



Gerald R Roach

September 14, 1931 - June 19, 2014

Gerald R. "Buddy" Roach, 82, Bismarck, died June 19, 2014, at St. Vincent's Care Center, Bismarck. Mass of Christian burial will be held at 10:00 am Tuesday, June 24, at Cathedral of the Holy Spirit, Bismarck, with Rev. Msgr. Thomas Richter officiating. Burial will be at St. Mary's Cemetery, Bismarck. Visitation will be held from 5:00 PM – 7:00 pm Monday, June 23, at Eastgate Funeral Service, Bismarck, where a rosary/vigil will begin at 7:00 pm. Visitation will continue one hour prior to the service at the church. Gerald was born on September 14, 1931, to Daniel E. Roach and Leona Oestreicher Roach in rural Lisbon, ND. He began his education at Ransom Country School, eventually graduating from Fort Ransom High School. Following high school, he entered the Air Force in January of 1951. During his four years of service, Gerald was stationed at Lackland AFB, Biloxi, MS, and Chicago, IL, where he received training and graduated as an x-ray technician. While assigned to Cheyenne, WY, he decided to volunteer for overseas duty. He served in Okinawa for two years as a medic and did morning reports due to his excellent typing skills. Following his discharge, Gerald returned home to help on the family farm near Lisbon. After working on the family farm and then for the Soo Line Railroad for a short time, Gerald found his true calling as a truck driver. Throughout his 28 year career, Gerald drove for Northern Tank Oil, Garrett Freightlines, ANR and Consolidated Freightways. During those years, he met Sharon Mae Michael, the love of his life in Laurel, MT. They married on October 25, 1958, at St. Anthony's Church. They raised five sons,

Mark, Timothy, Kent, Darrin, and Daniel. When he was transferred for work, he and Sharon moved the family to Valley City, ND, in 1969, and later to Bismarck in 1975 where he resided until his death. Gerald retired from trucking in 1993. He was an active member of Cathedral parish in Bismarck. Proud of his Irish heritage, he wore "the green" on St. Paddy's Day. Lovingly called Papa, his favorite times were with his family. Known for his dependability and strong work ethic, Gerald kept a very attractive yard and maintained flower beds around the family home. Gerald entered Sanford Health St. Vincent's Continuing Care Center in 2013, where his wife, Sharon, also resides. Gerald is survived by his wife, Sharon; four sons, Timothy, Billings, MT, Kent Bonnie, Bismarck, Darrin Andrea, Fargo, Daniel Judy, Moorhead, MN; his grandchildren, Shanley, Gabriel, Kendra, Shayna, and Ashland Roach, along with his step-granddaughter, Lindsey Lippert; and his brother, James Roach.

He was preceded in death by his parents; son, Mark; brother, David; sister, Dolores Ronning; and two grandchildren Keegan and Garrett Roach. In lieu of flowers, please send donations to Hospice or the Roger Maris Cancer Center.

Tribute Wall

JA

“ Dear Roach family, Very sorry to hear of your Dad's passing. Remember your family well and was surprised to read in the obituary that you only lived in Valley city from 1969-1975. Always seemed like we had/have known you family forever. Valley City always claimed the Roaches! On behalf of myself and my family - heartfelt condolences, and prayers for you all. Your folks were always loved and respected. Hope Sharon is well. Jane Bauer Longtin

jane - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

CK

“ Darrin & Andrea, So sorry to hear of your father/father-in-law's death. Keeping you in prayer.

Carol Kurtz - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

RH

“ Gerry Uncle Bud's Nephew is right....Uncle Bud always had plenty of time for each of us kids. I'm sure he had a million other things to do or worry about, but always took time out for us. It meant the world to us when he would just fix a little something on our bikes or whatever when he came out to the farm. I'm sure glad I got to visit with him so much this past year. Goodbye Uncle Bud.....your little Lolita that was my special name he always called me

Rita Roach Haugen - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

GR

“ Will miss uncle Bud, He always had time for us kids, Will always cherish the trips to Bismarck were Sharon would always spoil Buddy and me with coffee and pie, I will always have great memories of him

Gerry Roach - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

CH

“ Kent, we are so sorry to learn of your dad's passing. Please extend our sympathy to your mom and the rest of your family. Sympathy and Prayers Christine Pederson and Curt Marshall

Christine - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

MJ

“ Our deepest sympathy to you Sharon and your family. We have been thinking of the great memories of raising our children together at St. Catherine School in Valley City. Maurice and JoAnn Pederson

Maurice and JoAnn - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

KU

“ I met Buddy through Sharon, whom I had met working at Cystic Fibrosis in the early 80's. Buddy was such a good hearted person that would do anything for family and friends and he had a great sense of humor. He and Sharon have been surrogate grandparents to my daughter throughout her life and we were so blessed to have them in our lives all of these years. Thankfully, I was able to spend time with Buddy several times this past year. I know he was struggling with health issues but he never complained.....not once. We will miss you Buddy but know that you are in a better place and without pain. Love you always and until we meet again, Kathi Lund Ulbig and Briana Lund, Splendora, TX

Kathi Ulbig - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

JH

“ I have known Jerry since I transferred to Bismarck in 1981. We never drove for the same company but we got to know each other threw the industry. Jerry was an excellent truck driver and just an all around good guy. I bought his pickup at his auction a while back mostly because it was Jerry's. I didn't need it, I didn't even really want it but it was Jerry's so I bought it. My wife did not understand but that is another story. R.I.P. my friend.

John Holbrook - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

MM

“ Your days will soon be continued when the resurrection occurs in the near future. John 5:28,29 learn more at www.jw.org

Michael Marbury - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM