



In Loving Memory Of **John Hickel**

Born to Anton & Mabel Hickel
September 2, 1941 ~ Wildrose, North Dakota

Returned to His Heavenly Father
February 14, 2023 ~ Watford City, North Dakota

Funeral Service
Friday, February 17, 2023 at 4:00 PM
Fulkerson Stevenson Funeral Home Chapel
Watford City, North Dakota

Officiating
Rob Favorite

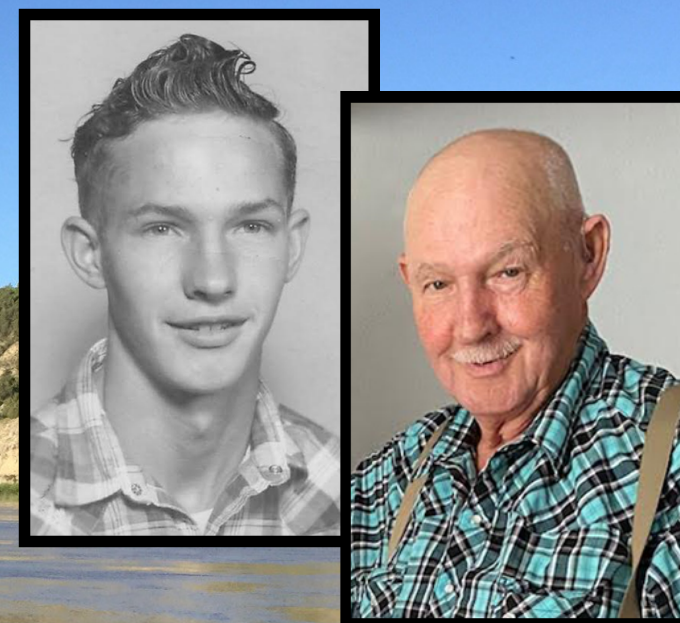
Music
"Scars in Heaven" ~ Casting Crowns
"Jealous of the Angels" ~ Donna Taggart
"Old Rugged Cross" ~ Alan Jackson

Pallbearers
Tanner Westlake Darin Hagerud
Cody Hickel Casey Hickel
Anthony Goethe

Honorary Pallbearers
Grandchildren & Great Grandchildren
Pinochle Buddies

Final Resting Place
Highland Cemetery
Ray, North Dakota

Arrangements By
Fulkerson Stevenson Funeral Home
Watford City, North Dakota



I N
Loving
M E M O R Y

John Anton Hickel
September 2, 1941 - February 14, 2023

John Anton Hickel was born on September 2, 1941 in Wildrose, ND. He was the 6th child of Anton and Mabel (Woodside) Hickel. He attended school in Ray, ND where he played basketball for the Ray Jays which he bragged about often.

He met Marlene Boots in Watford City and got married September 19, 1963. To this union, 3 children were born. In 1975, he went to work on an offshore drilling rig in the Gulf of Mexico for 2 years. After, he relocated to Sidney, MT where he continued to spend his life working in the oilfield for different companies and in many different capacities, including tool pushing for Brinkerhoff Signal until they sold out in the late 1980s. He took a break from the oilfields after the oil bust in the 80s and bartended in Sidney for a few years before going back to drilling on the rigs.

He bought a lot at Tobacco Gardens in 1984 where he built a life and home. He loved spending time there fishing and ultimately retired there in 2001. He made many lifelong friends and caught many whoppers (according to those fish tales he would tell) while living at the lake.

He moved away from Tobacco Gardens and into Watford City in 2019 as his health started to decline. He enjoyed living at Hillside Court where he was known to buy a six pack of beer and go walk around sharing and visiting with the ladies. Living in town gave him many more opportunities to spend time with his kids, grand kids, and great grand kids. He was always happy to join in for a family meal, watch any and all games on TV, and greatly enjoyed watching his grand daughter, Harlee, perform her dance routines and play golf.

As member of the Eagles Aerie #3543, one joy in his life was going to the club and paying cards with the guys. He could tell stories for hours about the card games, right down to who didn't play the hands correctly.

In his opinion, he was the only person that knew how to play the game of racehorse and pinochle right.

In November of 2022, John suffered a mild stroke and spent the last weeks of his life in the McKenzie County Hospital where he passed peacefully in the early morning of February 14, 2023.

John is survived by his son, Ellis (Kris) Hickel; daughters, Dana Amon, Rita Olson; brother, James (Angie) Hickel; sister, Wilma Hillstead; grandchildren, Anthony Goethe, Kristina Rill, Kenna DeMary, Joshua Jones, Darin (Kaycee) Hagerud, Amanda (Tanner) Westlake, Harlee Olson, Casey (Keanna) Hickel, Cody (Kayln) Hickel; and great-grandchildren, Trynitee, Evelyn, Zoey, Callum, Haylee, James, Jasmin, Jadyn, Lawerance, Hunter.

John was preceded in death by his parents; brothers, Albert, Wallace, Dean, Tony; brother-in-law, Dale Hillstead; son-in-law Wayne Olson; and great-grandson, Charles Jr.

John will always be known for his ability to tell a joke and make people laugh. Even if nobody else laughed, he did, with a huge belly laugh. He was one of a kind and will be greatly missed by all that knew him.



GOD looked around the garden,
And found an empty space.
He looked down upon the earth,
And saw your tired face. He put
His arms around you
And lifted you to rest.
God's garden must be beautiful
For He only takes the **BEST**.
He knew that you were weary,
and He knew that you were in pain.
He knew that you would never
be well on earth again.
He saw the roads were getting rough,
and the hills were hard to climb.
So He closed your weary eyelids,
Peace be Thine. and whispered