

Merle Henry Bickett Jr., age 81, passed away unexpectedly at his home on March 3, 2025.

Merle was born to Merle Sr. and Emma Lee Bickett on September 19, 1943. He was baptized and confirmed at Trinity Lutheran Church in Carrington and graduated from Carrington High School in 1961. He proudly served as a Sergeant in the North Dakota Army National Guard, where he earned the distinction of Expert Rifle Marksman.

After his military service, Merle moved to El Segundo, California, where he worked at LA Lithography as a press inspector. It was here that he met Sheila Helenske, the love of his life. They moved back and were married during a blizzard at St. Joseph's Catholic Church in Bremen, ND, on October 11, 1969. Merle and Sheila welcomed their first son, Chad, the following year and started their family in Carrington, where Merle helped with the family farming operation. Later, Merle attended North Dakota State University, graduating with a degree in Agricultural Economics. After returning to Carrington to farm they welcomed their second son, Cody, in 1980 and later built their forever home.



Merle transitioned from farming in 1996 to working as a crop adjuster for Rain and Hail Insurance Company, a position he held with great pride and dedication until his passing. When he wasn't working, Merle found immense joy in spending time with his family, especially attending their various sporting events. He was a lifelong avid hunter, who cherished the annual Colorado hunting trips with his son and grandsons. He also had a deep love for fishing, finding happiness in every cast with his fishing buddies – particularly his good friend Mark Finch. Summers were spent at their lake cabin visiting with family and friends, almost always with a cold drink in hand. A passionate football fan, Merle was a lifelong supporter of the Green Bay Packers. In recent years, he found a knack for gardening and took pride in sharing with his loved ones.

Merle is survived by his loving wife, Sheila; sons, Chad (Rachel) and Cody Bickett; grandchildren, Taylor (Cassandra) Bickett, Breanne (Jack) Graven, Ryder Bickett, and Parker Bickett; great-grandchildren, Adalee and Barrett Bickett; a brother Don (Peggy) Bickett, a sister Merleen (Bruce) Gussiaas; many nieces and nephews; as well as many friends and extended family who will miss him dearly.



He was preceded in death by his parents, Merle Sr. and Emma Lee Bickett, and his brother, Dwayne.

Merle's legacy of love, laughter, and devotion to family will live on in the hearts of all who knew him. His memory will forever remain a cherished part of the lives he touched.

Celebrating

THE LOVE OF MY LIFE



Merle Bickett

SEPTEMBER 19, 1943 – MARCH 3, 2025



Celebrating A Life Well Lived
Merle Henry Bickett, Jr.

September 19, 1943 – Carrington, ND
March 3, 2025 – Carrington, ND

VISITATION

Monday, March 10, 2025
Visitation ~ 1:00PM - 5:00PM
Family Present ~ 4:00PM - 5:00PM
Evans Funeral Home, Carrington, ND

FUNERAL SERVICE

Tuesday, March 11, 2025
10:30AM
Trinity Lutheran Church, Carrington, ND

OFFICIATING

Rev. Ritchie Cole

SPECIAL MUSIC

Wind Beneath My Wings ~ Bette Midler
Go Rest High On That Mountain ~ Vince Gill
Angels Among Us ~ Alabama

PALLBEARERS

Taylor Bickett ~ Ryder Bickett ~ Parker Bickett ~ Todd Bickett
Bill Kunkel ~ Mark Finch ~ Darryl Galt

HONORARY PALLBEARERS

All of Merle's Beloved Grandchildren & Great-grandchildren

Arrangements by
Evans Funeral Home – Carrington & New Rockford, ND
www.EvansFuneralHomeND.com

A Hug From Heaven

Don't be sad - I'm here with Jesus. Don't be sad and please don't cry.
I'm right here ... I've never left you ... Don't you know that love can't die?

I am safe and warm and happy. As I've never been before,
Seeing Jesus face to face was more. Than I had bargained for.
As you speak, I'm right beside you. As you walk, I'm by your side
Close your eyes and you'll see clearly. That my Spirit has not died.

Everyone's on earth for reasons. Man can't fully comprehend
But in heaven, I've seen clearly. Justice triumphs in the end.

Understand my love surrounds you. In a way you cannot see
Feel it, sense it, trust it's presence. Have some patience. Let me be.

Do not waste another moment! Give to God complete control
Of worries that concern you. And your heart and mind and soul.
Wake each day in joyful gladness. Knowing we're not far apart.
Look to Jesus for the answers...He will heal your broken heart.
But above all, please remember. There's no need for you to cry.

I'm right here! I've never left you!
Don't you know that love can't die?

~Contributed by J. Mattson