

*In Loving Memory of*

## ***Delmer D. Van Genderen***

*Born: January 3, 1935*

*Died: April 16, 2026*

*Age: 91 years, 3 months, 13 days*

### ***FUNERAL SERVICE***

*10:30 AM Monday, April 20, 2026*

*Harrison Community Church  
Harrison, SD*

*Rev. Gary Maas, Officiating*

*Beth Maas, Organist*

*Von Van Genderen, Vocalist*

*“In The Garden”*

*“Peace In The Valley”*

*Congregational Hymns*

*“Blessed Assurance”*

*“How Great Thou Art”*

### ***PALLBEARERS***

*Brooke Lefers ~ Beau Van Genderen*

*Dustin Feenstra ~ Brett Feenstra*

*Cody Feenstra ~ Bobbi DeWispelaere*

*Ashley Sevigny ~ Colt Van Genderen*

### ***INTERMENT***

*Harrison Cemetery*

*Harrison, SD*

***Relatives and friends are invited to join the family  
for lunch and fellowship at the Harrison Community  
Church following the committal service.***



**D**elmer D. Van Genderen, son of Harry and Jennie (Tolsma) Van Genderen, was born January 3, 1935 on the family farm in Aurora County, SD. He attended country school. After his schooling, Delmer worked on the family farm.

Delmer was united in marriage with Loretta Schryvers on December 10, 1954 at her parent’s home in Corsica, SD. Later, he entered the US Army and serviced two years before he was honorably discharged. In 1957 they returned to Harrison, SD to farm and raise their family until 2018 when they both moved into Leisure Living in Corsica. He was a resident of the Good Samaritan Nursing Home in Corsica until October of 2025, before moving to Edgewood Memory Care in Mitchell.

Delmer was a member of the First Reformed Church in Harrison, SD where he served as a deacon and elder.

He enjoyed hunting, fishing, golf and playing cards. Delmer was especially proud of being a cattle farmer. He loved elk hunting in Colorado and the years he coached softball. The highlight of his life was time spent with his grandchildren and great grandchildren.

Grateful for having shared his life are his three children, Kevin (Jan) Van Genderen, Corsica, SD, Linda (Delwin) Feenstra, Harrison, SD, Brian (Jean) Van Genderen, Harrison, SD; eight grandchildren, Brooke (Jim) Lefers, Beau (Jessica) Van Genderen, Dustin (Val) Feenstra, Brett (Robin) Feenstra, Cody (Savannah) Feenstra, Bobbi (Nick) DeWispelaere, Ashley (Ben) Sevigny and Colt (Emily) Van Genderen; 21 great grandchildren; his siblings, Robert Van Genderen, Stickney, SD, Mary (Alvin) VanderWerff, Lakewood, CO, Harlan (Judy) Van Genderen, Platte, SD, Norma (Roger) Feenstra, Corsica, SD, Marvin (Delores) Van Genderen, Plankinton, SD; sister-in-law, Margie Van Genderen, Stickney, SD; many nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Loretta on March 1, 2022; his parents; a sister, Sarah Punt; a brother, Lloyd Van Genderen; a brother-in-law, Adames Punt and sister-in-law and brother-in-law, Irene (Lloyd) VandenHoek.

In lieu of flowers memorial may be directed to the Harrison Community Church or the Harrison Cemetery.



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 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 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"

-- so God made a Farmer.

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

-- so God made a Farmer.

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.

*Will Funeral Chapel  
Mitchell, SD*

## *Celebrating the Life of*



*Delmer D. Van Genderen*

*January 3, 1935 ~ April 16, 2026*