
HARTQUIST FUNERAL HOME