



## Ervin Dean Johnson

June 8, 2023 - September 23, 2023

### Ervin Johnson's obituary 2023

Ervin Dean Johnson was born on June 8, 1932, to Ernest and Louise (Wadholm) Johnson at his home near Van Hook. He weighed only 2.5 lbs. Dr. Blatherwick told his mother that he would never survive, given his small size. Undeterred by the doctor's opinion, Ervin's grandmother, Ella Johnson, placed him in a small shoebox lined with cotton balls and kept him warm on the open wood-oven door. She fed him with an eyedropper. Within a year, he contracted pneumonia. Grandma Johnson stewed onions in water on top of the pot belly heater and put a wet cloth topped with the stewed onions on his chest. Ervin survived. Ervin met and married his high school sweetheart, Leone, on October 31, 1951, at Bethlehem Lutheran Church, and together they raised their six children: Sharon, Rhonda, Audrey, Dean, Penny, and Rick in Sanish and New Town. Ervin was a hard worker and a man of many trades. He was a farmer and a rancher. He grew wheat, barley, oats, and flax. He raised black baldy cattle (a crossbreed of Hereford and Black Angus). Ervin sold bulk fuel for Westland Oil Co. for 17 years. He owned and operated heating and excavation businesses and a convenience store. He worked as a diesel mechanic before retiring at 78 in North Clark County, Washington, where he lived near a son and daughter. Ervin was a mechanic and craftsman. He would overhaul farm and heavy equipment and, in his later years, enjoyed welding and making horseshoe furniture and art for his kids and grandkids. There is a little piece of Heaven in each of their homes. Ervin was a family man. His family

always came ahead of everything else. He was caring, loving, and thoughtful to all his kids and grandkids. He was the best role model when it came to teaching how to ride bikes and horses and fix cars and tractors. But most importantly, being an honest person and a hard worker, there was never an obstacle too big or a mountain too high when it came to his family. He would give you his last dollar or the shirt off his back. Ervin, the greatest man to bless our lives, will be deeply missed by the love of his life, his children, and their families. He is survived by his loving wife, Leone, Vancouver, WA; Children, Sharon (David) Lien, La Center, WA; Audrey Johnson, New Town, ND; Dean (Mary) Johnson, Amboy, WA; Penny (Paul) Fredericks, Twin Buttes, ND and Rick (Kathy) Johnson, Lincoln, ND; and his many grandchildren and great-grandchildren who meant the world to him, sisters-in-law, Lyla Rutherford, Avondale, AZ, and Judy Johnson, Parshall, ND, and brother-in-law, Lyle Locken, New Town, ND, and many nieces and nephews. He is greeted in Heaven by his Parents; Daughter, Rhonda; Grandchildren, Sarah and Coda; Great-Grandchildren, Gracie May and Layla; his grandmother, Ella; sister, Ramona; brother LaVern; sister-in-law Donna Jackson; nieces, Dena, Shelley, Faye, and Renae, and nephew Tony. A Celebration of Life will be held on October 24, 2023, at 11:00 at Bethlehem Lutheran Church, rural New Town, ND.

# Tribute Wall

LH

“ *My sincerest sympathy to all of Ervins family and friends. He and Leone were staples for many years in New Town where they lived and managed the Lakeside Hotel. Ervin was always pleasant to talk to. I remember one time when he was out to our farm, was visiting with my folks, I was to start herding our cattle on horseback up to their farm north of Hwy 23, well the cows went along really well, the conversation at home went a little too long and Ervin had to run his horse pretty good to catch up before I was taking them across the highway. He and the horse both were winded by the time they caught up, that memory always makes me smile. Always keep those good memories close and you will always feel his presence.*

*God Bless,  
Lisa Holst - Baldwin, ND*

*RIP Ervin*

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**Lisa Holst** - October 24, 2023 at 12:00 AM

LF

“ *He was the best grandpa ever* ❤️

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**Leticia Fimbres** - October 18, 2023 at 12:00 AM

AJ

“ *We are deeply sorry for your loss ~ Evergreen Memorial Gardens Cemetery, Funeral Chapel and Crematory*

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**A Memorial Tree was planted for Ervin Dean Johnson** - September 28, 2023 at 12:00 AM