

## Dennis D. Hill

November 08, 1937 - June 14, 2024

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Dennis Duane Hill of Lake Mills, Iowa heard the Lord calling him and passed away very peacefully to be with his Savior on Friday, June 14, 2024 at the Lake Mills Care Center at 1:25 pm with his loving wife Rose Ann by his side. He had been in Hospice Care since January.

Funeral services for Dennis will be held at 1:00 PM on Friday, June 21, 2024 at Schott Funeral Homes-Mittelstadt Chapel, 902 East Main St., Lake Mills, IA 50450

Visitation will be held from 5:00 – 7:00 P.M., Thursday, June 20, 2024 at the funeral home.

Military Honors will be performed by the Otto Chose American Legion #235.

Interment will follow the service at the Bristol Cemetery, rural Joice, Iowa.

Dennis Duane Hill was born November 8, 1937 to Jester S. Hill and Viola (Dakken) Hill in Lake Mills, Iowa. He descended from Norwegian Pioneers that were some of the original founders of Lake Mills and Winnebago County. His Grandparents were Henry and Mattie (Olson) Dakken, of Lake Mills and Rasmus and Annie (Swenson) Hill of Leland. He grew up in Neil's Spur, Iowa just west of Leland. It was called Neil's Spur because of the train track and traffic that ran through it. He was Baptized and confirmed in the Lutheran Faith at West Prairie Lutheran Church, Leland. His ancestors were founding members of the Church.

The family always sat at what came to be known by other congregants as the "Hill Pew" at the church services as they had done through several generations. When he was young his parents ran the local General Store at Neil's Spur, IA and he helped in the family business. When the train came through Neil's Spur there were Hobo's that frequently rode the train. He often helped his parents feed them as "they were good people, just down on their luck." as his father pointed out. The Hobo's always offered to assist with odd jobs in payment for the kindness they received and never expected a free hand out, so his father's observation rang true. The store became the "place to be" for local residents in the Leland and Thompson area. Family, friends and neighbors often gathered there on Saturday nights as it was a fun meeting place for them from the 1930's to early 1960's.

He helped his father in his Poultry and Egg business as well. He enjoyed raising puppies that he sold as a child. He also helped his Dad on the Family Farm. He had many fond memories of growing up there with his brothers Gerald and Roger. He went to school in Forest City, Iowa. While in High School he played for the Forest City Indians as a Center for the Basketball Team and a Tight End for the Football team. He was an athlete and quite talented with the "hoop." He graduated from Forest City High School in 1957.

Dennis served Honorably in the United States Army Reserves. He was designated as a Marksman in Battery 3, 3rd Battalion, 14th Artillery in Garner, Iowa and Fort Sill, Oklahoma.

Dennis returned from Basic Training and was shortly after United in Marriage to the love of his life, Rose Ann Marie Trustem on November 26, 1960. To this Union three children were born, Jerry Edward in 1962, Jeffrey Dean in 1963, and Audra Dea in 1976. Dennis and Rose Ann were members of Salem Lutheran Church their entire married life.

He worked for several years for David Twito's business as an automotive body repairman. He then began his own business and owned and operated Dennis' Auto Repair in Lake Mills. He was a respected businessman and talented body repairman for many years. He was proud of his work and put all of his effort into repairing cars and he was sought out because of the fine work that he was well known for. His Nephew Randy Hill assisted him for a time and learned the Auto Body business from his Uncle Dennis.

He belonged to several organizations including the Lutheran Brotherhood at Salem Lutheran Church where he often served as a Church Usher. He also enjoyed playing Dart Ball with the Lutheran Brotherhood team. He enjoyed collecting restored cars from the 1940's and 1950's and he also owned several Ford Model T's. He was a member of the Aristocrats Car Club. He showed his vehicles at many Car Shows and won numerous trophies and recognition for them. He had a beautiful car collection, one in particular had a glass top. He also collected Classic Chris Craft Mahogany Boats that had been restored to their full grandeur, one of them he christened the "Gypsy Rose" in honor of his wife Rose Ann. It is a two tone Chris Craft Mahogany boat still owned by the family. He owned the 1947 Chris Craft Mahogany Boat called the SAMAR V that was originally owned by Bob Speltz. Bob Speltz was an expert on Classic Chris Craft Mahogany boats and he wrote a book about them called "The Real Runabouts" by Bob Speltz and the SAMAR V was featured in that book. It is a rather famous boat, that is well known by collectors. The book is a popular and well known book about Classic Chris Craft boats that is valued by collectors to this day. His son Jeffrey owns that boat now.

He also enjoyed collecting and selling antiques, a love he inherited from his parents and had a wonderful collection of beautiful things. Because of his reputation as collecting quality antiques, he appeared in a segment of "American Picker's" TV show with Mike Wolfe on the History Channel. He also enjoyed collecting antique cars and tractors and children's Pedal Cars and a Pedal Airplane that had been restored that is somewhat rare. He was an avid Country and Western Fan and he and Rose Ann enjoyed going to local Country and Western Shows such as Johnny Cash, Don Williams, and he always enjoyed 1950's Everly Brother's who they saw in person.

He often enjoyed spending time in the McGregor, Marquette and Prairie du Chien area. He always enjoyed family gatherings at the Family Farm with his parents and brother Roger and his family.

He often spoke of fond memories of spending time with his Grandma Annie Hill and his Aunt Hilda and Uncle Henning whom he was very close to on the Hill Family Homestead that was known as the "Evergreen Farm." That farm is listed in the "History of Winnebago County" book. He often spoke very fondly of his Grandma Annie and how she made and preserved Sauerkraut and was the official Lutefisk cook for the West Prairie Lutheran Church Lutefisk Holiday Dinners.

Dennis was a kind, gentle and caring man who loved animals, family and his friends. He rarely had anything bad to say about anything or anyone and he is deeply loved and will be profoundly missed by those who loved and knew him well. His children have many stories of people stopping to tell them what a wonderful man he was and how lucky we were to have him as our Father. He will be loved and cherished throughout our lifetimes.

Dennis Duane Hill is survived by his loving wife of nearly 64 years, Rose Ann of Lake Mills, his sons, Jerry of Otsego, Minnesota, Jeffrey (Kim) of Grand Meadow, Minnesota and daughter, Audra (Christopher "Chris") Stambaugh of St Charles, MN. He also had four Grandchildren, Elizabeth (Beth) Hill of Seattle, WA, Joshua Hill of Grand Meadow, MN, Alicyn and Erika Stambaugh of St Charles, MN. He is also survived of his Sister in Law, Dorothy Hill of Leland, IA, Nephew, Larry (Becky) Hill of Thompson, IA and Niece, Debra Buffington of Forest City, IA and a Nephew, Kevin Hill of San Diego, CA and numerous cousins and great nieces and nephew's.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Jester (1995) and Viola (2000); his brother, Gerald and Sister in Law, Mavis (Pat) Hill, their children Vicki, Renee and Randy James. His brother, Roger Henry, and his Nephew, Randy Scott Hill and Uncle Roger Hill also preceded him in death.

## Cemetery

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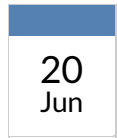


### BRISTOL CEMETERY

rural Joice, Iowa  
50446

## Events

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### VISITATION

5:00 PM - 7:00 PM

Mittelstadt Funeral  
Home 902 East Main  
St., Lake Mills, IA  
50450



### FUNERAL SERVICE

1:00 PM

Mittelstadt Funeral  
Home 902 East Main  
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## Tribute Wall

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A Memorial Tree was planted for Dennis D. Hill

We are deeply sorry for your loss ~ Schott Funeral Home

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