

Boyd Allen Thiel, age 72, of Chamberlain, South Dakota, passed away on December 14, 2025, in Mitchell, South Dakota, after a courageous and determined battle with cancer that spanned nearly eight years.

Boyd was born on September 24, 1953, in Huron, South Dakota, to Clarence and Pearl Thiel. He grew up with strong Midwestern values that shaped his work ethic, humor, and deep loyalty to family and friends throughout his life.

Boyd proudly served his country in the United States Navy during the Vietnam era, an experience that remained an important part of who he was. Following his military service, he returned to Chamberlain, where he built both a life and a legacy.

He was the owner and operator of Thiel's Collision Center, Inc., which he proudly ran alongside his wife, Ann. Together, they built the business with integrity, dedication, and a commitment to treating people right. Boyd was known not only for his skill and work ethic, but also for his fairness and generosity—qualities that earned him lasting respect from customers, employees, and friends throughout the community.

Boyd married the love of his life, Ann, on August 23, 1975. She preceded him in death last year, and their partnership—both in life and in business—remained central to who Boyd was.

A man of many passions, Boyd was deeply involved in the classic car community and served for many years as President of the Lakers Car Club in the Chamberlain/Oacoma area. Among all classic cars, Boyd had a special and enduring love for GTOs, which held a unique place in his heart. He took great pride in their history, performance, and craftsmanship, and few things brought him more joy than talking cars, working on them, or sharing that passion with others. Boyd was also an avid pool player and competed in a central South Dakota pool league for many years, forming lasting friendships along the way.

Above all else, Boyd will be remembered as a philanthropist, a tireless worker, a fighter, and a man with a sharp sense of humor. He was passionate about the things he cared for, generous with his time and resources, and deeply loved by those who knew him. His long and courageous fight with cancer was marked by strength, resilience, and determination—qualities that defined him long before his illness.

Boyd is survived by his daughter, Taya (Jason) Swanson; his grandchildren, Caleb and Kylie Swanson; his son, Travis Thiel; his brother, Paul Thiel; and his sister, Jackie Washechek. He was preceded in death by his parents, Clarence and Pearl Thiel, and by his beloved wife, Ann.

Boyd faced life—and illness—with grit, humor, and unwavering resolve, and his courage throughout his long fight will remain an enduring example to all who knew and loved him.



*Boyd Allen Thiel*

**1953 - 2025**

In Loving Memory

# *Boyd Allen Thiel*

September 24, 1953 ~ December 14, 2025

## **A Psalm of David**

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.

He makes me lie down in green pastures.

He leads me beside still waters.

He restores my soul.

He leads me in paths of righteousness for his name's sake.

Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,

I will fear no evil,

For you are with me;

Your rod and your staff,

They comfort me.

You prepare a table before me

In the presence of my enemies;

You anoint my head with oil;

My cup overflows.

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me

All the days of my life,

And I shall dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

## ***Scripture Service***

St. James Catholic Church, Chamberlain, SD

5:00 p.m., Sunday, December 21, 2025

## ***Funeral Mass***

St. James Catholic Church, Chamberlain, SD

10:00 a.m., Monday, December 22, 2025

## ***Officiating***

Father Randy Phillips

Deacon Maurice Barrett

## ***Music***

Robyn Knecht ~ Pianist

Matt Schroeder ~ Cantor

St. James Choir

## ***Casketbearers***

Brandon Myers

Terry Strang

Trent Myers

Dustin Myers

Gary Myers

## ***Honorary Bearers***

Dan Dykes

Donnie "Oz" Steckelberg

Jim Guest

## ***Military Rites By***

American Legion Potter Post No. 3

VFW Post No. 6436

Chamberlain, SD

## ***Interment***

At A Later Date

Please join the family in the church community center  
following the funeral services for lunch & fellowship.

Also following the lunch, a social gathering to celebrate Boyd's life will be  
1:00 to 3:00 p.m. at the Silver Dollar in Chamberlain.