

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...
And though there may be many things
that we cannot explain,
We can be sure it breaks His heart
to see His children's pain.
In loving arms,
He bears us to a quiet place apart
Where He mends the wounded spirit
and heals the broken heart.
And though these ones we love so much
have left our present sight
And passed into a better world
of majesty and light,
Someday we'll be together
in our Father's home above,
Where we'll thank Him for His mercy
and praise Him for His love.*

IN LOVING MEMORY OF

Orville Alan Dauwen

WHO WAS BORN

December 26, 1943
Missoula, Montana

AND CALLED TO HIS ETERNAL HOME

December 13, 2025
Milbank, South Dakota

FUNERAL SERVICE

Friday, December 19, 2025 - 11:00 a.m.
Emanuel Lutheran Church
Milbank, South Dakota

OFFICIANT

Pastor Chris Davis

MUSICIAN

Julie French, Accompanist

CASKET BEARERS

Jordan Riley | Mason Riley | Tucker Hermans
Jake Eissinger | Doug Bowers | Gary Sundermeyer

HONORARY BEARERS

Sergeant Luke Hill
Staff at St. William's Care Center

INTERMENT

Milbank City Cemetery
Milbank, South Dakota

APPRECIATION

Orville's family is grateful for your attendance at this service. Your expressions of kindness and love are deeply appreciated. Following the service and graveside, please join the family for a time of fellowship and a luncheon in the church dining room.

Mundwiler Funeral Home - Milbank, South Dakota

Orville Alan Dauwen was born on December 26, 1943, in Missoula, MT. At approximately 16 months of age, he was adopted by Peter and Florence (Sundermeyer) Dauwen. He graduated from high school in 1963 and later served in the National Guard from 1965 to 1970.

Over the years, he worked diligently in positions at Standard Oil in Milbank, Hunters Granite Quarry finishing plant in Milbank, 7-Up Bottling Company in Ortonville, and the Milbank School District, where he was particularly known for his passion for audio/visual work. Orville's commitment to the Milbank School District was evident in his meticulous care and maintenance of the school's audio/visual equipment, enriching the experiences of countless students during concerts, drama productions, and sporting events. After retiring from the Milbank School District, he worked part-time for Valley Office Products.

On December 15, 1965, Orville was united in marriage with Diann E. Schultz at Bethlehem Lutheran Church in Grant County, SD. Their partnership was a testament to love, strength, and companionship as they cultivated a family together. Orville was a proud member of Emanuel Lutheran Church in Milbank, where he served as a Church Elder and engaged actively in numerous church activities, reflecting his dedication to both faith and community.

Orville had a passion for photography and relished the opportunity to capture cherished moments with friends and loved ones. He possessed a remarkable ability to connect with people, enjoying storytelling and fostering friendships throughout his life. He took great pleasure in vacationing and playing games with his children during their formative years, creating treasured memories that will live on in their hearts.

Surviving Orville are his wife, Diann of Milbank, SD; son, Wayne (Nanci) Dauwen of Woodbury, MN; daughters: Karen (Eric) Hermans of Aberdeen, SD; and Holly (Michael) Riley of Milbank, SD; six grandchildren: Katelynn (Jake) Eissinger, Amanda (Luke) Hill, Jordan Riley (fiancée, Mary Heald), Mason (Katie) Riley, Tucker Hermans, and Kayleen Hermans (fiancé, Damion Adkins); two great-grandchildren: Evelyn Eissinger, and Asher Eissinger; and sister, Janet Rundell-Wingert.

He was preceded in death by his parents.

Please use this QR Code to view Orville's
online obituary and guestbook.



How Great Thou Art!

When Christ shall come

with shout of acclamation

And take me home,

what joy shall fill my heart!

Then I shall bow in humble adoration

And there proclaim:

"My God, how great Thou art!"

Then sings my soul,

my Savior God, to thee,

How great Thou art!

How great Thou art!

Photo by Orville Dauwen