

Norbert Emil Ruther, went to be with the Lord, at the age of 96 years, 8 months and 24 days, on Thursday, December 14, 2023 at Perham Living.

Norbert was born on March 21, 1927, the son of William and Freida (Tober) Ruther at St. James Hospital in Perham, MN. He was one of six children in a family of farmers. Norbert was baptized and confirmed at St. John's Lutheran Church in Corliss Township, rural Perham. He received his education at a country school in Corliss, to where he walked uphill both ways. He completed his schooling to the eight grade, then going on to the School of Hard Knocks.

On August 16, 1949, Norbert was united in marriage to Bernice Clara Hofmann at St. Stanislaus Catholic Church in Perham. Together he and Bernice made their home in Perham until they started farming in Corliss Township. The Ruthers owned and operated a dairy farm for 27 years. Norbert drove milk trucks for Perham Coop Creamery for 44 years, handling milk cans, and then bulk tanks.

Following retirement, Norbert and Bernice built their home on Devils Lake near Perham. His enjoyments in life included, dancing, music, harmonica playing, card games and card parties. He enjoyed hosting many garage parties for neighbors and friends that were filled with music and dancing. Norbert also loved to fish, a passion he shared with Bernice. They took many fishing trips together, including a fly-in. He also loved to hunt, enjoyed wood-working, making sauerkraut, and smoking fish.

The biggest sparkle in Norbert's eyes were his grandchildren and great grandchildren. They always put a smile on his face.

Surviving Norbert are his children, John (Lynn) Ruther of Perham, Gene (Marcia) Ruther of Inver Grove Heights, MN, Allen (Teresa) Ruther of South Pittsburg, TN, Mark (Nelda) Ruther of Perham, Daryl (Susan) Ruther of Richville, MN, Michael (Donna) Ruther of Perham, Bonnie (Curt) Eide of Fergus Falls, MN, Shirley Ruther (Nick Dehler) of Perham, Thomas Ruther of Perham, Joan Priem of Carthage, MO, and Andrew (Linda) Ruther of Irving, KY; 44 grandchildren; 89 great grandchildren; and many other relatives and friends.

Preceding him in death are his parents; wife, Bernice; daughter, Liane (Bruce) Lubitz; granddaughters, Cheryl Lubitz and Barbara Ruther; son-in-law, Marlow Priem; all six siblings, Dorothy, Violet, Melvin, Loraine, Adeline and Darlene; and his beloved dog, Gin.

# Remembering

## T H E L I F E O F



## Norbert E. Ruther

March 21, 1927 ~ December 14, 2023

## Life Well Lived

*By an unknown author*

A life well lived is a precious gift  
Of hope and strength and grace,  
From someone who has made our world  
A brighter, better place  
It's filled with moments, sweet and sad  
With smiles and sometimes tears,  
With friendships formed and good times shared  
And laughter through the years.  
A life well lived is a legacy  
Of joy and pride and pleasure,  
A living, lasting memory  
Our grateful hearts will treasure.



## Funeral Mass

Monday, December 18, 2023 at 11:00 AM  
St. Henry's Catholic Church  
Perham, Minnesota

### Officiants

Father Tom Skaja  
Deacon Randy Altstadt

### Musicians

Gina Cavanagh ~ Accompanist  
Nancy McAlpine ~ Vocalist

### Musical Selections

"How Great Thou Art"  
"Shepherd Me, O God"  
"Be Not Afraid"  
"Amazing Grace"  
"Prayer of St. Francis"  
"Song of Farewell"  
"Mine Eyes Have Seen the Glory"

### Casket Bearers

Jenni Ruther	Eric Ruther	Kelly Sweere
Erica Ray	Aaron Ruther	Christopher Ruther
Melissa Zachariason	Jessica Clairmont	Taria Smith
Candie Lubitz		Celeste Trembley

### Honorary Casket Bearers

Crystal Holm	Stephanie Ruther	Nancy Fisher
Nick Schwartz	Amanda Lubitz	Anthony Ruther
Emily Watkins	Shane Ruther	Lawrence Lubitz
Angie Carlson	Adam Hofland	Andrea Ruther
Samantha Ruther	Jason Eide	Robin Hofland
Jay Ruther	Josh Priem	Amy Hein
April Scharnberg	Tabitha Ruther	Natalie Ruther
Jacob Priem	Matt Schwartz	Vicki Lewis
Leah Ebeling	Rachel Christianson	Jeremiah Ruther
Ben Ruther		Robert Ruther

### Interment

St. Stanislaus Catholic Cemetery  
Perham, Minnesota