The time has come *for me to leave this* life.
I have fought the good fight.
I have finished the race.
I have kept the faith.
Now there is in store for me the
crown of righteousness which
the Lord, the righteous judge,
will award to me on that day.

2 Timothy 4:6a-7



Celebrating the life of

Joseph Wax

March 19, 1930 ~ October 18, 2026

Dr. Joseph Wax formality of Minot currently of Flasher passed away at the age of 96 on October 18, 2026.

On March 19, 1930 seven miles southeast of Lefor North Dakota, in a house without plumbing and a stove for heat, Joseph "no middle name" Wax is born. It is a Wednesday. Saint Joseph's Day. "Sepp" is the fifth of nine children born to Hungarian-German immigrants Nick and Margaret (Shabery) Wax.

Moving to Dickinson, Joseph does not thrive academically, but excels at sports and mischief. In 1951, he joins the National Guard Rifle Company and ships off to Korea to join the 2nd Infantry. Arriving at The Battle of Heart Break Ridge in early September he is involved in the main action. Joseph's Company is assigned Hill 687 and eventually takes it after multiple days of see-saw battles resulting in an attrition rate of over 70%. Returning from Korea Joseph is offered a scholarship to Notre Dame to run in track. He declines in order to enjoy hunting while pursuing a college degree and playing football as a Savage at Dickinson State.

Joseph flourishes in college earning a Bachelors from Dickinson State, a Masters from the University of Northern Colorado, and a Doctorate from the University of ND. While at Dickinson he letters in both track and football. He never stops learning or enjoying physical activity. Every day he finds time to read and jog five miles. He is a black Belt in Shin Ryu and the finest of shotgun and rifle shots.

Joseph's professional career spanned 42 years that included teaching and coaching at Souris, Riverdale and Ray; Coaching and Principal at Granville; Principal at Model and Campus Laboratory Schools; And a Tenured Professor at Minot State University. He influenced so many students over his lifetime that it is a strange day when he does not encounter one.

Joseph found humor in the worst of situations. Humor was his lotion on the rash of life. He also never sweated the small stuff. He knew what his immigrant Father knew: that worry destroys the vessel it is carried in. Though Joseph accomplished much he was always humble. Those with experience in higher education, know that the humble highway does not suffer from heavily traffic.

His greatest love was Val. He married Valeria E. Kuhn on December 28, 1955. Together they raised six children. Val, on a school teacher's salary, while Joseph was teaching in the fall-winter-spring and going to graduate school in the summer, kept the house in one piece and everyone fed. Unfortunately on November 28, 1994 Val passes, but not before the two of them set sail six children: Valeria Wax, Joseph (Mary) Wax, John Wax, Peter (Sherry Niesar) Wax, Mary (Charles, deceased) Goldsborough, and Mark (Jocelyn) Wax; Grandchildren, Kalindi (Jordan), Scott (Camber), Kaitlin (Adam), Jessica (Linzi), Nicholas (Tiffany), Helen, Genevieve, Mikaila (Lane), Hanna Rose (deceased), Derek (Mollie), Benjamin (Amber); Great Grandchildren, Makaya (Mason), Brayler, Tayce, Kayman, Randall, Luke, Grayson, Kia, Kash, Kloie, and Lillian.

Joseph's second love was hunting and being outdoors. No greater gift could be awarded than to ride in the smoke-filled vehicle on the way to an early morning hunt with Joseph and his solder buddies. Once dangerous men, now boys grown old sharing stories of daring and danger. Real stories interlaced with insults that weep of mutual respect and understanding. But once at the pond or the field, the old men become boys again and each decoy, each hiding spot needed to be set and adjusted just so. These once dangerous men have all drawn the short straw. Now the last soldier will "bug out" to join them. Maybe at a duck pond or a pheasant field, but wherever it will be a good day to go hunting.

Joseph is preceded in death by his parents Nick and Margaret and all his sibling, Barbara, Marcus, Nick, Peter, John, Margaret, Helen, Anton, and his wife Val.

Funeral Service for

Joseph Wax

Rosary & Parish Vigil
Friday, October 23, 2026
Weigel Funeral Home, Mandan
Celebrant: Fr. Frank Schuster

Mass of Christian Burial
Saturday, October 24, 2026; 9:30 AM
Church of St. Lawrence, Flasher, ND
Celebrant: Fr. Frank Schuster

Casket Bearers
Genevieve Goldsborough Jordan Brandvik
Nicholas Wax Derek Wax
Lane Kaseman Kaitlin Farr

Lector
Shelly Meyhoff

Musician
Heidi Tormaschy

Order of Service

Processional Hymn — *"In Every Age" #528*

Liturgy of the Word

Old Testament Reading — Wisdom 3:1-9
Responsorial Psalm — Psalm 23

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

New Testament Reading — Philippians 3:20-21
Gospel Reading — John 6:37-40
Homily

Liturgy of the Eucharist

Preparation of Gifts Song — *"Irish Blessing" #471*
Presentation of Gifts — Kalindi Brandvik, Mollie Wax, Makila Kaseman, Helen Wax

Eucharistic Prayer
Communion Songs — "*All is Well with My Soul" #518*
Communion Meditation

Final Commendation
Closing Song — *"Song of Farewell"* #812

Committal Service — 1:30 PM Rosehill Cemetery, Minot, ND

WEIGEL
Buehler-Larson
Funeral and Cremation Service