



Memorial Service
New Gottland Covenant Church
McPherson, Kansas
Saturday, January 4, 2025, at 11:00 AM

Officiant
Pastor Daniel Parry

Prelude Video Tribute Music
"Oh, How I Love Jesus" by Elvis Presley
"That's All Right" by Elvis Presley
"Sweet Caroline" by Neil Diamond
"Thank God I'm a Country Boy" by John Denver
"Take Me Home, Country Roads" by John Denver

Service Music
"How Great Thou Art" #4
"I'll Fly Away" #554
"In the Garden" #425
Marie Woodruff, pianist / Gary Abell, song leader

Military Honors
Kansas Army National Guard
& American Legion Post #24
"Taps" by Mark Casebeer, trumpet

Memorial Donations
Memorial donations can be made to New Gottland Covenant Church or Hospice House in care of Stockham Family Funeral Home, 205 North Chestnut, McPherson, KS 67460.

Appreciation & Luncheon
Vernon's family wishes to express their sincere gratitude for your prayers and kindness, evidenced in thought and deed, and for your presence at this service.

Following the service, the family invites all to stay for food and fellowship.

Stockham Family Funeral Home



In Loving Memory
Vernon C. Henry
November 1, 1944 - December 20, 2024



A Celebration of Life

Vernon Charles Henry

Vernon was born on November 1st, 1944 in McPherson, Kansas. He was the first-born son of Jack Henry and Genevieve (née Berg) Henry. He was baptized March 17th, 1945 by Pastor Bloomquist. Vernon lived with his maternal grandmother on the family farm during his formative years where he developed his fondness for farm life and animals. He credited his grandmother for setting him on the right path to the Lord and spoke fondly of her often. In 1954, he moved to his parents' home in Plainville, Kansas. In 1956, the family moved again to Liberal, Kansas where Vernon was confirmed into faith in 1958 at Grace Evangelical Church by Pastor David Wacker. Shortly thereafter, Vernon lost a young friend, eight years of age, to cancer. In dealing with his friend's loss, he asked the pastor why God takes children so young. In response, the pastor told Vernon that young Jack's mission on earth was done faster than other people's. Vernon then learned to have more faith in Jesus.

Due to his family's frequent moves, Vernon attended six schools – Andover (1951 – 1952), Hay Center (1952 – 1953), Prairie Vista (1953 – 1954), Plainville (1954 – 1956), Liberal (1956 – 1962), and Durham (1962 – 1963). During his senior year at Durham High School, Vernon was the team manager for the Durham Hornets men basketball team. He aided the team in their State Basketball Championship they won in 1963 in Dodge City.

Vernon formed lifelong friendships with his Durham-area friends, Lloyd, Larry, and Jonas. After high school, he worked several years for family friends, Vernon and Helen Minns, on their farm. In 1965, he joined the Army National Guard for one year, receiving an honorable discharge.

After the Army, Vernon had various jobs including working for the railroad, tree trimming for the electrical company, and at CertainTeed Plastics where he met Jennifer Koehn. They were joined in marriage in 1969 at St John's Trinity Lutheran Church in Tampa, KS and were blessed with two children, Julie and Brent. Vernon then worked at Canton Meat Locker before moving his family to Houston, Texas in 1971 to work on a family member's dairy farm. In 1972, Vernon realized his lifelong dream when he and Jennifer bought a dairy farm northeast of Galva, Kansas. They ran the dairy for seven years and farmed for an additional eleven years until persistent severe drought conditions caused them to sell the farm in 1990. Vernon and Jennifer moved to Hillsboro, Kansas and continued working at Associated Milk Producers (AMPI). He drove a milk route across the state where he made many friends with the producers and receivers, eventually becoming a transportation supervisor at AMPI and later for Gorges Dairy.

Vernon retired in 2006 and spent retirement connecting with his many friends (434 phone contacts, to be precise) and helping them in any way needed. He served on the board of Andover Lutheran Church and maintained the cemetery



with his good friend Virgul. He also tended to (and spoiled) his small herd of cattle that were kept at Virgul's farm, maintained weekly visits with his friend and neighbor Norman, made regular phone calls to or got together with other friends, and delighted in the company of his beloved dog, Skye.

Vernon was preceded in death by his father, mother, brother Edward Henry, and family pets Tiger and Skye. He is survived by his wife Jennifer, daughter Julie, son Brent, grandson Tyler, and many nieces and nephews.

We are grateful to Vern for his dedication to helping his family and others. We will miss him everyday.

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come.
Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread,
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us,
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom
and the power, and the glory, forever and ever.
Amen.