

IN LOVING MEMORY OF  
**Michael James Westby**

**FUNERAL SERVICE**  
Saturday, September 2, 2023-11:00 a.m.  
Trinity Lutheran Church  
Pelican Rapids, Minnesota

**CLERGY**  
Allen Westby, S.A.M.

**REMEMBRANCES**

**MUSIC**  
Organist-Greta Johnson  
– Congregational Hymns –  
“*Borning Cry*”

**SPECIAL MUSIC**  
**Rollie Boys**

Dale Rollie, Everett Rollie, Danny Rollie  
Lee Brenna, Allen Westby, Chris Westby  
“*Precious Lord, Take My Hand*”

Duet-Allen Westby, S.A.M. and Lucas Westby  
“*The King Is Coming*”

“*Go Rest High On That Mountain*” recording by Vince Gill

**PALLBEARERS**

Bob Westby, Allen Westby, Peter Westby, Pat Westby  
Chris Westby, Steve Goettle, Lynn Johnson

**HONORARY PALLBEARERS**

**Sons-in-law**

Joseph Kauffman, Jason Johnson, Kyle Wormsbecker, Joseph Schneider

**Godsons**

Lucas Westby, Travis Halbakken

**INTERMENT**

Central Lutheran Cemetery  
Rural Pelican Rapids, Minnesota

Michael’s family gratefully acknowledges your attendance and many kind expressions of sympathy during their time of loss and invite you to join them for lunch and fellowship following the service.

Arrangements by  
 **Larson Funeral Home**  
304 3rd Street S.E., Pelican Rapids, Minnesota



## ***REMEMBERING THE LIFE OF...***

Michael James Westby, age 66, of Moorhead, MN previously of Pelican Rapids, MN, Eau Claire, Sparta, and Waunakee, WI, died on Tuesday, August 29, 2023, at home surrounded by loved ones while receiving care through Hospice of the Red River Valley.

Michael was born to Ordean and Audrey (Rollie) Westby at Pelican Valley Health Center in Pelican Rapids, MN. The oldest of 7 boys on a farm, Mike learned the love of family and the land. After graduating from Pelican Rapids High School, Mike worked for Minnesota Valley Breeder's Association, traveling to farms and making connections with farmers throughout the region. Mike married his high school sweetheart Pamela Halbakken in 1979 at Central Lutheran Church. Mike and Pam built a life on their farm in Maplewood Township and raised four daughters while also working on the family dairy farm with his father and brothers.

