

Virgil Andrew Laabs was born on June 21, 1945, in Hector, Minnesota, the son of Harry and Floretta (Forcier) Laabs. He grew up in Buffalo Lake and in 1951, the family moved to Grove City. He graduated from Grove City High School in 1964 and was drafted into the U.S. Army and served in Vietnam.

On December 14, 1968, Virgil was united in marriage to Joyce Carol Kaderabek. They lived in the communities of Atwater, Eden Valley, Hector, Grove City, and Kandiyohi.

Virgil was engaged in farming prior to being self-employed as a heavy equipment operator and truck driver. Virgil enjoyed hunting, fishing, gardening, and canning vegetables.

He is survived by his wife, Joyce of Kandiyohi; one daughter, Denise (and Scott) Kingery of Sartell; a son-in-law, Dan Johnson of Andover; four grandchildren, Alex, Kolten, Mileigh and Tristen; two sisters, Darlene Anderson of Paynesville and Phyllis (and John) Rueckert of Sioux Falls, SD.; and two brothers, Victor (and Rita) Laabs of Backus and David (and Barb) Laabs of Grove City, besides other relatives and many friends.

He was preceded in death by his parents and a daughter, Kathy in 2018.

Celebrating the Life of



Virgil A. Laabs

1945 — 2026

In Loving Memory Of

Virgil A. Laabs

June 21, 1945

January 8, 2026

Hector, Minnesota

Willmar, Minnesota

The Mansion of Heaven

This world, however beautiful, was never meant to be
The place that we would call our home for all eternity.

And though we would not choose to leave,

A loving God knows best,

And in His time, He lifts us to a place of peace and rest.

For He has built a mansion where His children will abide,

Free from pain and sorrow, forever at His side.

He said He'd never leave us to face our trials alone,

And though sometimes we fail Him, He never fails His own.

And even when our choices are less than He would ask,

He knows when human courage is unequal to the task.

We cannot judge what happens,

Though tears and questions start-

We only see what's visible - God sees into the heart...



Mass of Christian Burial

Friday, January 16, 2026 - 11:00 a.m.

Peterson Brothers Funeral Home

Willmar, Minnesota

Celebrant

Fr. Ron Huberty

Music

Pianist & Cantor: Terry Brunson

Opening Song: *"Amazing Grace"*

Psalm Responsorial: *Psalm 23 "Shepherd Me O God"*

Preparation of Gifts: *"Prayer of St. Francis"*

Communion: *"Table Of Plenty"*

Song of Farewell

Closing Song: *"Let There Be Peace On Earth"*

Interment

Tuesday, January 20, 2026 - 10:00 a.m.

Minnesota State Veterans Cemetery

Little Falls, Minnesota