



I'm Free

Don't grieve for me, for now I'm free
 I'm following the path God laid for me.
 I took his hand when I heard him call
 I turned my back and left it all.
 I could not stay another day
 to laugh, to love, to work or play.
 Tasks undone must stay that way.
 I found that peace at close of day.
 If my parting has left a void
 then fill it with remembered joy.
 A friendship shared, a laugh, a kiss,
 ah, yes, these things I too will miss.
 Be not burdened with times of sorrow
 I wish you the sunshine of tomorrow.
 My life's been full, I've savored much,
 good friends, good times,
 a loved one's touch.
 Perhaps my time seemed all too brief,
 don't lengthen it now with undue grief.
 Lift up your hearts and share with me
 God wanted me now:
 He set me free.

Funeral Service
 Sunday, March 26, 2023 ~ 2:00 p.m.
 Kingo Lutheran Church
 Fosston, Minnesota

Officiating
 Rev. John Ragan



Organist
 Tammy Ragan

Scripture Readers
 Grandchildren

Congregational Hymns
 "On Eagle's Wings"
 "You Are Mine"
 "Children of the Heavenly Father"

Honorary Pallbearers
 All of Norman's friends and outdoor buddies

Active Pallbearers
 Ashley Mitchell ~ Ana Anderson ~ Zachary Anderson
 Larry Anderson ~ Skip Olson ~ Todd Rue



Military Honors
 Army Honors Team

Place of Rest
 Kingo Lutheran Cemetery
 Fosston, Minnesota



Please join the family in the church basement immediately following the service today for a bite to eat and visiting.



The QR code is Norman's tribute slideshow. Simply hold your phone's camera over the code and press the link that appears.

Norman Dale Anderson was born January 31st, 1928 in Bagley, Minnesota to parents Martin and Laura (Strand) Anderson. He attended District 9 Country School in rural Bagley and Bagley High School. In 1944 his family moved to rural Fosston, Minnesota where Norman attended and graduated from Fosston High School in 1945. Following graduation, Norman attended Moorhead Technical School for mechanics and later joined his family following a move to Silverton, Oregon, later returning to Fosston. Norman enlisted in the United States Army in February 1951. He faithfully served his country, helping with the construction of the Thule Air Base in Greenland. Upon his honorable discharge in 1953 Norman returned to Fosston where he and his brothers Robert and Warren established Anderson Brothers Construction. Together the three brothers and their dedicated crew constructed roads, airfields, and other projects throughout Northern Minnesota.

Norman was united in marriage to Ruth Elaine Olson on July 12th, 1958 in Bemidji, Minnesota. The couple resided and built their home in Fosston. Norman retired in 1986. Norman and Ruth enjoyed traveling making trips to Norway, Australia, New Zealand, and other locations. He also visited all 50 U.S. States and most Canadian Provinces. Many winter months were spent at their siblings' homes in Arizona and countless summer weeks fishing at the family owned cabin in Ontario. Norman was an avid pilot, fisherman, hunter, and gardener. He, his brothers, and numerous friends enjoyed multiple fishing and hunting adventures throughout Minnesota and Canada.

Although retired, Norman continued to help other contractors at various times working on numerous projects. He also served on the Fosston City Council for 25 years, the Fosston Airport Commission for 45 years and the First Care Medical Services Board of Directors for many years. In 2016 the City of Fosston honored Norman and his brothers for their years of commitment to aviation by renaming the Fosston Municipal Airport to "Anderson Field". Norman loved his family and worked tirelessly on various projects for them throughout the years.

Norman was a charter member of the Fosston-Lengby Lions Club, a member of the American Legion, and Kingo Lutheran Church. He was always a strong advocate for the City of Fosston.

Norman passed away peacefully at Essentia Health Living Center on Monday, March 20th, 2023 at the age of 95 years.

Survivors include his wife of 65 years, Ruth of Fosston; two children, Dean (Betsy) Anderson of Fosston and David (Anneliese) Anderson of Newnan, Georgia; three grandchildren, Ashley (Ryan) Mitchell, Zachary Anderson and Ana Anderson; two great grandchildren, McGuire and Grady Mitchell; sisters-in-law, Aldora and Mavis Anderson of Fosston; brother-in-law, Dwain Merickel of Elysian, Minnesota; Cousin Herman Anderson of Bagley; and many nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents; son, Dale; sister Mae and her husband Harold, brothers Robert and Warren; father-in-law Delbert Olson and mother-in-law Minnie Olson; as well as many other family members.

Blessed be his memory

