



## FINAL HARVEST

He was bound to the land from the day of his birth  
His roots anchored deep in the fertile earth  
Nurtured, sustained, by the soil he grew  
And his life, like his furrows, ran straight and true.

In faith, each spring, he planted the seeds  
In hope, to reap his family's needs  
With patience, he waited for the harvest to come  
To gather the fruits of his labor home.

Ever turning seasons, the years sped past  
Til the final harvest came at last  
Then claimed anew by beloved sod  
He was gathered home to be with God.

—Barbara W. Weber

IN LOVING MEMORY OF

## *Michael Francis Pillatzke*

WHO WAS BORN

June 4, 1954  
Milbank, South Dakota

AND CALLED TO HIS ETERNAL HOME

February 21, 2019  
Milbank, South Dakota

MASS OF CHRISTIAN BURIAL

Tuesday, February 26, 2018 - 11:00 a.m.  
St. Joseph's Catholic Church  
Rosen, Minnesota

CELEBRANT

Father Brian Oestreich

MUSICIAN

Ginger Drobny, Organist

CASKET BEARERS

Kyle Pillatzke   Lawrence Schmiege   Joseph Pillatzke  
Kevin Pribbenow   Michael Pribbenow  
Dean Schuelke   Gerome Schuelke   Keith Pillatzke

HONORARY BEARERS

Mike's Grandchildren and Great-Grandchildren  
Mike's Nieces and Nephews  
Wilbert Pillatzki, Jr.  
Grant-Deuel Class of 1972

INTERMENT

Milbank City Cemetery  
Milbank, South Dakota

APPRECIATION

Mike's family is grateful for your attendance at this service.  
Your expressions of kindness and love are deeply  
appreciated. Following the Mass, please join the family  
for lunch and fellowship in the church dining room.

ARRANGEMENTS BY

Mundwiler Funeral Home  
Milbank, South Dakota

*Michael* Francis Pillatzke was born on June 4, 1954, in Milbank, SD, to Martin and Helen (Kelzer) Pillatzke. He was baptized and confirmed at St. James Catholic Church in Nassau, MN. Michael was raised near Milbank and graduated from Grant-Deuel High School in 1972. He lived on the family farm his entire life and represented the family's third-generation of farmers to live there. Michael started milking cows at an early age and recently sold the last of his cows in 2018. He also raised corn, oats, and alfalfa. Michael loved farming side by side with his brother, Leo.

On June 27, 1992, Michael was united in marriage with Linda Marie Pribbenow at St. James Catholic Church in Nassau, MN. He enjoyed going out for supper and pizza at Pizza Hut was his favorite. Michael played on a dart league in Bellingham. He enjoyed spending time with his family, especially his grandchildren and nephew, Kyle, and loved working on the farm. He had a gentle spirit and was a very quiet man.

Left to cherish his memory are his wife, Linda; stepson, Gerald Lee Pribbenow of Watertown, SD; grandchildren: Amanda Halvorson, Brittiany Pribbenow, Jared Pribbenow, and Mason Krause; two great-grandchildren; brothers: Eugene (Marlys) Pillatzke of Milbank, SD; and Leo (Diane) Pillatzke of Milbank, SD; sister, Kathy (Kenny) Morris of Milbank, SD; sister-in-law, Brenda (Allen) Brandenburger of Revillo, SD; and many nieces and nephews.

Preceding Michael in death are his parents; brother, James; and nephew, Eugene Pillatzke, Jr.

*In lieu of flowers, memorials are preferred to the Grant County Cancer Fund.*



*Remembering and  
Celebrating the Life of  
Michael F. Pillatzke*