

## I Believe in Farming

I believe a man's greatest possession is his dignity and that no calling bestows this more abundantly than farming.

I believe hard work and honest sweat are the building blocks of a person's character.

I believe many of the best things in life are indeed free: the splendor of a sunrise, the rapture of wide open spaces, the exhilarating sight of your land greening each spring.

I believe that farming, despite its hardships and disappointments, is the most honest and honorable way a man can spend his days on this earth.

I believe my children are learning values that will last a lifetime and can be learned in no other way.

I believe true happiness comes from watching your crops ripen in the field, your children grow tall in the sun, your whole family feel the pride that springs from their shared experience.

I believe when a man grows old and sums up his day, he should be able to stand tall and feel pride in the life he's lived.

I believe in farming because it makes all this possible.



*The distance between us is only as far as we make it.  
You are with me in spirit wherever I am.*



July 2022 95th Birthday Party

## Celebrating The Life of...



ARVID RONALD  
THOMPSON

July 28, 1927

October 4, 2022

Arvid Thompson was born July 28, 1927, at home on the farmstead he grew up on in Tansem Township, near Barnesville, MN to Henry and Emma (Nelson) Thompson.

He went to a country school close by and went to high school in Barnesville, graduating in 1944 at the age of 16.

During the World War II years, the day he turned 17, he visited a recruiter's office in Fargo and enlisted in the Navy. He was sent to Okinawa and was on the island when the atomic bomb was dropped on Hiroshima 600 miles away.

He married Delores Erickson September 15, 1950. They had 5 children in 5 years! They had a dairy farm in Clay County. He said he always tried to be above average. It paid off in crop yields and dairy production. He talked about carrying 50 pound bags of fertilizer under each arm. He once said sometimes during the planting season, he couldn't wait to wake up in the morning! He was proud that he left the land better than he found it. He was an optimist. If he ever had a time period that it didn't rain and the soil got dry, he would say, "It'll rain,"

He received various awards for his farming endeavors over the years. One was being named the Outstanding Clay County Dairy Family of the Year. He was on many boards related to the township and county. He talked about going around to the neighbors to get them to sign up for telephone service. It wasn't an easy sell for some of them, but he knew it would make their lives easier if they had a telephone.



*In Celebration for the Life of*  
**ARVID RONALD THOMPSON**

**FUNERAL SERVICE**

Saturday, October 8, 2022 | 11:00 AM | Rollag Lutheran Church |  
Rollag, Minnesota

**OFFICIATING:** Rev. Jim Greene | **ORGANIST:** Pam Aakre

**SPECIAL MUSIC:** Rollag Trio Jerry Riddle John Schenck John Seitz

*"The Old Rugged Cross" | "I'll Fly Away"*

**CONGREGATIONAL HYMNS**

*"Battle Hymn of the Republic" #332 | "Silent Night" #65*

**HONORARY PALLBEARER** Holly Tompkins

**PALLBEARERS**

Dean Thompson DeVi Burke Justin Burke Jay Tufte

Jason Thompson Tonya Anderson Shelly Thompson

Jake Thompson Nate Thompson Cami Gilbertson

**MILITARY HONORS**

Barnesville American Legion & VFW Post Honor Guard

US Navy Honor Guard

**INTERMENT**

Rollag Lutheran Cemetery | Rollag, Minnesota

He served on the Barnesville School Board and was a Clay County Commissioner for 16 years. Another member on the county board said if they needed any mathematical calculations done, they would ask Arvid, and he would do them in his head. He was always concerned about his constituents. One year he received the Association of MN Counties President's award, given to only one county commissioner in the whole state of MN, which has 87 counties. It was given for exemplary leadership on the local, district and state level.

Delores died in 1975. In 1977, he married Elsie Schloesser. She died in 2015. They enjoyed traveling in their retirement years. Before he turned 90, Arvid went deer hunting every year. He fished at Cormorant and other MN lakes and took an annual fishing trip with relatives and friends to Devils Lake for many years. He golfed 3 days a week. He always enjoyed reading and even read the Forum on his iPad.



Arvid was preceded in death by his parents, his brother, Stanford Thompson, two wives, Delores and Elsie, his daughter, Del Rae Burke, his son, Dave Thompson, granddaughter Kelly Tufte Carter, step-son, Mark Schloesser and step-daughter, DeVon Schloesser.

He is survived by his brother, Eldon Thompson, two sons, Ron (Stephanie) Thompson and Dan (Judy) Thompson, a daughter, Cathy (JT) Tufte, grandchildren: Holly (Danny) Tompkins, Dean (Jessica) Thompson, DeVi (KJ) Burke, Justin (Gina) Burke, Jay (Sarah) Tufte, Jason (Tanya) Thompson, Tonya (Brandon) Anderson, Shelly Thompson, Jake (Kari) Thompson, Nate (Jenny) Thompson and Cami Gilbertson, daughter-in-law, Ivy (Chuck) Tysver, son-in-law Kevin Burke, grandson-in-law, Jeremy Carter, two step-daughters, Karen Fitzpatrick and Doreen Pastian, step-grandchildren, Jon and Sarah Schloesser, Torrey, Ben and Sami Pastian, Edward and Aidan Fitzpatrick and Theresa Hariston, 32 great-grandchildren, cousins and many nieces and nephews. He was very thankful for his family and all the good times.

Arvid passed away at the age of 95 on October 4, 2022 at ValleyCare and Rehab in Barnesville at the age of 95 years, 2 months, and 7 days. May his memory be blessed.

*Funeral Arrangements Entrusted to*

*Dobmeier Funeral & Cremation Services | Barnesville, Minnesota*