



Walter Andrew Wiedmann was born on a farm a few miles from Akaska, South Dakota, on October 21, 1929. He was the last of 11 children blessed to Ludwig and Katherine Wiedmann. It took Ludwig a couple of days to get to town and register the birth; therefore, it was officially listed as October 23, 1929, a date Walter contested in his later years.

Walter attended country school in the same area, but due to the depression and the family's need for all hands working, he graduated 8th grade, but went no further. The next few years he spent farming with his brothers and trucking gravel for the county and state

highway departments.

In 1949 he met his love, Rosella Richards, and they were married on November 5, 1950. Walter entered the US Army in February 1953 and was honorably discharged at the end of 1955.

Following his service in the US Army, he moved his young family to Chicago, Illinois, where he worked nights for a trucking company and attended autobody repair school during the day. Although jobs were plentiful and pay was excellent in Chicago, the lure of fresh air and wide-open space brought him back to South Dakota in 1960, settling in Sturgis. Again, he tried his hand at trucking gravel, but found it wasn't as lucrative as it had been in 1949. In 1961 he secured employment at Matkin's Motors, the Ford garage in Sturgis, working his way to service manager. In 1964 he convinced the owner, Betty Matkins, to add a body shop to her newly constructed building. Again, switching hats, he ran the new body shop until ownership of the Ford Garage changed hands in 1969. Walter, then, ventured out on his own operating Walt's Body Shop in three different locations in Sturgis over the next 23 years.

Walt retired in 1991 spending his time fishing, enjoying his grandchildren, and fixing anything his family needed repaired. He was always there for us, and he will be missed.

Walter passed away, peacefully, on November 10, 2022, at the Fort Meade Veteran's Hospital.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Rosella; all his siblings; and his grandson, Andrew Reed.

Survivors include his children, Ron (Gloria) Wiedmann, Debra (Frank) Reed, Melissa (Bradley) Austin; his grandchildren; and great-grandchildren.

Condolences may be sent to the family at www.kinkadefunerals.com.

The family invites you to join them for fellowship and refreshments at the Sturgis VFW, following the burial.

Thank you for your presence and condolences.

In Loving Memory Of



Walter Andrew Wiedmann
October 23, 1929 ~ November 10, 2022



In Loving Memory Of
Walter Andrew Wiedmann

Born

October 23, 1929
Akaska, South Dakota

Died

November 10, 2022
Fort Meade, South Dakota

Funeral Service

Monday, November 21, 2022, 2:00 p.m.
Kinkade Funeral Chapel
Sturgis, South Dakota

Officiant

Pastor Harold Delbridge

Musicians

Danny Chapman Candy McKay Marlene Kotab

Musical Selections

“This Old House” “Amazing Grace (My Chains are Gone)”
“Lead Me, Guide Me” “I’ll Fly Away”

Pallbearers

Casey Wiedmann Channing Austin Daniel Knoll
Logan Wiedmann Beau Austin Lukas Wiedmann

Honorary Pallbearers

All His Grandchildren

Final Resting Place

Bear Butte Cemetery
Sturgis, South Dakota

*I've finished life's chores assigned to me,
So put me on a boat headed out to sea.
Please send along my fishing pole
For I've been invited to the fishin' hole.*

*Where every day is a day to fish,
To fill your heart with every wish.
Don't worry, or feel sad for me,
I'm fishin' with the Master of the sea.*

*We will miss each other for a while,
But you will come and bring your smile.
That won't be long you will see,
Till we're together you and me.*

*To all of those that think of me,
Be happy as I go out to sea.
If others wonder why I'm missin'
Just tell 'em I've gone fishin'*

Dalmar Pepper