

Wally's Quotes About His Life

"My wife, my children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren are the most cherished earthly relationships"

"A great time in my life was when I was given a teaching position at Mandan High School. I enjoyed my job as an educator."



"Once a Brave, Always a Brave!"



In Loving Memory

**Wallace
"Wally"
Schmeling**

September 4, 1934 ~ July 7, 2026





Wallace "Wally" R. Schmeling, 91, Mandan, passed away Tuesday, July 7, 2026 at Edgewood in Mandan.

Funeral Services will be held at 11 AM on Friday, July 10, 2026 at Redeemer Lutheran Church in Mandan with Rev. Joshua Janke presiding. Family will greet friends one hour prior to the funeral at church. Burial will take place immediately following at the North Dakota Veteran's Cemetery in Mandan.

Wally was born September 4, 1934 in South Shore, SD to Joseph and Cecelia (Britzman) Schmeling. He graduated from South Shore High School in 1954. He then enlisted in the US Navy where he was Petty Officer on the U.S.S. Whitney during the Korean War. While in the Navy, Wally married his high school sweetheart, Ardell Steffenson on January 21, 1955. After being Honorably discharged from the Navy, Wally and his wife Ardell honeymooned in Niagara Falls, NY on their way to South Dakota. Wally attended and then graduated from Northern State University with his bachelor's degree, he then went on to Stout State University in Menomonee, WI where he received his master's degree in Education Administration.

A great time in his life was when he was given a teaching position at Mandan High School in 1959. He later became Superintendent of Schools and held that position until he retired in 1996. After retirement, he had some intern administrative positions in smaller schools and later worked as a crop adjuster into his 80's. Wally loved being on the water. He enjoyed many days and weekends on the river, as well wintering in Ft. Myers Beach, FL with Ardell for many years. He enjoyed playing cards especially pinochle with family and friends. Wally was deeply involved and held many positions within the community. A true pillar of Mandan that will be deeply missed by all.

He is survived by his children; Randy (Dotti) Schmeling, Babette (Peter) Vroman, Tami (Brian) Gale and son-in-law, Brent Hilfer, grandchildren; Brock (Andrea) Schmeling, Lexie (Erik) Hokenstad, Corbin (Krystal) Hilfer, Aliya Hilfer, Rae (Parry) Gaultney, Hailey (Mitch) Pesta and Tori (Justin) Ternes along with eight great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his parents, wife, Ardell, daughter, Becky Hilfer and grandson, Travis Hilfer as well as six siblings.



The family invites you for food and fellowship Redeemer Lutheran Church Hall following the burial service at the Veteran's Cemetery

WEIGEL
Buehler-Larson
Funeral and Cremation Service