



Donald John "Jack" Shearer

October 20, 1924 - November 24, 2015

Donald John "Jack" Shearer, age 91, of Glendive, Montana, passed away peacefully with his family by his side on Tuesday, November 24, 2015 at the Eastern Montana Veterans Home in Glendive. Visitation will be held from 6:00 P.M. until 8:00 P.M. on Sunday, November 29, 2015 at the Silha Funeral Home in Glendive. Funeral Services will be held at 2:00 P.M. on Monday, November 30, 2015 at the United Methodist Church in Glendive with Pastor Ruth McKenzie officiating. Interment with military honors will be held in Dawson County Cemetery in Glendive. Silha Funeral Home in Glendive has been entrusted with the arrangements.

Jack was born on October 20, 1924 in Glendive, the first child of Homer John and Agnes (Bren) Shearer. His brother, Timothy was born on October 21, 1925 and his sister, Rosalie was born on November 15, 1926. Homer and Agnes had their hands full with three little ones and living on a dry land farm in eastern Montana. Like most farm families, there was no running water (a well with a pump handle), no indoor plumbing and no electricity. Jack looked back with interest on how they survived those days, sharing Saturday baths, and trips to the outhouse always wondering if a rattlesnake was inside. Jack attended rural elementary school through the eighth grade and then moved into Glendive where he rented a room and attended Dawson County High School. He graduated from high school with the class of 1944.

In February of 1944, Jack was inducted into the armed forces in Butte, Montana. He was sent to Fort Douglas, Utah and then assigned to the 96th

Infantry Division at Camp White, Oregon. Following basic training, Jack was assigned to 383rd Co. D. where he received training in heavy machine gunnery and later was in charge of two machine gun squads. Jack also attended service schools in auto repair, manufacturing ice cream and radio communications. He had the rank of Staff Sergeant and received the Bronze Arrowhead, three Bronze Stars, Asiatic Pacific Service Medal, Good Conduct Medal, Philippine Liberation Service Medal. The 96th Infantry "Deadeye" Division received the Presidential Unit Citation for their service in Okinawa. He was honorably discharged from military service on February 9, 1946 in Ft. Lewis, Washington.

Jack returned to the family farm following military service helping his father. His father passed away in March of 1947. Jack worked away from the farm for the highway department during the summer months and helped his brother do some farming as well to keep the farm. Their mother had moved into town. Jack bought his sister's share of the family farm and he and his brother continued farming until 1953, when he bought his brother's share of the farm and leased the farmland. Jack continued to care for the watering systems, fencing , ect.

Jack met Betty Jean Goss in 1951 at a local nightclub where she was with two other gals. They hit it off and a year and a half later they were united in marriage on August 2, 1953 at the United Methodist Church in Grand Junction, Colorado. Together they settled down in Glendive and raised their four children, Norma, David, Barbara and Richard. Jack attended the Carpenter's Apprenticeship program in 1951 and worked for a contractor until 1967 when he started Shearer Construction. Throughout the years Jack had the help of his children with the business.

Jack was a member of the Masonic Lodge, Al Bedoo Shrine (local hospital chairman), Moose Lodge, VFW, DeMolay Board and the DeMolay Legion of Honor, I.O.O.F., Housing Board and served on the Museum Board for many years. Both Jack and Betty were members of the Eastern Star, Rebekah Lodge, Dawson Resource Council, the United Methodist Church, Friends of

the Library, and Friends of Makoshika. He enjoyed traveling, going to museums and antique stores and visiting their children and their families as well as friends and other relatives. He also liked going out to the farm, looking at "Big Iron", gardening and planting trees. Jack loved fixing things, he always looked at it like it as a challenge . and a way to save money. After visiting Jack and Betty you would get home and find a potato in your car or suitcase a present brought home from Jack.

Jack was preceded in death by his parents, Homer (Dick) and Agnes Bren Shearer; siblings, Timothy Shearer and Rosalie Dietz and grandparents, Frank and Anna (Francl) Bren.