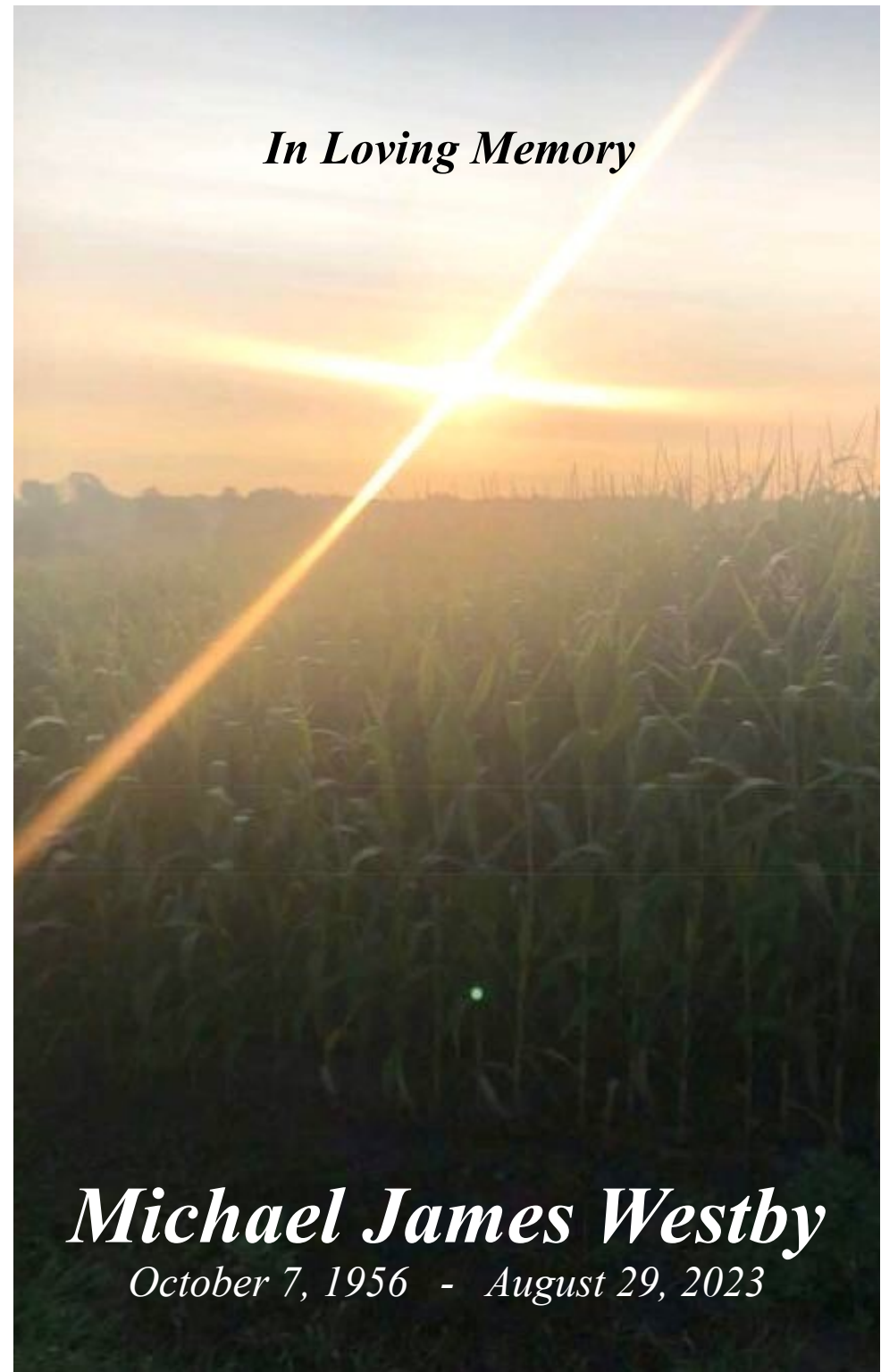
Mike and Pam moved to Wisconsin in 2006, where he began a new career as a crop insurance adjuster. Like his time with MVBA, this new adventure brought Mike throughout the state of Wisconsin where he formed many new friendships and trusting relationships with farmers and coworkers alike. Mike was diagnosed with Parkinson's Disease in 2012 but never let the disease define him. In 2021, he retired and moved with Pam back to Minnesota. After retirement, Mike enjoyed helping at the farm, visiting mom Audrey, attending grandchildren's events, and watching the Twins (even more when they were winning).

Mike loved being a grandpa (Opa) to 5 grandchildren and (too?) many grand-dogs. He was a lifelong Twins fan and an avid deer hunter, and hunting weekends were as much about the conversations, laughter, and food as the actual hunting of deer. Mike led his life with kindness and love, building meaningful and lasting relationships wherever he went.

He is survived by his wife Pamela; daughters: Andrea (Joseph Kauffman), Tami (Jason) Johnson, Brooke (Kyle) Wormsbecker, and Monica (Joseph) Schneider; mother Audrey Westby; grandchildren: Davis and Phoebe Johnson, Reese Wormsbecker, Amelia and Genevieve Schneider; brothers: Bob (Dawn) Westby, Allen (Linda) Westby, Peter (Jeannie) Westby, Pat (Cathy) Westby, Chris (Angie) Westby; brother-in-law Tom (Becky) Halbakken; nieces and nephews: Sam (Heather) Westby, Abbie (Derek) Savage, Lucas (Sarah) Westby, Kate (Abe) Campos, Kristin (RJ) Westby, Haley (Alex) Westby, Isaiah Westby, McKenna Westby, Chris Halbakken, Travis Halbakken; and many aunts, uncles, and cousins.

He is preceded in death by his father Ordean Westby, brother Steve Westby, goddaughter and niece Faith Westby, parents-in-law Homer and Marge Halbakken, and multiple beloved aunts, uncles, cousins and friends.

***Blessed Be The Memory Of Michael James Westby***



***In Loving Memory***

***Michael James Westby***  
*October 7, 1956 - August 29, 2023*