



For God so *Loved*  
that He *Gave* the world,  
His only  
begotten Son,  
that whosoever believeth in Him  
should not perish but have  
*Everlasting*  
- John 3:16 *life.*

IN LOVING MEMORY OF  
*Rudolph Alfred Nef*

WHO WAS BORN  
August 26, 1933  
Milbank, South Dakota

AND CALLED TO HIS ETERNAL HOME  
September 18, 2022  
Milbank, South Dakota

FUNERAL SERVICE  
Friday, September 23, 2022 - 2:00 p.m.  
American Lutheran Church  
Milbank, South Dakota

OFFICIANT  
Reverend Justin Neugebauer

MUSICIANS  
Miriam Schwenn, Accompanist  
Susan Stinson, Vocalist

INTERMENT  
Milbank City Cemetery  
Milbank, South Dakota

APPRECIATION  
Rudy's family is grateful for your attendance at this service.  
Your expressions of kindness and love are deeply appreciated.  
Following the graveside service, please join the family  
in the church dining room for a time of food and fellowship.

ARRANGEMENTS BY  
Mundwiler Funeral Home  
Milbank, South Dakota



Rudolph Alfred Nef was born on August 26, 1933, in Milbank, South Dakota. He was the son of Swiss immigrants, Alfred and Hedy (Menzi) Nef. Rudy started working at Valley Queen Cheese Factory at nine years of age, wrapping butter for 50 cents per hour. He graduated from Milbank High School with the Class of 1951, and went on to graduate from Iowa State

University with a degree in dairy science in 1955.

Rudy served in the United States Army from 1955-1957, and was stationed in Karlsruhe, Germany which allowed him to visit family in Switzerland. He returned to Milbank and began his full-time employment at Valley Queen in 1957. In 1970, Rudy and Max Gonzenbach took the reins from their fathers, the two Alfreds, who founded the company in 1929. Rudy retired from Valley Queen in 1998 and continued as a board member until 2019.

Rudy was united in marriage with Marilyn Elizabeth Wenzel on December 23, 1961. Rudy and Marilyn were blessed with five daughters.

Rudy served as a Grant County Commissioner from 1975-1990, as Milbank's Mayor from 1991-2001 and on the South Dakota Board of Regents from 1999-2004. He was a faithful member of American Lutheran Church. Rudy served on many committees and received several honors, however, if you asked him what he did, he simply would answer, "I was a cheese maker."

Left to cherish his memory are his wife of almost 61 years, Marilyn; five daughters and sons-in-law: Kristin (Phil) Tanner of Sioux Falls, SD; Susan (Mark) Leddy of Milbank, SD; Rebecca (Jim) Heffernan of Champaign, IL; Annelies (John) Seffrood of Twin Brooks, SD; and Heidi (Jason) Mischel of Corona, SD; 15 grandchildren: Will (Nan) Onkka, Greg (Dani) Tanner, Hans (Janna) Tanner, Rachel (Matt) Dykstra; Lauren (Colby) Sanders, Andrew (Danielle) Leddy, Kate (Sam) Wickstrom, Sean (Danica) Heffernan, Alex Heffernan, Sophia Seffrood, Samuel Seffrood, Elsie Seffrood, William Mischel, Claire Mischel, and Marion Mischel; 18 great-grandchildren; one sister, Margaret (Dominic) DiMare of Tiburon, CA. Rudy was preceded in death by his parents: Alfred and Hedy; and one childhood sister, Rosemarie.

# Remembering THE LIFE OF



Rudy Nef  
1933 - 2022