

## So God Made a Farmer

And on the 8th day, God looked down on his planned paradise and said, “I need a caretaker”. So God made a Farmer.

God said, “I need somebody willing to get up before dawn, milk cows, work all day in the fields, milk cows again, eat supper, then go to town and stay past midnight at a meeting of the school board”.

**So God made a Farmer.**

“I need somebody with arms strong enough to rustle a calf and yet gentle enough to deliver his own grandchild; somebody to call hogs, tame cantankerous machinery, come home hungry, have to wait for lunch until his wife’s done feeding visiting ladies, then tell the ladies to be sure and come back real soon — and mean it”.

**So God made a Farmer.**

God said, “I need somebody willing to sit up all night with a newborn colt, and watch it die, then dry his eyes and say, ‘Maybe next year.’ I need somebody who can shape an ax handle from a persimmon sprout, shoe a horse with a hunk of car tire, who can make a harness out of haywire, feed sacks, and shoe scraps; who, planting time and harvest season, will finish his forty-hour week by Tuesday noon, and then pain’n from tractor back,’ put in another seventy-two hours”.

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God had to have somebody willing to ride the ruts at double speed to get the hay in ahead of the rain clouds, and yet stop in mid-field and race to help when he sees the first smoke from a neighbor’s place.

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God said, “I need somebody strong enough to clear trees and heave bails, yet gentle enough to tame lambs and wean pigs and tend the pink-combed pullets, who will stop his mower for an hour to splint the broken leg of a meadow lark.” It had to be somebody who’d plow deep and straight and not cut corners; somebody to seed, weed, feed, breed and rake and disc and plow and plant and tie the fleece and strain the milk and replenish the self-feeder and finish a hard week’s work with a five-mile drive to church.

“Somebody who would bale a family together with the soft strong bonds of sharing, who would laugh, and then sigh, and then reply, with smiling eyes, when his son says that he wants to spend his life “doing what dad does”.

**So God made a Farmer.**

*By Paul Harvey*

# Donald Harold Schaefer

April 2, 1938 ~ December 7, 2024



### Services At:

Zion Lutheran Church – Morris, Minnesota  
Friday – December 13, 2024 – 11:00 a.m.

### Officiating Clergy:

Reverend Reed Stockman

### Musicians:

Jenny Schaefer - Organist  
Christopher Laue - Violinist  
Jeremiah Laue - Pianist

### Pallbearers:

Christopher Laue, Jeremiah Laue, Kyle Haugen  
Kurt Haugen, Tim Marxhausen, Deron Erickson

### Honorary Pallbearers:

Sarah Laue, Serena Schaefer, Echo Schaefer

### Interment:

Drywood Lutheran Cemetery  
Appleton, MN

**Donald Harold Schaefer**, age 86 of Morris, passed away on Saturday, December 7, 2024, at Sanford Health in Fargo, North Dakota.

Don was born on April 2, 1938, to Harold and Vera (Koch) Schaefer in Minneapolis, MN. He attended St. John's Lutheran School in Maple Grove, MN. Don spent a majority of his childhood in Osseo and graduated from Osseo High School in 1956. He married the love of his life, Edna Erickson on August 18, 1963 and together they raised their three children, Linda, Marlene, and Kevin. Don was a lifelong dedicated farmer working at Osseo Feed Mill, operating a dairy farm for 48 years and raising beef cattle. Don was actively involved with his community- he was a head usher at St. John's and Good Shepherd, a member of Hegbert Township Board and Swift County ADA. Don was a man of few words but many actions, always willing to lend a helping hand to those in need. His strong commitment to his family and friends never wavered, leaving a lasting impact on all who had the pleasure of knowing him.

Don enjoyed old time music, especially dancing on Saturday nights. He loved going out for fish fry's, watching the Minnesota Twins games, and driving in the country. Above all, Don treasured spending time with his wife, children, grandchildren, and great granddaughter, always cherishing the moments they shared together.

He is survived by his beloved wife of 61 years, Edna; children, Linda (David) Laue of East Grand Forks, MN, Marlene (Paul) Haugen of Zimmerman, MN, and Kevin (Jenny) Schaefer of Alberta, MN; grandchildren, Christopher (Chelsie) Laue of Willmar, MN, Jeremiah Laue of Grand Forks, ND, Sarah Laue of East Grand Forks, MN, Kyle Haugen of Milaca, MN, Kurt Haugen of Wahpeton, ND, and Serena and Echo Schaefer of Alberta, MN; great granddaughter Ophelia Laue; sisters, Lois (Eugene) Marxhausen and Caroline Schaefer; sister-in-law, Kathy Erickson; and many nieces and nephews.

Don was preceded in death by his parents, Harold and Vera Schaefer, parents-in-law, Ed and Louise Erickson; brothers-in-law, Donald and Orville Erickson; sister-in-law, Marjorie Erickson.

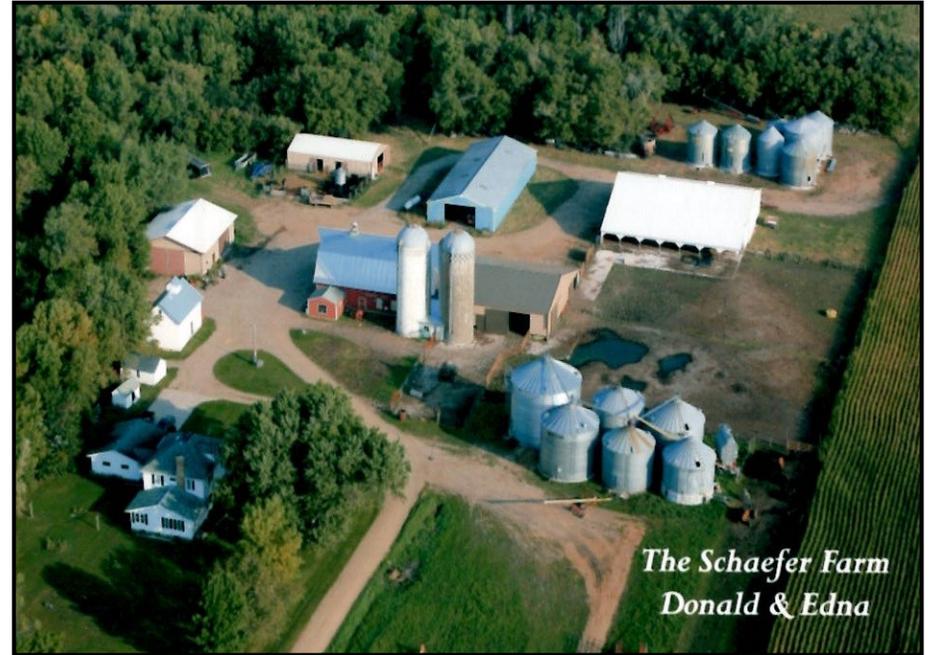


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# *Celebrating* THE *Life* OF



## Donald H. Schaefer