

Remembering The Life of...

Russell LeRoy Heng was born on August 17, 1935 on the family farm near Downer, MN. He was the youngest child of Mathilda Johanna (Paulson) and John Arndt Heng.

Russ grew to manhood on the family farm, and attended country school through the second grade, walking a mile and half in snow and rain uphill every day. Luckily, he started catching the bus to school in Barnesville in the third grade. He graduated from Barnesville High School in 1953. In 1957, he was drafted and served in the Army, attending basic training at Fort Sill, Oklahoma before being stationed in Germany, near Bad Kissingen. He was honorably discharged in 1959, and returned to his parent's home, where he resumed working on the farm with his father and brothers.

Russ met Claudia at a dance in Sabin, MN and married Claudia Kay Motschenbacher on November 5 1960, at St. Cecilia's Catholic Church in Sabin, Minnesota. Russ and Claudia lived on the home place when his parents moved to Barnesville after Russ's marriage. Together they had three children, Debora, Paul, and Sara.

Buying his parents farm after a few years, Russ and Claudia ran a small dairy, raised weaning pigs, as well as grains while expanding the farm before retiring in 2000. He was presented the Century Farm award for keeping the family farm in the Heng name for over 100 years, having accomplished this feat in just two generations.

After Claudia's death in 2001, Russ met and married Henrietta (Neubauer) Mann, on February 14, 2004, at Assumption Catholic Church in Barnesville, Minnesota.

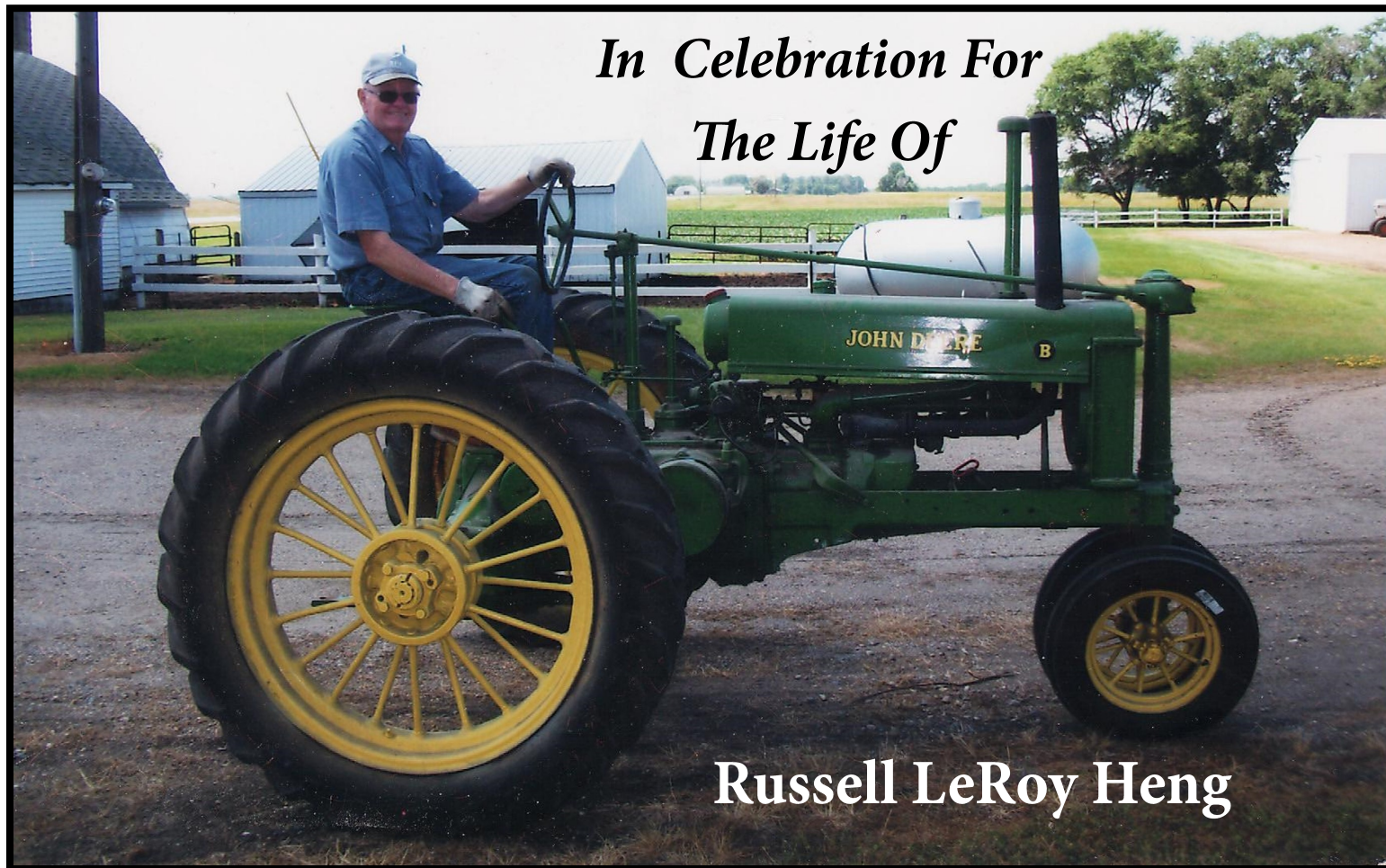
Russ was known by all as outgoing and friendly, enjoying dancing, playing cards, telling jokes and stories, as well as visiting with friends and family. Although he was unwilling to read or follow directions, he found a way to touch the lives of many, with a smile and a laugh, and will be sadly missed.

