

On June 19, 2024, Allen Messner passed away peacefully while surrounded by family in Lakeway, Texas. His life was a testament to his legacy of hard work, love, and unwavering dedication to his family and friends.

Allen Milfred Messner was born on August 12, 1932, to George and Idelia Messner in Hamar, North Dakota. He was predeceased in death by his parents; his sisters, Isabelle and Florence; and brother, Lyle. He is survived by his brother, Harvey.

In 1954, he married his beloved Ellen (predeceased), and together they shared a lifetime of joys and challenges, growing together over the years. Allen was a devoted father, raising six children—Colleen (husband Richard), Charleen (predeceased, husband Wayne), Connie (husband Robert), Steve (wife Barbara), Arleen (husband Brian), and Dallas (life partner Brandi). He planted seeds of wisdom in his children as he planted seeds in his fields, nurturing their growth and celebrating every milestone.

His legacy continues through his nineteen grandchildren—Andrea, Ryan, Tina, Jesse, Jason, Angela, Tyler, Jacob, Nathan, Megan, (Lynette, predeceased), Lauren, Bridget, Katherine, Jeff, Shelby, Nicole, Bethanie, and Chase; as well as twenty-one great-grandchildren—Makenna, Ethan, Addison, Royce, Jocelyn, Hunter, Parker, Chaz, Jarrett, Ean, Chloe, Carrie, Casen, Easton, Oliver, Andrew, Frankie, Lars, Preston, Isaiah, and Freya. He always enjoyed seeing them anytime they visited the farm and found fulfillment in his role as a grandfather and great-grandfather.

Allen honorably served his country during the Korean War from September 9, 1953 to August 17, 1955. Leaving his new wife and child was incredibly difficult for him, but during this time, he and Ellen exchanged numerous letters and eagerly anticipated his return. His sacrifice and commitment shaped his character, instilling in him a deep appreciation for freedom and resilience. He was an active member in the VFW – Sheyenne, ND, Sheyenne Wildlife Club and Township Supervisor, Eagles, Farm Bureau, and Steam Threshers.

The land was his canvas, and he painted it with sweat and determination. Running a thriving farm and ranch, he raised cattle and cultivated crops. His hands bore the calluses of labor, and his heart swelled with pride as he transformed bare dirt to productive land to support his family. Beyond the farm, he reveled in history and craftsmanship. Collecting and restoring antique farm equipment became his passion, and so his artistry took another form. Each rusted plow or weathered tool held a story, and he would add a colorful new chapter.

But his greatest joy came from spending time with friends and family. He loved to take them hunting with him when the season was right, if they could brave the cold. He also loved spending time with them outside in the yard, catching up over a cup of coffee that Ellen would always have ready to go. When he made the move to Texas, he brought the Kings in the Corner card game with him, teaching his caregivers--Darel, Kerry, Barbara, and Kimberly, how to play (and even occasionally letting them win a hand). His love of Mollie B's polka tunes was infectious, and he had everyone humming along all day long. One of the highlights of moving to Texas was meeting and visiting with Mollie B in person and hearing her sing Happy Birthday to him at a concert for his 89<sup>th</sup> birthday. We thank his caregivers for their kindness and companionship over the years. They became a second family to him, especially the Boss Man.

And then there were his loyal companions, the canine Kids, Butch and Tootsie. These faithful dogs followed him wherever he went, as steadfast as the seasons and as quietly loving as their Pa.

Allen's legacy lives on in the fertile soil, the laughter of his great-grandchildren, and the memories we all carry with us. As we bid farewell to him, let us remember him not only for how he lived out his principles of resilience and dedication to others, but for steadfast love he shared with all of us.

Rest in peace, dear farmer, father, and friend. Your harvest is complete, and your spirit will forever bloom in the golden fields of our memories.

## *In Loving Memory of*



*Allen Messner*

*August 12, 1932 – June 19, 2024*



Remember him in your own way,  
however you wish, whenever you wish.

*Perhaps when winter softly comes  
And blankets you in white  
Think of him right there with you  
And you will be alright.*

*Perhaps, when eyeing a new car  
Think, what would Allen say?  
Consider the gas mileage...  
If it's bad, just turn away.*

*Perhaps, when greeting someone's dog  
Give it a solid pat  
And think of Pa with his dear Kids  
who at his feet are sat.*

*Perhaps, when life gets difficult  
As it is wont to do  
Imagine Grandpa pushing on  
And know that you can, too.*

*Well, I s'pose he's home with Ellen now, forever with his love,  
his kind and gentle spirit keeping watch from up above.*

Written with love by Megan LaMonica  
Inspired by the memories and experiences of Allen's family and friends

# In Loving Memory of *Allen Milfred Messner*

August 12, 1932 - Hamar, ND

June 19, 2024 - Lakeway, TX

## **VISITATION**

Tuesday, June 25, 2024 ~ 1:00PM - 5:00PM  
Wednesday, June 26, 2024 ~ 1:00PM - 2:00PM  
Evans Funeral Home, New Rockford, ND

## **FUNERAL SERVICE**

Wednesday, June 26, 2024 ~ 2:00PM  
Evans Funeral Home, New Rockford, ND

## **OFFICIATING**

Pastor Jeff Halvorson

## **RECORDED MUSIC**

In The Garden ~ How Great Thou Art ~ On Eagle's Wings

## **CASKET BEARERS**

Ryan Hoffner ~ Jason Hovdenes ~ Jesse Lesmeister  
Tyler Messner ~ Jacob Messner ~ Nathan Messner ~ Chase Messner

## **HONORARY BEARERS**

All of Allen's Family and Close Friends

## **MILITARY HONORS**

Raymond B. Thorn American Legion, Post #30, New Rockford  
North Dakota Army Funeral Honors Team

## **BURIAL**

Riverside Cemetery, Sheyenne, ND

Arrangements by

Evans Funeral Home - Carrington & New Rockford, ND

[www.EvansFuneralHomeND.com](http://www.EvansFuneralHomeND.com)

