

FUNERAL SERVICE:

Tuesday, April 29, 2014 - 10:30 a.m.

Schuler-Lefebvre Funeral Chapel Humboldt, Saskatchewan

Presider:

Jeanette Warrian

Organist:

Sharon Moir

Eulogist:

Murray Funk

Urbearers:

Mark Funk & Murray Funk

Honorary Pallbearers:

"All those who knew and loved Bob"

Memorial Luncheon:

Bella Vista immediately following service

Memorial Donations:

Heart and Stroke Foundation of Saskatchewan or Drake Cemetery

Bob will be lovingly remembered and sadly missed by his daughter Gwen (George) Leffler of Lanigan, Mark (Tanya) Funk and family, Brayden and Markus of Saskatoon, Murray (Bev) Funk and family, Amissa and Riley of Lanigan, Jessica Solar (Garry Ayotte) of Saskatoon, Chris (Steph) Solar and family, Brady, Everitt, and Marlee of Watrous, Jason (Nicole) Leffler and family, Haley and Devyn of Lanigan, and Kim (Brad) Huculak and family, Everlee and Bennett of Lanigan; his son Garth (Doris) Burns of Drake, Heather (Scott) Kline and family, Amy and Bryce of Drake, and Karen Burns-Newberry and her children Madison, Brittany, and Graham of Lanigan. He is survived by his sisters Olivia Smith of Wynyard, and Rosalyn Lillaco of Fort St. John BC. Bob was predeceased by his wife Gertrude; grandson Robby; parents Alex and May Burns; parents-in-law Alex and Jessie Pope; brothers Orland, Basil, Wendell; and sister Joy Haryett.

Robert Alexander Burns was born one-half mile from his lifelong farmstead. After completing grade 12 at Drake High School he stayed on his parents farm to help his father as his older brothers served in the war. On April 23rd, 1943, he married Gertrude Alberta Pope (also known as Tweet) who was a teacher at Drake School. In June 1947, Bob and his brother-in-law Bill Pope left for Texas with a Model 21 Massey-Harris 44 Combine loaded on a two-ton Dodge truck pulling a trailer with camping supplies and lots of enthusiasm. After completing harvest in Texas, they worked their way north through the states, custom harvesting on their way back home. They returned early in August bringing back a gas washing machine for both Tweet and Tweet's mother. In 1948, Bob bought a W.D. 9 McCormick-Deering tractor with both rubber and steel wheels to clear and break-up a plot of land. In 1974, Bob and Tweet decided to give up their cattle operation to focus exclusively on grain farming. When grain quotas were limited, Bob bought a Caterpillar D4 with a dozer. He was inventive, mechanically inclined, and willing to do almost any job to make some extra money when the opportunity arose. For example, in the spring of 1967, Bob spent two days working alongside Lester Isbister opening Highway 20 between Drake and Nokomis after a blizzard and heavy snowfall with the V-plow on the W.D. 9 tractor. Bob was always a progressive and technologically sophisticated farmer, quickly adopting modern techniques and advances that allowed him to build the family farm into a large operation. He was an assistant to the leader of the Drake 4-H Beef Club when his children were involved in 4-H, and later he was a Director of the Credit Union, Co-op, and the Rural Kansas Telephone and Wheat Pool Committee. He enjoyed card games, baseball, softball, hockey, curling, skidooing, fishing, hunting big game and game birds, and was an avid reader throughout his entire life. Although he was a man of few words, he had a wonderful sense of humor and was known for his witty and well-timed remarks. Robert Alexander Burns passed away at Lanigan Hospital on April 25th, 2014.

THE FARMER

*A varied and busy man is he,
Like a searching, working honey bee.
He lends a touch of the Master's hand,
As he plans and labors on his land.
Many changes has he seen in his farming days,
From ancient to modern, to sophisticated ways,
The climate in Canada is right he knows,
Thus the world's best grain and beef he grows.
The farmer becomes the main supplier indeed,
For the world's hungry as he fills their need.
He continues the creative work of God!
Every time he plants a seed or turns the sod.
He believes it his heritage to work the land,
To produce all he can from the willing sand.
When the farmer has money he spends it well,
For as long as his produce is there to sell.
If the crops are poor or the prices too low,
For the country it means a reduced cash flow.
It does the farmer's pride no harm,
When a son or daughter continues to farm.
The most creative artist of the universe is he,
Whether he plants a seed or a roadside tree.
As permanent as the earth this farmer is,
Life's values and freedoms are truly his.
Though some days are uncertain and full of strife,
For the farm family it is a way of life.*

*A. C. (Tony) Steiert
Alsask, Saskatchewan*

APPRECIATION

The family wishes to express their gratitude for your kindness evidenced in thought and deed, and for your attendance at the funeral service.

SCHULER-LEFEBVRE FUNERAL CHAPEL
*Humboldt, Saskatchewan
"Dedicated to those we serve."*



In Loving Memory Of

*Robert Alexander
Burns*

**October 29, 1922
April 25, 2014**

A TRIBUTE TO FATHERS

*A father loves his children, just as they are.
He cares enough to give the very best--himself.
When they're in trouble he's there to help.
When they need wisdom, he offers counsel.
When they have successes, he rejoices with them.
When they make mistakes, he forgives.
He recognizes his strength comes not
from human sources, but from Heaven's grace.*

Rebecca Barlow Jordan