Russ is survived by his wife Henrietta, his three children: Debora (Neil) Sapin, Scottsdale, Arizona; Paul, Peoria, Arizona; Sara (Scott) Fairfield, Moorhead, Minnesota; and two grandchildren Noah Fairfield, Plymouth, Minnesota; and Ethan Fairfield, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis; a special nephew, David (Tracy) Heng, Barnesville, Minnesota. He is also survived by his three step children: Larry (Holly) Mann, Arizona, LeAnn (Dan) Gregory, Elkhart, Indiana, and Kevin (Vicky) Mann, Cottage Grove, Minnesota; and one sister-in-law Lavonne Heng, Barnesville, Minnesota, as well as many step grandchildren, step great-grandchildren, nieces, nephews, and great nieces and nephews that all knew uncle Russ.

He is preceded in death by his wife Claudia, his parents; his brothers: Elmer (1909), Arndt, Elmer Gunn (1918-1979), Stanley, Raymond, and Lloyd; and his sisters: Ethel Cody, Ellen Olson, Bertha (Bertie) Geschke, Harriet Schmidt, and Bernice Ernst.

Russell died following a short illness on Saturday, February 4, 2023 at Hospice House at Sanford in Fargo, ND at the age of 87 years, 5 months, and 18 days.

May His Memory Be Blessed



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 Celebration For The Life Of **Russell LeRoy Heng**

August 17, 1935 ~ February 4, 2023

Funeral Services

Wednesday, February 8, 2023 at 11:00 a.m.
Assumption Catholic Church
Barnesville, MN

Officiating

Fr. Todd Arends

Music

Marcia Dilbeck—Organist
Linda Huot—Soloist
“Ave Maria”
“Amazing Grace”

Pallbearers

David Heng Larry Heng
Cory Heng Cameron Heng
Noah Fairfield Ethan Fairfield

Honorary Pallbearers

Russell's Nieces & Nephews

Honor Guard

American Legion Post #153
VFW Post #4628
Both of Barnesville, Minnesota

Interment

Zion Lutheran Cemetery
Skree Township, Clay County, Minnesota

Appreciation

Russell's family is grateful for your attendance at this service. Your many expressions of kindness and love are deeply appreciated. Please join us for lunch and fellowship following the service.