











Lester was born on July 5, 1923 on a farm north of Blaisdell, ND. He married Angeline Biegler on April 30, 1949. They celebrated 70 years of marriage in April. Lester and Angie farmed for a few years near Edgeley, ND and then later at the farm where Lester grew up. In 1957 they moved to Stanley with their family, where Lester worked as a carpenter until he retired at the age of 62. His crew for many of those years were his 7 sons. They raised 12 children; Barbara ("Coop") Cooper - Berthold, Pat (Paul) Thunshelle - Plaza, Mary Chewakin -Fargo, Allen (Diane) - New Town, Judy (Rick) Spletstoser - Watford City, Elmer (Ann) -Shakopee, MN, Gerard - New Town, Tim (Angie) - Grand Forks, Bryan (Lori) - Stanley, Pam (Gary) Schmidt - Stanley, Glenn (Carol) -Prior Lake, MN. They have 24 grandchildren, 36 great-grandchildren, 1 great-great-grandchild and brother, Cyril Gustafson.

Lester enjoyed music, electronics, fishing, crossword puzzles, whistling, bird watching and reading the newspaper from front to back every day. His greatest love was his wife, Angie. He loved and was proud of all of his family.

Lester is preceded in death by his parents, Elmer and Barbara (Goettle) Gustafson; son, James Gustafson; son-in-law, Myron "Coop" Cooper; grandson, Michael Chewakin; sisters, Lillian Neether, Violet Vettle and Vivian Lagien.

The Gustafson family would like to thank everyone for their kindness and prayers during this difficult time.





## The Carpenter

There was once a master carpenter and he lived a good life for he loved to work, building things of wood. He was loved by his family, by his sons and his daughters and especially by his wife. He was loved by everyone who knew him. And at the end of that good life when it came time for him to die the old carpenter soared into the white light of death – for the white light is where the good souls go to.

And the white light warmed him and nurtured him and fed him great peace.

And when this carpenter arrived in heaven he was expected and immediately he was put to work; for the Pearly Gates were a bit loose and St. Peter's desk had a couple of drawers that stuck. And before long the old master carpenter began to build a new throne for God.

By G.E. Nordell