

Lester was born in Fargo, ND, on July 3, 1925, to Lewis and Hilda Johnson. He was baptized, confirmed, and a life-long member of Richland Lutheran Church. He loved going to church, and he loved Jesus! He served on the Men's Club, taught Sunday School, sang bass in choir, read scripture, was President of the Church Council, Deacon, Trustee, greeter, and host for the annual lutefisk supper.

Lester learned to read and write from a hired man before he started school, allowing him to skip first grade. He was Valedictorian of his graduating class and furthered his education at Dakota Business College which helped him when he took over farming at age 21 when his father died unexpectedly.

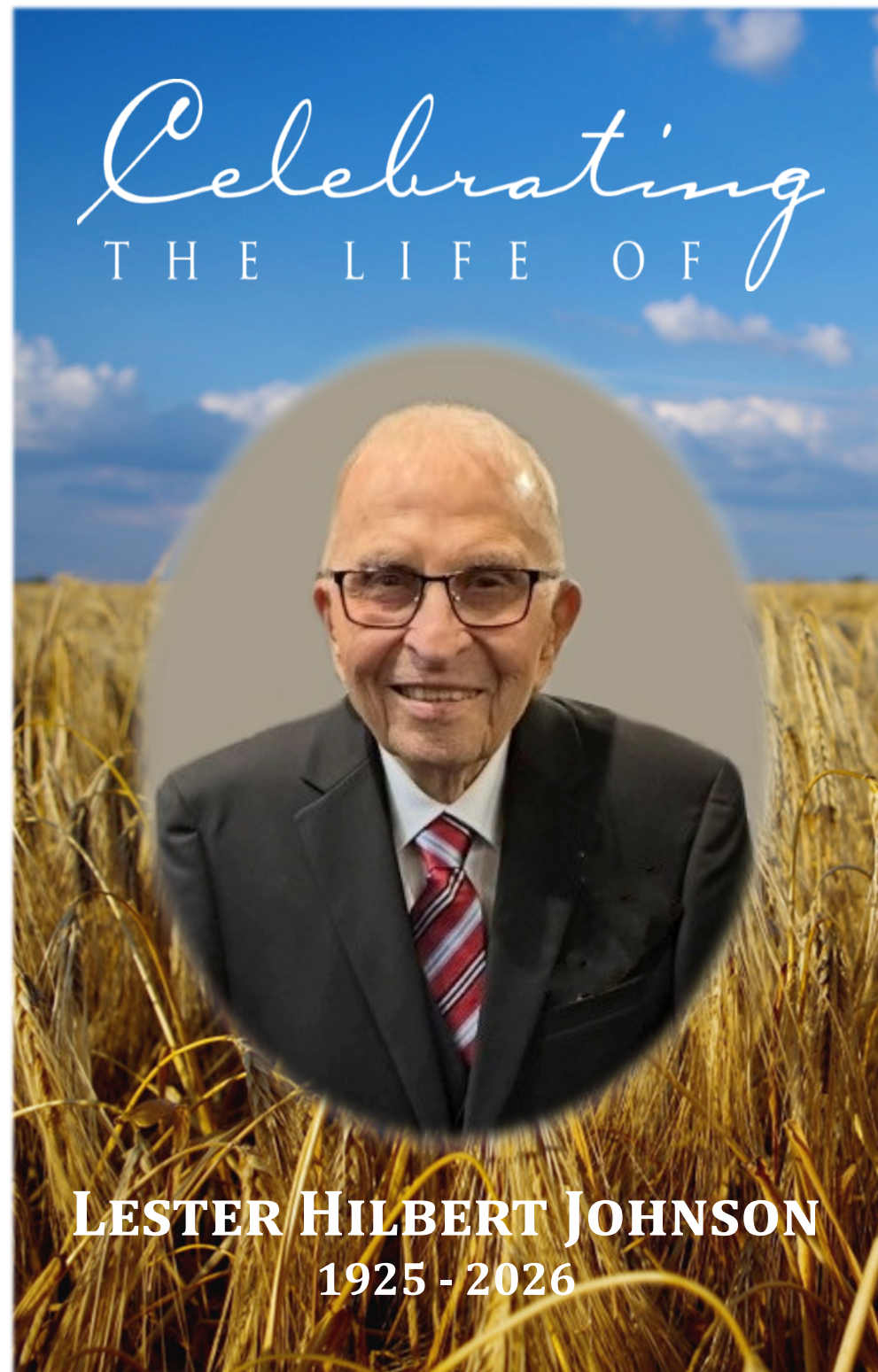
He married Shirley Norman on March 8, 1952, in Hallock, MN, and lived on the 1879 Johnson Century Farm his entire life. He was known for his "vibrato whistle", joking around, desire to learn, read all the Louis L'Amour books, and could mimic all the farm animals. He was a member of the Sons of Norway for 84 years. He served on the Garrison Diversion Board, Budget and Finance Committee, Agriculture and Natural Resource Committee, Recreation Committee, received the North Dakota Water Wheel Award, was a member of the township board 70 years and the Richland County FSA Committee.

