The Lord is my shepherd;

I shall not want. He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters. He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake. Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me.

Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: thou anointest my head with oil: my cup runneth over. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.
TO THE GLORY OF GOD AND IN LOVING MEMORY OF

Walter K. Essig

October 31, 1907 – November 8, 2009

FUNERAL SERVICE Saturday, November 14, 2009; 10:00 AM
Faith Lutheran Church
1402 East Avenue C
Bismarck, North Dakota

Prelude
Entrance Dialogue
Opening Hymn “How Great Thou Art”
Prayer of the Day
Psalm
First Reading 1 Corinthians 13
Gospel John 14:1-7
Sermon
Hymn of the Day “Amazing Grace” ELW #779
Apostles’ Creed pg.282
Prayers
Lord’s Prayer (sung as special music)
Commendation pg.283
Table Grace
Closing Hymn “Beautiful Savior” ELW #838

*****

Officiating
Rev. Wes Aardahl
Musician
Colleen Reinhardt

CASKET BEARERS
Steve Bennett    David Bennett    Kevin Bennett    Brian Bennett
Jim Pretzer      Mike Essig       Dan Essig

INTERMENT
Sunset Memorial Gardens
Bismarck, North Dakota
Walter K. Essig, 102, Bismarck, died November 8, 2009, peacefully at home.

Walter was born October 31, 1907, to Christian and Wilhelmine “Minnie” (Siegele) Essig on the family homestead in Schiller Township, near Lincoln Valley of Sheridan County, ND. His family moved to McClusky, ND, when he was six. After high school, he worked for three years at the First State Bank of Denhoff and then four years as Sheridan County deputy auditor.

He married Alice Riedlinger on June 24, 1931. In 1934, they took over the operation of the Essig homestead near Lincoln Valley until they retired and moved to Bismarck in 1974.

He served on several committees including the AAA farm program, and also was a long-time member of the Sheridan County Welfare Board. He was recognized for following good farming and soil conservation practices. He was active in St. Andrews Lutheran Church and its Parish. In Bismarck he became a member of Faith Lutheran Church and was active in its Friendship Circle. He was a member of the Germans from Russia Heritage Society and also of the local chapter of AARP. He had a lifelong interest in history and was dedicated to discovery and preservation of early history of North Dakota. He had a hobby of hand book binding and book repair.

Walter is survived by his daughters, Kathleen Bennett, Concord, CA, and Margaret Pretzer, Bismarck; his sons, James (Judy), Fargo, and Robert (Rita), Scottsboro, AL; his many grandchildren, great-grandchildren and great-great-grandchildren; his brother, Hugo (Frances), McClusky; and his brother-in-law, Ted (Ruth) Riedlinger, Everett, WA.

He was preceded in death by his parents; his wife, Alice; three brothers; one grandson; and one son-in-law.

*****

ANNOUNCEMENTS

A committal service will be held at Sunset Memorial Gardens directly following the service. The family would like to invite everyone to a lunch reception in the fellowship hall downstairs. There is an elevator available in the northeast corner of the building.

Eastgate/Parkway Funeral Service
Bismarck, North Dakota
For My Grandparents

Thought the miles between us are many...
   From my heart you’re never far
My thoughts, my prayers, my hopes, my dreams...
   that is where you are
My thoughts are filled with memories...
   To treasure and hold dear
I pray you know how much you’re loved...
   And in my heart you’re near
I hope to be as strong as you...
   To follow in your ways
I dream that I’m a child again...
   And sit at your feet to play
For through an innocent child’s eyes...
   Growing up seems far away
But as we grow up way too fast...
   A child we want to stay
And through the changes we endure...
   We forget to stop and say
Thanks to those who got us here...
   And made us who we are today
Grandparents are a Special Gift...
   Sent from heaven up above
And I thank God each day for you...
   And having you to love.

All My Love...
Your Granddaughter
   Deb