

For this one farmer the worries are over,  
 lie down and rest your head,  
 Your time has been and struggles enough,  
 put the tractor in the shed.  
 Years were not easy, many downright hard,  
 but your faith in God transcended,  
 Put away your tools and sleep in peace.  
 The fences have been mended.  
 You raised a fine family, worked the land well,  
 and always followed the Son,  
 Hang up your shovel inside the barn;  
 your work here on earth is done.  
 A faith few possess led your journey through life,  
 often a jagged and stony way,  
 The sun is setting, the cattle are all bedded,  
 and here now is the end of your day.  
 Your love of God's soil has passed on to your kin;  
 the stories flow like fine wine,  
 Wash off your work boots in the puddle  
 left by blessed rain one final time.



You always believed that the  
 good Lord would provide  
 and he always had somehow,  
 Take off your gloves and  
 put them down,  
 no more sweat and  
 worry for you now.  
 Your labor is done,  
 your home now is heaven;  
 no more must you wait,  
 Your legacy lives on,  
 your love of the land,  
 and we will close the gate.

*Nancy Kraayenhof*



**CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF**

*Reuben A.*

*Van Luik*

**APRIL 14, 1931**  
**FEBRUARY 28, 2022**

Services At:  
 Immanuel Lutheran Church - Starbuck, Minnesota  
 Friday - March 4, 2022 - 11:00 a.m.

Officiating Clergy:  
 Reverend Paul Johnson

Reader:  
 Matthew Wourms & Edna Goracke

Musician:  
 Dee Syverson

Family Remembrances:  
 Lisa Wourms

Pallbearers:  
 Josh Van Luik, Derek Van Luik, Lisa Wourms  
 Tyler Van Luik, Ryan Van Luik, Kevin Engebretson

Honorary Pallbearers:  
 Reuben's Great-Grandchildren &  
 All Who Called Reuben A Friend

Interment:  
 Immanuel Lutheran Cemetery  
 Starbuck, Minnesota

**R**euben Abel Van Luik was born on April 14, 1931, to Leendert “Leonard” and Olive (Kobbervig) Van Luik on his family’s farm in rural Starbuck, Minnesota. While growing up he attended both country school #53 and Starbuck High School, where he would graduate from.

After completing his schooling, Reuben held many jobs. Some of these jobs included owning and operating his dairy farm, being a feed salesman, and selling both motorcycles and snowmobiles. However, his true love was farming.

On November 10, 1956, Reuben married Bettyann Schwendemann at her family home in Rolling Forks Township. Together the two would raise two sons, enjoy square dancing, attend countless activities and sporting events for their grandchildren and great-grandchildren, travel all over the world, and eventually become snowbirds, spending winters in Texas for over 35 years.

During his retirement, Reuben was also heavily involved in the community. He participated in many organizations including Heartland Polka Club, Immanuel Lutheran Church board of elders, Pioneer Power Club, Putt and Purr Tractor Club, Valley Lodge Masons, Minnewaska Eastern Stars, Glenwood Shriners Club, and Zuhrah Shriners Club. He also served as treasurer for Walden Township for 21 years..

When Reuben wasn’t busy attending meetings for the many organizations he was involved in, traveling, or birdwatching, he could be found participating in anything involving farming. He enjoyed everything from talking about farming over a cup of coffee to restoring antique tractors. His love of tractors would eventually take him all over the state, nation, and even the world to attend and assist with tractor plowing events.

While Reuben lived a very full life, his most cherished moments are the ones he got to spend with his family.

Reuben passed away on February 28, 2022, at Glacial Ridge Health Services in Glenwood, Minnesota. He was 90 years old.

Reuben is survived by his wife Betty Van Luik of Starbuck, MN; sons: Stephen (Cindy) Van Luik, Kurt (Charlene) Van Luik; grandchildren; Joshua (Dawn) Van Luik, Derek (Brittney) Van Luik, Lisa (Matthew) Wourms; great-grandchildren: Tyler Van Luik, Ryan Van Luik, Mya Van Luik, London Van Luik, Savannah Van Luik, Nevada Van Luik, Aspen Sky Van Luik, Shelby Lou Wourms, Owen Ross Wourms; one sister: DeLoris Hagen; along with many beloved nieces and nephews.

He is preceded in death by his parents; sisters: Audrey Wold, Gladys West, Nellie Engebretson; brother: Arie Van Luik; brothers-in-law: Walter Wold, Oliver Engebretson, Darald Boettcher, Norman Hagen, Gerald West.

