

A Celebration & Remembrance of Life

March 14, 2015 11:00 a.m.
Nith Valley Mennonite Church

Prelude

Welcome & Call to Worship & Prayer

Hymn In the Bulb There is a Flower *HWB #614*

A Life Remembered - Robert Heintz

Solo - 'Praise We the Lord' - Jean Hilborn

A Life Remembered - Josh Hilborn
Jenna Hilborn

Hymn Take Thou My Hand, O Father *HWB #581*

A Life Remembered - Mary Hilborn

Hymn Will You Let Me Be Your Servant *HWB #307*

Scripture - Psalm 8 Jenna Hilborn

Mediation
Mark 8:31-38

Hymn Go, Silent Friend *STJ #110*

Benediction

The family invites you to share with us a fellowship lunch in the basement following the service where an opportunity for open mic will be provided.

A private interment will be at a later date in the Roseville Mennonite Cemetery.

Pastors: Matthew & Hendrike Isert Bender
Pianist: Susan Cressman
Song Leader: Lois Cressman

W. Rae Hilborn

September 4, 1917 to March 4, 2015

Passed away peacefully in his sleep at his apartment in Nithview Community at the age of 97. Beloved husband of M. Edna (Shantz) for 60 years who passed away in April 2004. Born on the Hilborn farm at Roseville, he was the eldest of the late J. Stanley & Ina (Bingeman) Hilborn.

Loving father of Carol (Kitchener), Jean (Guelph), Mary Hilborn & Gordon Kushner (Toronto) and Daniel & Sandra (Cambridge). Cherished grandfather of Josh & Jenny (Guelph) and Jenna (Ryde, England) and great grandfather to Lydia.

Dear brother & brother in law of Eva Shaver (Kitchener), Muriel & Robert Thomas (Salem), and Edna & Walter Wilhelm (Baden) and in laws Nelda Shantz (Cambridge) and Roy Shantz (New Hamburg).

Rae was predeceased by siblings Harry & Isabel Hilborn, Evelyn & Charles Perrin, David Hilborn, Grace & Emmanuel Heintz, William Shaver and in laws Violet & Cranson Good, Grace & Wes Metzger, Clayton & Verna Shantz, Marjorie & Phares Martin, Gordon & Beth Shantz, Ralph Shantz and Elaine Shantz.

Rae was a lifetime farmer. He grew up on the family farms at Rosebank & Roseville. After "Short Course" at OAC, he worked as a hired hand at several area farms including Benjamin Shantz where he met Edna. They married in 1944. With family, he moved back to Roseville to assist his father, who had lost a hand in a farm machinery accident. Rae & Emanuel Heintz partnered to buy the Roseville farm. Rae & Edna purchased their own farm at R.R. #1, Shakespeare in 1966.

In 1989 Rae & Edna sold the farm and moved to New Hamburg. This allowed joint replacement surgery on both of Rae's knees which greatly improved his quality of life. The spring in his step and twinkle in the eye were back. He became a founding member of Wilmot Seniors' Woodworking and Craft Club. Farm life had

included construction and carpentry but woodworking provided creativity & new skill challenges. Projects ranged from napkin holders to complex doghouses & birdhouses, display racks to playhouse appliances. Research and discussions to verify dimensions, joint structure and materials added to the enjoyment. His creations many of us have will provide cherished memories. Baden was his second home until a few months ago.

Rae lived his adult life in the age of the automobile. Sunday afternoon drives just following the road led to random family visits to the many relatives & friends. Most destinations turned into dinners or watching hockey games. It was an important part of relationships and served to catch up with people and their family events. Stories and jokes were told and there was lots of laughter. Longer trips led to Kansas and a flight to California. After selling the cows there was more time for family visits to Winnipeg. Over the years, Rae & Edna literally drove from coast to coast, barely “dipping a toe” before turning around and heading back. Sporting events for Josh & Jenna were important destinations too. And it was not uncommon for Rae to know parents or grandparents from the other team.

Rae wrote letters and sent cards to stay in touch with more distant family and friends. It was especially important for him to keep up with his brother David in New Mexico and his children. And his home was always open when they came to visit.

In brief, Rae was a humble Christian. He was a dedicated husband and lead by example. He served in various capacities with farm organizations and his church community. He was caretaker and secretary at Roseville Mennonite Cemetery for over 50 years. He truly was servant of family and the community but shied away from any recognition however deserving.

We are sad in Rae’s passing but so happy for the good long life he enjoyed.

Rest in Peace Dad, Grandpa and Great Grandpa.

