

Clayton Anton Tucholke was born on June 15, 1947, to Anton and Sadie (Homan) Tucholke. He grew up on the family's 125-year-old farm, where he developed a lifelong love for agriculture and the land. He was baptized and confirmed in the Lutheran faith. Clayton graduated from Milbank High School in 1965 and went on to further his education at South Dakota State University, studying agricultural operations.



In 1968, he was united in marriage to Shirley Benting. Together, they were blessed with two children, Victor and Sarah, through adoption. Clayton farmed until 1996. During this time, he also owned and operated Tucholke Equipment on the family farm. He then owned and operated Tucholke Seed and Supply until 2009. After that, he returned to farming alongside his son-in-law, Mark, until his full retirement.

On September 5, 1998, Clayton was united in marriage with Denise "Penny" Peschong at Big Stone Lake. They made their home in rural LaBolt until 2019, when they moved to Milbank.

Throughout his life, Clayton held many roles. He was a dedicated farmer, Vermeer equipment salesman, and Pioneer seed salesman. He faithfully served Grant County as a commissioner for 28 years. He was instrumental in helping build the LaBolt Mini Mall and aided in improvements to the LaBolt Dam. In addition, he was a former board member of the Human Service Agency, First District of Local Governments, Whetstone Valley Electric, and the South Dakota Rural Electric Association (SDREA). Clayton was a member of Trinity Lutheran Church in Revillo. He also belonged to the Whetstone Valley Sportsman Club and the Grant County Sportsmen's Club. He was a lifelong supporter of wildlife habitat conservation and National Wild Turkey Federation. He served in the National Guard and was a member of the Milbank American Legion.

Outside of his many responsibilities, Clayton enjoyed hunting and fishing. Most of all, he cherished spending time with people, especially his family, sharing stories, and passing the time in good conversation. You would often find Clayton in the stands or in the audience; he never missed a kids' or grandkids' sporting event or any activity they were in. You would always find him there.

He is survived by his wife, Denise "Penny" Tucholke of Milbank, SD; children: Victor Tucholke of Big Stone City, SD; and Sarah (Mark) Erickson of LaBolt, SD; sister, Connie (Gary) Tries Styer of Fresno, CA; brother, Loren (Sandy) Tucholke of Milbank, SD; grandchildren: Gunnar (Samantha) Tucholke, Devin DeMent, Jacob Erickson, and Oliver Erickson; along with many nieces and nephews; and former spouse, Shirley Tucholke. He was preceded in death by his parents: Anton and Sadie Tucholke; brother, Manfred Tucholke; and granddaughter, Alexis Tucholke.

IN LOVING MEMORY OF

Clayton Tucholke

WHO WAS BORN

June 15, 1947
Ortonville, Minnesota

AND CALLED TO HIS ETERNAL HOME

February 9, 2026
Milbank, South Dakota

FUNERAL SERVICE

Saturday, February 14, 2026 - 2:00 p.m.
Spirit of the Cats' Foundation Building
Revillo, South Dakota

VICAR

Emelia Enquist

READERS

Rob Tries | Adam Koplins

PIANIST

Donna Johnson

SPECIAL SONGS

"What a Friend We Have in Jesus" | "I'm But a Stranger Here"
"Blessed Assurance" | "How Great Thou Art"

ACTIVE CASKET BEARERS

Jacob Erickson | Devin DeMent | Mark Schultz
Rob Tries | Oliver Erickson | Bart Tries

HONORARY CASKET BEARERS

Tom Sloan | Todd Tucholke | April Tucholke | Erin Park
Jason Tucholke | Gunnar Tucholke | Stan Patzer
Larry Anderson | Marc Hippen | Kyle Helm

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
Sons of American Legion Post #9

BURIAL

LaBolt Cemetery
LaBolt, South Dakota

APPRECIATION

Clayton's family is grateful for your attendance at this service. Your expressions of kindness and love are deeply appreciated. Following the funeral service, please join the family for a luncheon in the school dining area.

ARRANGMENTS BY

Mundwiler Funeral Home - Milbank, South Dakota

Final Harvest

He was bound to the land from the day of his birth.

His roots anchored deep in the fertile earth.

Nurtured, sustained, by the soil he grew,
and his life, like his furrows, ran straight and true.

In faith, each spring, he planted the seeds,
in hope, to reap his family's needs.

With patience, he waited for the harvest to come,
to gather the fruits of his labor home.

Ever turning seasons, the years sped past,
til the final harvest came at last.

Then claimed anew by beloved sod,
he was gathered home to be with God.

—Barbara W. Weber

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



Remembering

T H E L I F E O F



Clayton Tucholke