



Harry C Swendsen

April 19, 1922 - February 22, 2012

Harry C. Swendsen, 89, Bismarck, formerly of Hettinger, ND, went to be with his Lord, Wed. February 22, 2012, leaving behind his beloved wife Ellen after 68 years of marriage. Services will be held at 10:30 am Monday, February 27, at the Baptist Home Chapel, Bismarck, with Rev. Clyde Zimbelman officiating. Burial will be in the North Dakota Veterans Cemetery, Mandan. Visitation will be held from 3:00 pm until 6:00 pm Sunday, February 26, at Eastgate Funeral Service, Bismarck. Harry was born April 19, 1922 to Christian and Albertine Peterson Swendsen of McClusky. Harry grew up in McClusky and attended school in Sheridan County School System. Harry served honorable in the U.S. Army during World War II entering in 1942 and was deployed to the European Theater and was engaged in several campaigns including the "Battle of the Bulge." While home on leave in 1943 he married the love of his life, Ellen Turnbull. After returning home from serving his country, Harry and Ellen made their home in McClusky N.D. before relocating to Hettinger N.D. in 1948. Harry was employed at Hettinger Auto Co. as a Parts Manager and later became the sole owner until retirement. Harry and Ellen traveled extensively in the US, Canada, Mexico and visited every continent except the Antarctica; even being adventurous enough to make their home in Portugal for one year before returning to Hettinger. Harry was also involved in many community organizations including, Chamber of Commerce, American Legion, and Partners in Health. He was also Secretary Treasurer of the North Dakota Chapter of the Veterans of the "Battle of the Bulge," and served in that

position for twenty years, always eager to reunite with his service comrades. Harry was also an avid trail rider and was a member of the ND Trail Riders. Harry was a kind, loving and gentle man, with a captivating sense of humor and wit. He will be profoundly missed by all his loving family and cherished friends he has left behind. He is also survived by many loving nieces and nephews Harry was preceded in death by his parents; five brothers, Frank, Glen, Paul, Carl, Roy, and three sisters, Elsie, Norma, and Ella June.

Tribute Wall

GK

“ Dear Ellen: Just wanted you to know how Tony and I appreciated Harry and your welcome to us at every WWII reunion we came to. Also how you came to our house after our 60th anniversary. We appreciated your being our friends in Hettinger for so many years. My sympathy to you Ellen, and may God Bless You with Love a friend Gert Kooiman 13961 Prairie City Rd Prairie City, SD 57649 605-866-4410

Gertrude Kooiman - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

RL

“ Dearest Ellen, Know that you are in our thoughts and prayers and the memories we have of "The Swendsens" are many. Lee Ann bought her first Chevy from Harry; our daughter road the bus with his very capable piloting; our parents shared many "Senior Center" moments with you two. Harry always had an interesting history lesson and good joke when visiting with him. May Gods loving arms surround you, Ellen, at this difficult time and may your continued journey in this world be easier with the memories YOU have of your loving Harry. Hettinger has missed you both very much. Let the good Lord be your strength. Lovingly the Rodney Lutz'

Rodney and Lee Ann Lutz - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

GJ

“ Dear Ellen, Thinking of you with our sincere sympathy. Gene and Irene Jacobson

Gene & Irene Jacobson - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

JH

“ I will miss his bright smile and his great stories we heard at the Peterson picnics. God bless his heart and soul. May you find comfort in all your great memories.

Jean Hoerner - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

AM

“ Ellen, Harry's kindness, volunteer spirit & humor will be missed. May your faith guide you in the weeks and months ahead.

Allen & Kaye McIntyre - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

RH

“ My thoughts are with you Ellen, as my memories of you & Harry coming downstairs visiting Clay & Marge Wilson. I bet mom & Harry are exchanging that birthday card back & forth! I will come see you Ellen.

Rhonda Haegele - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

SJ

“ Ellen, I am so sorry for the loss of Harry. Remember when he arranged the trail ride at one of the Swendsen reunions! I remember him saying he wanted a real horse while the rest of us could ride pack horses. A lot of us were so green when it came to riding a horse. It was so much fun!! We will miss him. Love to you, Sally

Sally Swendsen Jaeger - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

FC

“ Ellen: Our thoughts and prayers are with you at this time, and in the future as you journey on in life without your partner, Harry. You both were always so active in many things in our community, state and in your church. You two were good examples for all of us. May you feel God's loving arms around you in these difficult times.

Floyd and Mary Joan Chalcraft - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

PB

“ Ellen, We are so sorry for your loss and the difficult days ahead. Please find some comfort in knowing that Harry is free from the struggles of the past few months. You have both been missed here in Hettinger and are thought about often, it is just not the same to go to an event and not see the Swendsen's. Our prayers are with you.
Pat Buckmier

Pat Buckmier - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

DK

“ Harry was a good and very friendly man. At least 3 generations of my family bought cars from his business. I also appreciate his friendship with my father who also was in the Battle of the Bulge. He will be missed. Darryl Kooiman

Darryl Kooiman - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

KK

“ Hi Ellen, so sorry to hear about Harry's passing. Hettinger hasn't been the same since you left. I dearly missed our visits and Harry's quick wit and jokes. I think of both of you often and hope you will be able to get thru this with lots of prayers and thoughts. Sincerely,
Karen Kobilansky

Karen Kobilansky - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

TS

“ *My thoughts and prayers to Ellen I have great memories of Harry & Ellen as my long time neighbors., Your evening walks and visiting, and when I could be of some help. TAKE CARE*

Tom Springer - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

SZ

“ *Uncle harry will be greatly missed by so many people- our prayers are with you*

shana zahn - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

DW

“ *I will always remember my time in Hettinger with Harry and Ellen and trail riding with Harry and camping with Ellen and Harry while trail riding. He will be dearly missed in my life.*

Debra Wright - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

FD

“ *Ellen, You know our spirits are with you at this time even though we cannot be there. We are so glad we got to see both of you last summer and will see you again as soon as we can. We think of you and Uncle Harry every day. Love F and D*

Frank and Doreen - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

RT

“ *I'm sorry to hear of Harry's death I enjoyed meeting him through My Dad Oliver at the Battle Of The Bulge reunions, especially his sense of fun and humor*

Russ Tveit - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

GH

“ *A brave man that wore many hats in this community. our sympathy for you Ellen and your extended families*

Geri and Duane Huether - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

LW

“ *Dear Ellen... My thoughts and prayers are with you! I miss the occasional visits to GDP. Harry's wit and wisdom will always be remembered by many! Miss you too! Rest In Peace Harry Swendsen! Linda*

Linda Weaver - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

BL

“ *Dear Ellen, You have our deepest sympathy. Harry was a great friend we missed you both a lot after you went to Bismarck. May God bless you and thanks for the many memories. Love, Bob & Helen Lewis*

Bob & Helen Lewis - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

SM

“ *My thoughts and prayers to Ellen. I have fond memories of Harry driving the activity bus in Hettinger while I was in high school. God Bless*

Sonja Huether Meier - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

MG

“ *Our sympathy and love to Ellen. We recall visiting with Harry when you two came to Wisconsin and the listening enjoyment as he shared travel adventures. He was a fellow we'd have liked spending more times together with over the years. We know he will be deeply missed.*

Merle & Susanne Gardiner - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

LQ

“ So sorry to hear of your loss Ellen. We have so many fond memories of you and Harry at the MDU gatherings back in the fifties and early sixties. Our prayers are with you and may God grant you Comfort and Peace during this sad time.

LeRoy and Ida Quatier - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM