

Herb was born to Bert and Grace (Ver Doorn) Blik on August 2, 1935, on a farm near Inwood, Iowa. He attended country school until the 8th grade, when he began working as a farmer. On April 26, 1957, Herb was joined in marriage with Mina Driesen, his steadfast companion for 67 years. To this union were born six children: Randy (Wanda) Blik, Doug (Leanne) Blik, Dan (Kari) Blik, Joni (Myron) Van Ginkel, David (Sonja) Blik, and Susan (Erich) Mahalko. Herb relished being a doting grandfather to 29 and a great-grandfather to 39.

Herb enjoyed farming throughout his years, often joining his brother Arie and nephews Larry and Harlan for fall harvesting. Widely recognized for his strong work ethic, Herb would add employment at the John Morrell Packing Plant, in Sioux Falls, South Dakota, where he worked tirelessly for over 40 years. At the age of 72, Herb retired from the packing plant and took on a job as a valet at the Avera Surgical Center, where he worked diligently to the age of 75.

Herb loved the outdoors and spent many of his best days with Mina camping and fishing. He was especially grateful when his children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren could join him. Herb deeply valued family and faith. He instilled a strong work ethic in his children and strongly believed in a supportive family network. He had a strong yet gentle presence that was easily admired and difficult to imitate. He was loved and respected by not only his children, but their friends as well, being dubbed a second father by many. Herb's love for family and strong work ethics will live on with his family tree, ever growing with strong roots, and resilient branches. Herb joined his Heavenly Father on December 23, 2024, at the age of 89.

He was preceded in death by his parents; son, Randy; daughter-in-law, Sue; granddaughter, Halee; and a great-granddaughter, Parker. Herb was one of seven children. He is preceded in death by one brother, Arie; and four sisters, Henrietta Allen, Elsie Jacobsma, Josephine De Jager, and Bertha Mae Feekes. He is survived by one sister, Grace Boyles.

Remembering the Life of
Herb Blik
1935-2024

FUNERAL SERVICE

11:00 AM, Tuesday, December 31, 2024
First Reformed Church
Rock Valley, Iowa

OFFICIANT

Pastor Cliff Hoekstra

PIANIST

Carisa Maassen

SPECIAL MUSIC

"Far Side Banks of Jordan"
The Petersens

CONGREGATIONAL HYMNS

"What A Friend We Have In Jesus"
"What A Day That Will Be"
"Amazing Grace"

HONORARY PALLBEARERS

Cole McGregor ~ Logan Mahalko ~ Austin Koehler

PALLBEARERS

Jason Blik ~ Mitchell Blik
Travis Kempema ~ Josh Van Ginkel
Danny Blik ~ Austin Blik
Zach Blik ~ Dylan Chase

INTERMENT

Valley View Cemetery
Rock Valley, Iowa

*Herb's family invites everyone to Faith Reformed Church
of Rock Valley following the committal service at
the cemetery for a time of food and fellowship.*

*A steady hand, a tireless soul,
A heart of gold, a life made whole.
He toiled through days, both long and cold,
A worker strong, a story told.*

*His calloused palms, a weathered face,
A love so deep, a constant grace.
He built our home, a sturdy place,
With every brick, a love to trace.*

*Though now he's gone, his spirit near,
A guiding light, dispelling fear.
His work ethic, ever clear,
A legacy we hold so dear.*

*We'll carry on, with strength he gave,
The lessons learned, the life he paved.
In every task, in every wave,
His hard work lives, beyond the grave.*

~Author Unknown



Celebrating the Life of



Herbert James Bliet

August 2, 1935 ~ December 23, 2024