

*The family of John Peterson thanks you for your presence here today,  
for your prayers, thought and other acts of kindness shown to them*

*A farmer understands deep certainties,  
Knows winter is a doorway to the spring,  
Walks quiet aisles of prayer where helped trees  
Prove death a season for each living thing.  
He turns fresh furrows to the sun each year  
And feels new sunlight on his old, old fields;  
Each drop of rain and dew that touches here  
Will bring new hope for plenteous harvest yields.  
He bares his head against a spring sky  
Sure of the constant greening of the grass;  
When seedlings sprout he does not question why  
Hears trust in wild geese calling as they pass  
His faith affirms the resurrection claim  
When spring returns a green and living flame.  
Poem written by John's wife Marlyce 1988*

*A FARMER'S FAITH*

*In Loving Memory of*  
***John Peterson***



**J**ohn Peterson, 91, of Willow Lake, passed away on March 11, 2026, at the Estelline Care Center surrounded by his family.

John was born on December 21, 1934 to Verna and Albert Peterson on the family farm west of Willow Lake, SD. He was named after his grandfather, John Peterson who came from Sweden and was an early pioneer in the Lake Township. John graduated from Willow Lake High School in 1952, and then was employed as a lineman; with the Northwestern Bell Telephone near Flandreau, SD.

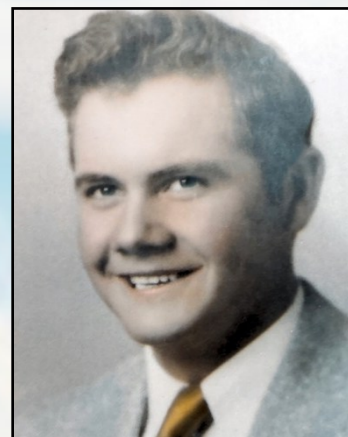
On October 16, 1954 John married his high school sweetheart, Marlyce Haug. He fell in love with her dimples, smiles and singing, and Marlyce loved the twinkle in his eyes and his winks. When they were dating John was always there to pick her up from the Galloping Goose train and he only was stuck once in a snowbank driving on her parents' farm. They were happily married for 61 years before Marlyce's passing in 2015.

John farmed all his life, working to conserve the land while growing crops, raising hogs and cattle. John was a member of Grace Lutheran Church, and held many offices over the years and made the bell tower for the church. He served on Lake Township Board, and enjoyed his bowling league and playing baseball.

He always had time to start a game of baseball in the yard with his kids, get kites ready to fly on Easter, pick asparagus and wild roses for Marlyce, fix a fishing line for his children, hunt with his sons and son-in-laws. He enjoyed his Louie L'Amour books, westerns, puzzles, making rings and collecting rocks and coins.

His family will always be grateful for having shared his life. John is survived by his children: Tim (Mary) Peterson, Springfield, SD, Jayne (Donald) Pommer, Willow Lake, SD, Beth (Richard) Abrahamson, Oldham, SD, Pamela (Michael) Nass, Flandreau, SD, Carol (James) Laverick, Custer, SD, Kenneth (Donna) Peterson, Springfield, SD, Amy (Ryan) Forbes, Volga, SD, 19 grandchildren, 24 great-grandchildren, his sister Vivian Johnsen, brother Gary Peterson, brother-in-law Bob Carroll, sister-in-law Marlene Lamb, sister-in-law Dorothy Haug, and many nieces, nephews and cousins.

He was preceded in death by his parents, his wife Marlyce, his infant sister Lorna Peterson, sister Joy Carroll, brother Larry Peterson, son-in-law Morgan Borden, and granddaughter, Kendra Borden.



*Celebrating the Life of*

## *John Albert Peterson*

### ***Services***

*11:00 A.M. Wednesday, March 18, 2026  
Grace Lutheran Church  
Willow Lake, South Dakota*

### ***Officiants***

*Pastor Colin Beveridge  
Pastor Greg Johnson  
Pastor Paul Stjernholm*

### ***Music***

*Ann Larson -Accompanist  
How Great Thou Art  
Beautiful Savior*

### ***Honorary Pallbearers***

*Christina Henriksen, Heidi Gehrke, Erica Bratland, Kathryn LaMont, Meghan Nelson,  
Lezlie Miller, Cassandra Prest, Mackenzie Laverick, Leah and Josie Forbes*

### ***Pallbearers***

*Corey Peterson; Jarrod and Colin Pommer; Chad, Cody and Clay Abrahamson;  
Dylan Peterson; Dalton Forbes*

### ***Interment***

*Collins Cemetery  
Willow Lake, South Dakota*

*Following interment, please join the Peterson family in the fellowship area for a meal and time of fellowship.*