Lester and Shirley enjoyed family vacations to Medora, Canada, several states, Mexico, Norway, Sweden, and 8 trips to France. He liked Farkel, Mexican Train Dominos, and Wheel of Fortune.

He was hospitalized with COVID in 2020 and fractured his femur in 2023. When asked if he wanted surgery or be bed-bound, he replied, "I can't be in bed the rest of my life!" After surgery, he amazed hospital staff and therapists with his determination to get well. He was a vibrant and strong 98 year old!

Lester was preceded in death by his wife Shirley, brother Maurice (Wilma), sister Marlys (Ernest) Simenson, sister-in-law Deloris Peterson, brothers-in-law Boyd Fiske and Don Linke, daughter-in-law Nancy Johnson, and his parents.

He is survived by 5 children: Debra (Scot) Hintermeyer, Linda (Robert) Gylland, Gregg Johnson, J. Scott (Carrie) Johnson, and Wendy (Andre) Malgouyres, and his sisters HazelAnn Linke and Elaine Fiske, sister-in-law Bonnie Norman. He was blessed with 9 grandchildren: Laura (Emmanuel) Ajibero, Sarah (Jeff) Merriman, Amy (Matt) Lynn, Tyler (Kayla) Gylland, Hanna (Jared) Zimmerman, Jon (Carissa) Johnson, Connor (Crystal) Johnson, Olivia (Ethan) Schmitt, and Lucy-Mei Malgouyres. His great-grandchildren include Bryce and Chloe Gylland, Arabelle and Ivy Johnson, Yanmife, Mofe, Oreofe, and Ife Ajibero, Norah and Logan Lynn, Oliver, Lincoln and Miles Johnson, and Steele Schmitt.



Finally, brothers and sisters, farewell. Put things in order, listen to my appeal, agree with one another, live in peace; and the God of love and peace will be with you. Greet one another with a holy kiss.

All the saints greet you. The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with all of you.

2 Corinthians 13:11-13



Vertin-Munson Funeral Home | www.vertinmunson.com

Lester Hilbert Johnson

Born

July 3, 1925 | Fargo, North Dakota

Passed Away

May 27, 2026 | Rural Walcott, North Dakota

Age

100 Years | 10 Months | 24 Days

Funeral Service

11:00 AM | Thursday, June 4, 2026

Richland Lutheran Church | Rural Walcott, North Dakota

Officiant

Pastor Dan Forsberg

Organist

Ruth Moe

Music

Insert | "To God Be The Glory"

Lester Johnson Family | "Beautiful Savior"

Hymn No. 781 | "Children Of The Heavenly Father"

Insert | "Victory In Jesus"

Honorary Pallbearers

All Friends Present

Pallbearers

Emmanuel Ajibero | Tyler Gylland | Connor Johnson | Jon Johnson
Matt Lynn | Jeff Merriman | Ethan Schmitt | Jared Zimmerman

Interment

Richland Lutheran Cemetery | Rural Walcott, North Dakota