

Dean O'Neill

Orval Dean O'Neill passed away on October 17, 2019. He was born May 10, 1937 to James and Mildred (Wallingford) O'Neill. Dean lived with his parents and older brother Jimmie on the ranch in Western Todd County.

Dean attended country school at the Peterson country school in western Todd County and high school in Martin, graduating in 1955. He then received his 2-year degree in agriculture at South Dakota State College in Brookings, SD. He joined the army and was part of the marksmanship shooting team that competed around the country. He was a golden glove boxer like his brother and enjoyed playing softball in the summer with his brother and friends.

He met and married Judy Eitzen in Valentine, NE in July 1960. They lived on the family ranch/farm and raised their four children together. He attended the Vetal Presbyterian Church growing up and later attended the Tuthill and Martin Presbyterian church with his parents and family. He spent his life as an active member of the community and served on Lacreek Board of Electric, was on the Co-Op Board, and was a Todd County commissioner for many years.

Dean was known for his wit and charm, often playing practical jokes and telling stories. He enjoyed fishing, team roping and attending auctions and was never one to pass up a bargain. He spent his whole life on the family ranch working it for 69 years, valued hard work, and was an early riser, having coffee with his brother Jimmie or calling his family to check in early in the morning. All who knew him will miss his strength, wit, and charm.

Dean was preceded in death by his parents; brother Jimmie (Martha) O'Neill; and wife of 57 years Judy (Eitzen) O'Neill. Dean is survived by his children: Sandy (Ken) Lang of Gillette, WY, Tony O'Neill of Harrington, SD, Rick (Kari) O'Neill of Harrington and Bethany O'Neill of Seattle, WA. Granddaughters: Samantha, Alex, and Devon Lang and Tyler, Tanner, and Dali O'Neill.



In Loving Memory Of

Dean

In Celebration of the Life of
Dean O'Neill

May 10, 1937 ~ October 17, 2019

And to my family...

Luke 1:37 says, "For with God, nothing shall be impossible." If we as a family can put our trust in God, we can and will get through anything. While on the ride called life, you have to take the good with the bad, smile when you are sad, love what you've got and remember what you had. Always forgive, but never forget. Learn from your mistakes but never regret. People change. Things go wrong. Just remember, the ride goes on. Over and out...

Arrangements by:
Holmes Funeral Home
Valentine, Nebraska

Service

Wednesday – October 23, 2019 @ 10:30am
Lindsey Memorial Presbyterian Church
Martin, South Dakota
Officiant: Pastor Lisa Danielson

Special Song

By Dean's Granddaughters
'Amazing Grace'

Pallbearers

Wayne Heath ~ Joe Valandra
Leston Brewer ~ Jim Mansfield ~ James O'Neill
John O'Neill ~ Ken Lang

Interment

Martin Community Cemetery
Martin, South Dakota

Military Honors By
American Legion Post #240 - Martin, SD