



Walter Dockter

August 6, 1919 - September 13, 2008

Walter L. Dockter, 89, Garrison, formerly of Bismarck, died September 13, 2008. Services will be held at 11:00 am Wednesday, September 17, 2008 at First Baptist Church, Bismarck. Burial will be at the North Dakota Veteran's Cemetery, Mandan. Visitation will be held from 5:00 pm until 9:00 pm Tuesday at Parkway Funeral Service, 2330 Tyler Parkway, Bismarck with a prayer service beginning at 7:00 pm. Visitation will continue one hour prior to services at the church. Walter L. Dockter was born August 6, 1919 at Anamoose, North Dakota to John M. and Mary Spear Dockter. He attended school in Sheridan County, ND and helped on the family farm. He served in the Civilian Conservation Corps from 1936-1937. He was inducted into the US Army on October 25, 1941 was stationed at Ft. Snelling, MN for Basic Training. Being placed in the 27th Army Division, 105th Infantry Regiment out of New York, he was sent to Camp Walters, TX for more training. He then spent 30 months overseas which began in Honolulu, HI for further training and restoration of Pearl Harbor. He was then sent to the South Pacific Theatre of Operations in March, 1942. After extensive fighting in the Marianas Islands, Walter was wounded during the Battle of Saipan, July 11, 1944. He was hospitalized in Honolulu and Gardner General Hospital in Chicago until October 9, 1945 where he was honorably discharged as a Tech VI Code Clerk. He was awarded the Purple Heart, Asiatic Theatre Service Medal, American Defense Medal, 6 over-seas Service Bars, Combat Infantry Badge, and qualified as an expert in Bayonet. Walter met his lifelong love, Linda Wacker, while in the

hospital in Chicago. They were married June 9, 1946 in the Baptist Parsonage in McClusky, ND. He was twice elected as Sheriff of Sheridan County, ND first elected in 1947 and served as Sheriff from January, 1948- December, 1952. He then farmed near Mercer, ND from 1953-1962 during which time he was Assessor for Medicine Hill Township, Precinct Committeeman, and Vice Chairman of the Democratic NPL Party. He moved with his family to Bismarck in 1962 and worked as a chauffeur, security officer, and special assistant to Governors William Guy, Arthur Link, and Allen Olson and families for 23 years, retiring December 31, 1984. He was trained as a executive body guard and was a special agent with the North Dakota Crime Bureau. He served as Past Commander of the American Legion Post 124 in McClusky and was a member of the American Legion Post 1 in Bismarck, a lifelong member of the VFW, the DAV, and BPOE. He was baptized with his son Richard in the First Baptist Church in Bismarck, served on the Board of Deacons and Trustees, and was a past Chairman of the Christian Education Department. Walter was a trusted friend and confidant to many people. He loved to get together with friends and family, play games, discuss issues of the day, and watch sports, especially his beloved NY Yankees in which he shared a close interest with his army unit comrades. He is survived by one sister, Helen Bonnet of Turtle Lake, ND; one sister-in-law, Peggy Dockter of McClusky, ND; one son and daughter-in-law Richard and Twila Dockter of Pierre, SD; and his seven grandchildren and three great-grandchildren, Al and Laurie Adams and their children Alexandra, Cole, and Victoria, Krista Eilers, Bradley W. Dockter, Brandon J. Dockter, Brent R. Dockter, Taya M. Dockter, and Samantha E. Dockter, and a close friend of his son Robert, Karen Schoenberg. He was preceded in death by his wife, Linda Wacker Dockter, one son, Robert J. Dockter, one grandson, Tyler J. Dockter; his parents, John M. and Mary Spear Dockter; two brothers, one sister, one sister-in-law, and one brother-in-law, Johnny and Elsie Dockter, Art Dockter, Eleanor Witman Fred Witman, and Albert Bonnet.

Tribute Wall

EH

“ My sympathy to all the family and especially to you Richard and Twila. I knew you Dad from way back when we used to go out dancing on Saturday nights and enjoy a Tom and Jerry on New Years Day. Your Mom and Dad were such wonderful people we so enjoyed and then we lost track of each other and the years have gone by. My thoughts and prayers are with you all. Evelyn Hanson

Evelyn Hanson - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

MM

“ To Rick, Twila, girls, and the Dockter family. Our deepest sympathy during your time of loss. Our thoughts and prayers are with you during this difficult time. With SympathyMike & Janet McKenzie

Mike & Janet McKenzie - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

HM

“ Dear family of Walter, I just wanted to share my sympathy and feelings of personel loss. Walter was like a second father to me while we resided at the Governors Mansion and years later as I would remember those times. Walter had a very easy laugh and was very nurturing as I grew from five to seventeen in Bismarck. He often knew day to day details that my parents due to their ever increasingly busy schedule would not have known unless he took the time to fill them in. He was just ever present, ever in control, and someone I have always loved as a family member. I will miss him but please remember he is ever present in my thoughts and prayers as you all are. Take Care and know he is as loved now as always. Sincerely, Holly

Holly Guy Mossberg - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

MG

“Walter was always so kind and such a gentleman in all his interactions with others. Both Bill and I have such fond memories of him and think of him often. He will always remain in our hearts and in our prayers.

Marilyn Guy - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

NG

“Walter was such a huge part of our lives at the Governor's Residence from 1962 through 1973. He did everything necessary to keep the house and our family on track. Walter helped coordinate countless tours and events and was called on to coordinate security with many agencies ranging from the parking authority to the Secret Service. Most of all, I remember Walter as my good friend and surrogate Dad. He could pinch hit with a shoulder to cry on or some help with my homework "new math" was really a chore! and even cheered me on at a couple of swim meets or band concerts. He and Linda were the natural choice to host my wedding in 1982. They knew absolutely everyone on the guest list and had such fun greeting everyone at the church door. After his retirement, Walter did a lot of volunteer work, especially at the Baptist Home where Linda lived for so many years. We are all so lucky to have known him!

Nancy Guy - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

DS

“My sympathy to the family, Walt was a friend and will be remembered for his friendship to our family. May his memory live on in our lives.
djs

Don Sondrol - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

AO

“ Our Memories of Walt are of loyalty, kindness, patience, and efficiency. He was a friend as well as an employee and made our family's life alot easier while in office. His love for his family was above all else and what an example of a fine man he was.He will be remembered as an important part of of the Olson's lives.Our thoughts and prayers are with his family.

Allen and Barbara Olson - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

BK

“ To the family of Walt Dockter my heartfelt condolences at this time of loss. The years I knew Walt when we both worked for Al Olson were some great years, and I always found him to be of good humor and willing to to be of help anyway he could. I like to think he enjoyed the time he spent with us as much as we enjoyed the time we were able to spend with him. He will be missed.Bob

Bob Kallberg - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM