



*Feel no guilt in laughter, he'd know how much you care.
Feel no sorrow in a smile that he is not here to share.
You cannot grieve forever; he would not want you to.
He'd hope that you could carry on the way you always do.
So, talk about the good times and the way you showed you cared,
the days you spent together, all the happiness you shared.
Let memories surround you, a word someone may say
will suddenly recapture a time, an hour, a day,
that brings him back as clearly as though he were still here,
and fills you with the feeling that he is always near.
For if you keep those moments, you will never be apart
and he will live forever locked safely within your heart.*

APPRECIATION

Francis's family is grateful for your attendance at this service.
Your expressions of kindness and love are deeply appreciated.
Following the interment, please join the family
for lunch and fellowship in the church dining room.

ARRANGEMENTS BY

Mundwiler Funeral Home - Milbank, South Dakota

IN LOVING MEMORY OF

Francis Van Sambeek

WHO WAS BORN

April 23, 1928
Milbank, South Dakota

AND CALLED TO HIS ETERNAL HOME

July 21, 2023
Watertown, South Dakota

MASS OF CHRISTIAN BURIAL

Thursday, July 27, 2023 - 11:00 a.m.
St. Lawrence Catholic Church
Milbank, South Dakota

CELEBRANTS

Father Brian Eckrich | Father John Short

MUSICIANS

Sandy Tucholke, Organist
Terri Weber, Vocalist
St. Lawrence Funeral Choir

CASKET BEARERS

Don Gebhart | Bruce Gebhart | Rob Short
John Fonder | Rod Van Sambeek | George Van Sambeek

HONORARY BEARERS

Grandchildren:

Nick Frerichs | Amy Rans | Ashley Van Sambeek
Sarah Trageser | Karin Van Sambeek | Michael Wang

Great-Grandchildren:

Amarah Wang | Kalia Wang | Willow Wang | Michael Wang, Jr.
Natilee Kinsella | Brynlee Frerichs | Kinslee Frerichs
Kingston Frerichs | Braxton Rans | Grayson Rans

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

INTERMENT

St. Lawrence Catholic Cemetery
Milbank, South Dakota



Francis Louis Van Sambeek was born on April 23, 1928, in Milbank, SD. He was the son of William and Sophia (Van de Voort) Van Sambeek. Francis attended Geneseo #3 Country School and Milbank High School, graduating with the Class of 1946. After graduation, he began farming.

On September 17, 1953, he was united in marriage with Theresa Ann Gebhart in Elkton, SD. While on their honeymoon, Francis was drafted and served for two years in the U.S. Army - February 3, 1954 to February 3, 1956. He was stationed at Fort Bliss, TX, during that time. They then returned to South Dakota and resumed farming in rural Milbank. Following retirement in 1993, they moved into the town of Milbank. Francis and Theresa were blessed with 55 years of marriage and two children: Joan and David.

In addition to farming, Francis worked as a mail carrier for the U.S. Post Office from December 1965 until 1989. He worked for the Grant County Conservation Service until 2010. He was a lifelong member of St. Lawrence Catholic Church and was active in Knights of Columbus. He was a member of American Legion Birch-Miller Post #9 and served as past Commander. In 2007, he was awarded State Legionnaire of the Year. In his younger years, he received the FFA American Farmer Award, as well as, held the high hurdles record for Milbank High School for many years. In his later years, Francis was blessed with a dear friendship with Shirley Conraads.

Francis Van Sambeek is survived by his children: Joan (Eugene) Frerichs of Milbank, SD; and David Van Sambeek (Tammy Steen) of Brookings, SD; a special friend, Shirley Conraads of Milbank, SD; six grandchildren; ten great-grandchildren; and one brother-in-law, Gerald Lemke of Milwaukee, WI.

He was preceded in death by his parents: William and Sophia; wife, Theresa (in 2008); and siblings: Willie Vander Eyk, Henry Van Sambeek, John Van Sambeek, Ella DeVaal, Rosella Lemke, and Bertha Brotzel Knutson.

I N Loving M E M O R Y



*God of all consolation, source of all good,
have pity on our weakness.*

*Grant us in Christ, your Son,
the power to follow his example
and thus make us worthy of His promises.*

We ask this in His name.

Amen.