Survivors include his loving wife, Betty Shearer of Glendive; children, Norma Shearer of Minot, North Dakota, David (Mary) Shearer of Billings, Montana, Barbara (James) Oriet of Manhattan, Montana and Richard (Mary) Shearer of Sauk Rapids, Minnesota; sister-in-law, Esther Shearer of Glendive; nephews, Paul Shearer of Glendive and Mark (Caroline) Shearer of Oregon; niece, Beth (JD) of Livingston, Tennessee; nine grandchildren, Kelly Loos (Levi Nissen), Amy Loos, Zachary Shearer, Kyle Shearer, Jacob Shearer, Ava Shearer, Brigid Shearer, Erin (Anthony) Hutchings and Jase Oriet and four great-grandchildren, Dylan and Alonna Kolobakken, Brandon Brown, and Mackenna Hutchings.

Memorials are suggested in Jack's name to Glendive United Methodist Church, Shrine Hospital or Glendive Medical Center Hospice.

Remembrances and condolences may be shared with the family at: www.silhafuneralhomes.com.

Cemetery Details

Dawson County Cemetery

Corner of North Sargent Ave. and East Allard
Street
Glendive, MT 59330

Previous Events

Visitation

NOV **29**. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (MT)

Silha Funeral Homes - Glendive, Montana
221 N. Meade Avenue
P.O. Box 848
Glendive, MT 59330
(406) 377-2622
silha@midrivers.com
<https://www.silhafuneralhomes.com>

Service

NOV **30**. 2:00 PM (MT)

United Methodist Church
206 West Towne Street
Glendive, MT 59330

Tribute Wall



“ *Donald John "Jack" Shearer*

December 07, 2022 at 04:10 PM



“ *Betty and all,
I have many memories of Jack, mostly of his fun nature. I still remember the many times that he would surprise me (scare actually) as I would cut through your yard on the way to a friends house. We would try to be so sneaky, but Tippy would always warn you of our attempt. Our neighborhood has changed since those days. I'm lucky to have had such good neighbors.*

*My condolences to all.
Deb Roeslein*

Deb Roeslein - November 30, 2015 at 09:49 AM



“ *Barb and Family - We were so very sorry to see your dad had passed away. We know how very difficult it is to lose a parent and want you to know you are in our thoughts and prayers. Hope you are all able to share lots of good memories through this difficult time. With much sympathy, Cindy and Duane Zimmerman*

Cindy Zimmerman - November 29, 2015 at 07:34 PM

RF

“ My family would like to send sincere condolences to the Shearer family for the loss of your dear loved one. May you find comfort and hope from the bible promise at Isaiah 25:8. Pray constantly, avoid isolation, and lean on God as you cope during this most difficult time.

Richardson Family - November 29, 2015 at 06:06 AM

JS

“ Betty and Family, please know that you all are in our thoughts and prayers during this difficult time. I will always remember our years living out at your family farm, lots of great memories! May God bless you all.

Jim and Donna (Latka) Stanfill - November 27, 2015 at 07:46 PM



“ Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of Donald John "Jack" Shearer.



November 27, 2015 at 04:15 PM

LG

“ Jack was a great carpenter and did a lot of work for my parents, Bill and Elaine. I remember him pouring cement and helping with the addition to the house. My sympathy to the family during this difficult time. Laura Grzanic - Belfield, ND

Laura Grzanic - November 27, 2015 at 03:36 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Donald John "Jack" Shearer.*



November 27, 2015 at 11:53 AM



“ *Pam And Cal Long lit a candle in memory of Donald John "Jack" Shearer*



Pam and Cal Long - November 27, 2015 at 08:46 AM



“ *Betty and Family, Gene and I send our sincere condolences to you all for the loss of Jack. We are traveling and can't be with you but know that we are thinking and praying for you. We always enjoyed our visits with Jack. He will be missed. Sincerely, Gene & Leslie Micheletto*



Gene Mcheletto - November 27, 2015 at 06:04 AM



“ *Carol Chouinard Hanson lit a candle in memory of Donald John "Jack" Shearer*



Carol Chouinard Hanson - November 26, 2015 at 10:00 PM