



LaVerne "Curly" Schmitz

June 4, 1932 - January 28, 2013

Mineral Point - LaVerne "Curly" Schmitz, a lifelong Mineral Point resident and farmer passed away Monday, January 28, 2013, at the age of 80 at Upland Hills in Dodgeville surrounded by his loving family.

He was born on June 4, 1932 on the family farm, son of William and Margaret (Cunningham) Schmitz. During his younger years he enjoyed showing and judging cattle. Adventures included riding in the back of their ton truck keeping an eye on their show cattle as they traveled to Milwaukee or Chicago to the fair. He graduated from Mineral Point High School in 1952, where he enjoyed playing football and being involved in FFA and 4-H.

He married Helen Palzkill on June 19, 1954. After marriage he took over the family beef farm carrying on the farming tradition which began in 1877. Together they raised eight children, enjoying life to the fullest. He was named Cattleman of the year in 2002 by the Iowa County Cattlemen's Assoc, and in 2005 they hosted the Iowa County Cattleman's Steak Supper at the farm. In 2012 the farm was recognized as a Century Farm at the Wisconsin State Fair. LaVerne and Helen were members of the Mineral Point Wrestling Club spending countless hours enjoying and supporting not only their sons, but the entire wrestling community. In 1998, Curly and Helen were inducted into the Al Bauman Wrestling Hall of Fame. He was a member of the Knights of Columbus and a member of the St Mary's & St Paul's Catholic Church. After passing the family farm onto his sons, he filled his days playing cards and telling stories with friends and taking trips to Dubuque.

Curly is survived by his loving and caring wife of 58 years, Helen; his eight children, Doug (Kris) Schmitz, Dan (Benita) Schmitz, Connie (Bob) Tibbits, Marcia (Greg) Tonkin, Scott (Carol) Schmitz, Mike (Tamara) Schmitz, Todd (Angie) Schmitz, all of Mineral Point and Mark (Jody) Schmitz of McFarland. As well as his twelve grandchildren; Tierney (Brian) Keyes, Torrie (Ryan) and Todd Tibbits, Brooke and Brandon Wilson, Ashley (Justin) and Tyler Tonkin, Samantha and Lucas Schmitz, Boone and Logan Schmitz, and McKenzie Schmitz; and great grandchildren; Aidan and Brennan Keyes, and Olivia Wilson.

He is survived by three brothers; John (Mary) Schmitz, Joe (Marlene) Schmitz, Bill (Barb) Schmitz, and one sister Janice Pittz and sisters-in-law; Marian Schmitz, Dorothy (Jim) Dodds, Mary (Merlyn) Nihles, Patricia Bemus, Kay (Fred) Oomens, Myrna Palzkill, brother-in-law Gene Palzkill, and numerous nieces and nephews.

LaVerne was preceded in death by his parents, sister Kathleen Nicholson, brothers; Harold, Donald, Bernard, Kenneth, sisters-in-law; Margaret Schmitz, Marilyn Schmitz, Jackie Palzkill, brothers-in-law; Stan Nicholson, Ralph Pittz, Dale Carey, Norbert Palzkill, Robert Stromer and Vic Bemus, and mother-in-law and father-in-law John and Catherine Palzkill.

A Mass of Christian Burial will be held on Friday, February 1, 2013 at 11:00 a.m. at Ss. MARY & PAUL CATHOLIC CHURCH in Mineral Point. Fr. Monte Robinson will officiate. Burial will be in St. Mary's Cemetery. A visitation will be held on Thursday, January 31, 2013 from 4:00 – 8:00 p.m. and on Friday from 10:00 – 10:45 a.m. at Ss. MARY & PAUL CATHOLIC CHURCH.

He will always be remembered as a loving father and husband, good friend and man who brought laughter and joy to many. He will be sadly missed, but never forgotten. He'll remain in our hearts forever.

Comments



“ Aunt Helen and family, Uncle Curly was always so kind and made me smile. He will be missed.

Stacey Palzkill - April 28, 2018 at 02:26 AM



“ A great man, who along with Helen, raised a great family. I do not recall ever seeing Curly without a smile on his face. He was fun to be around--a lot of great memories. Our thoughts and prayers are with the family.

Andy and Susy Rein - April 28, 2018 at 02:26 AM



“ Helen and Family - I will miss Curly's HUGS, big smile and his laughter. He was one of a kind. I will truly miss him. Cherish All Your Memories!!

Judy Kroll - April 28, 2018 at 02:26 AM



“ Curly was a special man. Whenever I thought of Curly I smiled. I still do. His smile lit up every room he entered. He was a great man with a great wife and wonderful family
Thank you for being you Curly and making me part of your life.

John Cooney - April 28, 2018 at 02:26 AM



“ Aunt Helen and family, what a beautiful obituary for a wonderful guy. Uncle Curly will be missed, but his mischievous smile lives on in all of you kids. Love to you all, Tracie and family

Tracie (Pittz) Cook - April 28, 2018 at 02:26 AM



“ Helen and Family,

My thoughts and prayers are with you all.

There are people in my life that I respect and cherish and Helen and Curly are in that group.

I have so many good memories of Curly. Some of my favorites where playing cards with him and him making me laugh till I cried.

May Curly rest in peace and may his laugh bring as much joy to those in heaven as it did here on earth!!!!

Kelly (Johnson) Bontekoe - April 28, 2018 at 02:26 AM



“ Helen and family Our thoughts and prayers are with you and your family. He was truly a special person. Tony, Jodi Schaaf and family.

Tony Schaaf - April 28, 2018 at 02:26 AM



“ You have my deepest sympathies. I'll always remember Curly (and my Dad) as the biggest wrestling supporters in the early years.

Steve Heaton - April 28, 2018 at 02:26 AM



“ Todd Schmitz and the Schmitz family: Our sincere sympathy for the loss of your Dad, and to Helen for the loss of your husband and good friend LaVerne. Our thoughts and prayers are with you.

Butch and Judy Watrud - April 28, 2018 at 02:26 AM