

*In
Loving Memory*



Robert R. Mertz

Born
March 28, 1925
Omaha, Nebraska

Entered Into Rest
August 22, 2003
Shenandoah, Iowa

Age
78 Years, 4 Months, 25 Days

Life Celebration
10:30 A.M.
Tuesday, August 26, 2003
Trinity Lutheran Church
Shenandoah, Iowa

Words of Comfort
Reverend Gary Jaeckle

Eulogy
Jeremy Drewel

Memory Register
Linda Micheel - Pat Beavers

Caring For Flowers
Rosalie Downing - Marie Lorimor

Organist
Karon Killion

Soloist
Kris Adkins

Musical Selections
"I Was There To Hear Your Boring Cry"
"Just A Closer Walk With Thee"

Congregational Hymns
"What A Friend We Have In Jesus" - Page #516
"How Great Thou Art" - Page #519

Ushers
Jim Downing - Ron Malmberg

Honorary Bearers
J. W. Anderson - Larry Arnold
Tom French - Howard Killion - William Morlok
Mack Nickell - Duke Neumann - Cathy Young

Military Rites
American Legion Post #88
Shenandoah, Iowa

Final Resting Place
Rose Hill Cemetery
Shenandoah, Iowa

I'm Free

Don't Grieve for me, for now I'm free. I'm following the path God laid for me.
I took his hand when I heard him call. I turned my back and left it all.
I could not stay another day, to laugh, to love, to work or play.
Tasks undone must stay that way. I found that peace at close of day.
If my parting has left a void, then fill it with remembered joy.
A friendship shared, a laugh, a kiss, ah, yes, these things I too will miss.
Be not burdened with times of sorrow, I wish you the sunshine of tomorrow.
My life's been full, I've savored much, good friends, good times,
A loved one's touch. Perhaps my time seemed all too brief, don't lengthen
it now with undue grief.
Lift up your hearts and share with me, God wanted me now: He set me free.

Robert R. Mertz

Robert R. Mertz, the adopted son of Joseph F. and Louise E. (Birk) Mertz, was born March 28, 1925, in Omaha, Nebraska, and passed away August 22, 2003, in Shenandoah, Iowa.

Growing up and attending school in Sutton, Nebraska, Bob graduated from Sutton High School in 1943. He enlisted in the United States Army and served in the European Theater through the end of World War II. After his discharge in April of 1946, he attended the Lincoln School of Commerce in Lincoln, Nebraska. Bob then moved to San Francisco, where he was employed by the American President Steamship Line, first in the offices and then on board a cargo ship as a member of the Merchant Marine. After a voyage around the world, he gave up the life at sea.

On April 3, 1949, Bob was united in marriage to Dolores "Dodie" Linn in Milton, Pennsylvania, and to this union, five children, Deborah, Robert, Rick, Rod, and Dawn were born. He tried many jobs, including sales and labor, and eventually returned to the Midwest. Finally settling in Lincoln, Nebraska, Bob became associated with Lincoln Telephone and Telegraph for 25 years, retiring in 1991. On June 27, 1992, he was united in marriage to Jean Priebe, making their home in Shenandoah.

As a boy, Bob was involved in Boy Scouts, earning the Eagle Scout Award for his many achievements in scouting. As he got older, he enjoyed playing golf in his free time. After retirement and moving to Shenandoah, he found part time work mowing at the American Legion Golf Course, where he tremendously enjoyed playing golf. He participated on and off stage for the Southwest Iowa Theater Group, appearing in three plays and receiving their Service Award for the 94-95 season. Bob was an active member of Trinity Lutheran Church and Kiwanis Club in Shenandoah and a member of American Legion Post #61 in Sutton and VFW Post #7224 in Shenandoah and served on the Meals On Wheels board of directors. One of the highlights of his last years was locating the family of his birth father, Clinton E.W. Peterson of Minden, Nebraska, and becoming acquainted with a large family of sisters, cousins, nephews and nieces.

Preceding Bob in death were his birth parents; adoptive parents; stepfather, Roy Carlson; brother, Pete Carlson; and sister, Wilma Carlson.

Survivors include his wife, Jean Mertz of Shenandoah; five children and their spouses, Debbie and Kenneth Drewel, Robert and Billie Mertz, Rick and Donna Mertz, Rod and Jean Mertz all of Lincoln and Dawn and Charlie Colón of Omaha. Also surviving are three stepchildren and their spouses, Jolene and Rod Headrick of Omaha, Nebraska, Ken and Deb Priebe of Crosslake, Minnesota and Jim and Ronda Priebe of Indianola, Iowa; and two sisters, Carol Santarelli of Pueblo, Colorado, and Mary Caroski of Omaha; 16 grandchildren and 2 great grandchildren.

Services Entrusted to Selby Funeral Chapel

www.selbyfuneralchapel.com

Life is changed...
not taken away.



*FROM THIS DAY
FORWARD...*