



### **A Psalm of Life**

Tell me not, in mournful numbers,  
Life is but an empty dream!  
For the soul is dead that slumbers,  
And things are not what they seem.

Life is real! Life is earnest!  
And the grave is not its goal;  
Dust thou art, to dust returnest,  
Was not spoken of the soul.

Not enjoyment, and not sorrow,  
Is our destined end or way;  
But to act, that each to-morrow  
Find us farther than to-day.

Let us, then, be up and doing,  
With a heart for any fate;  
Still achieving, still pursuing,  
Learn to labor and to wait.

-Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

### **APPRECIATION**

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

IN LOVING MEMORY OF

## ***William "Bill" Schank***

WHO WAS BORN

October 7, 1924

Stark County, North Dakota

AND CALLED TO HIS ETERNAL HOME

May 22, 2019

Milbank, South Dakota

MASS OF CHRISTIAN BURIAL

Saturday, May 25, 2019 - 10:00 a.m.

St. Lawrence Catholic Church

Milbank, South Dakota

CELEBRANT

Father Gary DeRouchey

MUSICIANS

Sandy Tucholke, Organist

St. Lawrence Funeral Choir

CASKET BEARERS

Ryan Mutzner Terry Keeney Ted Mutzner  
Mark Schank Steve Schank Andy Chown Matthew Schank  
David Flaschberger Jeremy Davie Zach Keeney

HONORARY BEARERS

Staff and Residents of St. William's Care Center

MILITARY HONORS

American Legion Birch-Miller Post #9

V.F.W. Grant County Post #3486

V.V.A. Northeast SD Chapter #1054

D.A.V. Chapter #19

INTERMENT

St. Lawrence Catholic Cemetery

Milbank, South Dakota

ARRANGEMENTS BY

Mundwiler Funeral Home

Milbank, South Dakota

William “Bill” John Schank was born on October 7, 1924, on a farm south of Richardton, ND, to Peter and Theresia (Rettinger) Schank. He was the ninth child of twelve children.

Bill grew up on the family farm south of Richardton. His family attended St. Stephen’s Catholic Church a few miles from his farm, where he was baptized on October 12, 1924. He attended country school. During the “dirty thirties,” the family moved to Mount Angel, OR, where he went to town school. He was voted the most improved student. They moved back to North Dakota two years later. He attended high school in New England, ND, staying with his aunt, Mrs. Albrecht. He then attended the Assumption Abbey in Richardton, ND, before getting drafted into WWII.

Bill served in the U.S. Army from October 26, 1945, until he was honorably discharged on February 28, 1947. He was stationed in Japan after the bombs were dropped, and he earned his GED during his time of service.

After his time in the service, Bill worked on the Northern Pacific Railroad as a telegrapher for two years. He then attended business school in Fargo, ND. In December 1949, Bill moved to Milbank, SD, to work as an accountant for Drewlow Ford. He worked there for 35 years. He also did bookkeeping for Flanery Meats and other local businesses.

Bill was united in marriage with Linda Rosella Adelman on February 27, 1954, in Rosen, MN. Together they were blessed with eight children: Pam, Gina, Sue, Lisa, Liane, Mark, Bob, and Steve.

Bill was a hardworking entrepreneur. He owned two laundromats in the local area that he operated, and one had a carwash. After he sold those businesses, he started Schank Water Softener, which he operated for 25 years. He was always busy and willing to help anyone with their water softener or washing machine. He could fix most anything.

In his later years, Bill truly enjoyed riding his bicycle all over Milbank. He loved to go look at the crops in the surrounding countryside. He enjoyed eating fried chicken legs at Pizza Ranch. He enjoyed singing and could remember many songs. He could recite the poem, “A Psalm of Life,” that he learned at ten-years-old.

Bill wasn’t much of a traveler, but he loved when his kids and grandkids came for a visit. He stressed the importance of a good education and taught his children the value of hard work.

Bill is survived by his children: Pam (Terry) Keeney of Rapid City, SD; Gina (Dave) Tyler of Onalaska, WI; Sue (Ted) Mutzner of Holmen, WI; Lisa (Andy) Chown of Onalaska, WI; Liane (Jeff) Davie of Ham Lake, MN; Mark (Tammy) Schank of Mansfield, TX; and Steve (Heather) Schank of Monona, WI; 16 grandchildren: Zach (Beth) Keeney, Carly (Graeme) Stroker, Billie Jane (Brett) Gentry, Michelle Tyler, Bridget (Joey) Coassola, Ryan Mutzner, Daniel (Sonja) Wilde, Christine (Drew) Hoffman, Tim (Kelli) Davie, Josh Davie, Ashlyn Davie, Jeremy Davie, Jordan Schank, Matthew Schank, Josie Schank, and Cheyenna Schank; eight great-grandchildren: Garrett, Peyton, Violet, Olivia, Rowen, Leo, Floyd, and Quinn; and many nieces and nephews. He was grateful for his many friends, especially Kent England and Brad Stevens.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Linda; parents: Peter and Theresia Schank; son, Robert “Bob” Schank; brothers and sisters: Konradt E. “Conrad”, Mary Theresa (Peter) Reiner, John, Franciscum Jacobum, Frank, Anton, Joe, Adam, Helen (Leslie) Scott, Albert, and George.

## *Treasured Seasons*

*To everything there is  
a season, and a time  
for every purpose  
under heaven:*

*A time to be born and  
a time to die; a time to  
plant, and a time to  
pluck up that which is  
planted;*

*A time to kill and a  
time to heal; a time to  
break down and a  
time to build up;*

*A time to weep, and a  
time to laugh; a time to  
mourn and a time to  
dance;*

*A time to cast away  
stones, and a time to  
gather stones together;  
a time to embrace, and  
a time to refrain from  
embracing.*

*A time to get, and a  
time to lose; a time to  
keep, and a time to  
cast away;*

*A time to rend, and a  
time to sew; a time to  
keep silence and a  
time to speak;*

*A time to love, and a  
time to hate; a time of  
war and  
a time of peace.*

