



*“Jesus said to her,  
‘I am the resurrection and the life.  
Those who believe in me,  
even though they die, will live,  
and everyone who lives and  
believes in me will never die.’ ”*

JOHN 11:25 - 26



Use this code to access  
Ardell's online guestbook.



Use this code to access  
Ardell's photo slideshow.

IN LOVING MEMORY OF

# *Ardell LeRoy Nelson*

WHO WAS BORN

August 26, 1943  
Clear Lake, South Dakota

AND CALLED TO HIS ETERNAL HOME

May 19, 2024  
Savage, Minnesota

FUNERAL SERVICE

Saturday, June 8, 2024 - 2:00 p.m.  
Living Word Lutheran Church  
Milbank, South Dakota

OFFICIANT

Reverend Melanie Reiners

ORGANIST

Elizabeth Schulte

URN BEARERS

Jesse Nelson | Madi Garcia | Dawson Garcia

HONORARY BEARERS

Chad Nelson | Monica Nelson | Dave Garcia  
Christine Dolney | Dick Bjerke | Gary Coe  
John Hostettler | Chuck Myklegard | Gene Torness

MILITARY HONORS

American Legion Birch-Miller Post #9  
V.F.W. Grant County Post #3486  
V.V.A. Northeast SD Chapter #1054  
D.A.V. Chapter #19

INURNMENT

Milbank City Cemetery  
Milbank, South Dakota

APPRECIATION

Ardell's family is grateful for your attendance at this service.  
Your expressions of kindness and love are deeply appreciated.

Following the inurnment, please join the family for  
refreshments and fellowship in the church dining room.

ARRANGEMENTS BY

Mundwiler Funeral Home - Milbank, South Dakota

Ardell LeRoy Nelson was born in Clear Lake, SD, on August 26, 1943, to Millard and Palma "Polly" (Bjerke) Nelson. Ardell grew up in Clear Lake and graduated from Clear Lake High School with the Class of 1961. After graduation, he attended South Dakota State University in Brookings, SD, where he joined the Army ROTC and earned a bachelor's degree in economics.

Ardell was very fond of his upbringing on the family farm. In his younger years, he enjoyed riding horses, working with his father on the farm, and playing sports, of which basketball was his favorite. He helped lead the Clear Lake Cardinals to their first and only state basketball tournament berth.

On May 29, 1966, he was united in marriage with Margaret "Marge" (Sivertsen) at Clear Lake, SD. They were blessed with nearly 58 years of marriage and two children, Chad and Stacey. After their marriage, they moved to New Mexico where Ardell completed his MBA. In 1968, he joined the U.S. Army. They resided at Ft. Hood, TX, for two years and then moved to the Minneapolis, MN, area. While residing in Anoka, Ardell worked at Lutheran Brotherhood. In 1972, Ardell and Marge moved to Milbank, SD. Ardell took a position with Milbank Mutual as the Director of Purchasing and worked there until his retirement in 2007.

Ardell and Marge met on a blind date, while attending college at SDSU. She was the love of his life. They enjoyed many memorable road trips with their children in the family station wagon and camper (starting out with just a simple tent before upgrading to a camper). Ardell and Marge loved spending time at their Big Stone Lake cabin and their cabin in the Black Hills as well. They spent as much time as possible at their cabin in the Black Hills as long as it didn't interfere with their biggest joy...their grandchildren. They were very involved in everything that their grandkids were a part of and loved every minute of it. Ardell cherished his many hunting adventures with his son, Chad, as well as their time in their workshop where they built many cherished items for family members.

Ardell was an active member of Living Word Lutheran Church in Milbank and a man of deep faith. He shared his faith freely and abundantly with his family and friends. After retiring, he and Marge enjoyed a trip to the Holy Land, where they grew even more deeply in their shared faith. Ardell always began his prayers with gratitude, an apt summary of how he lived his life.

Ardell enjoyed being active in the community and owned a side business selling sportswear. He was a member of the South Dakota State Chamber and Milbank Chamber.

Ardell is survived by his beloved wife, Marge Nelson of Savage, MN; daughter, Stacey (David) Garcia of Savage, MN; grandchildren: Jesse (Monica) Nelson, Madi Garcia, and Dawson Garcia. They all miss him immensely.

He was preceded in death by his parents: Millard and Polly Nelson; and son, Chad Nelson.



*A  
Life  
Remembered*