



Merlin L. Bouchard

December 31, 1923 - November 8, 2012

Billings, Montana: Merlin LeRoy Bouchard, age 88, of Billings, formerly of Glendive, Montana passed away on Wednesday, October 31, 2012 at St. Vincent hospital in Billings of a heart attack. Visitation will be from 10:00 A.M. until 5:00 P.M. and 6:00 P.M. until 8:00 P.M. on Wednesday, November 7, 2012 at the Silvernale-Silha Funeral Home in Glendive. Funeral services will be held at 10:00 A.M. on Thursday, November 8, 2012 at Evangelical Church of North America in Glendive with Pastor Robert Canen officiating. Interment will be held in the Dawson County Cemetery in Glendive. Silvernale-Silha Funeral Home of Glendive has been entrusted with the arrangements. Merlin was born on December 31, 1923 north of Savage, MT on his grandfather's farm that was homesteaded in 1904. Merlin was the oldest of four children, born to Charles and Katherine (Cuff) Bouchard. Merlin attended country school in Midway, MT, and high school in Sidney, MT. Merlin participated in FFA and 4H, excelling in agriculture projects where he won many awards. Merlin married Myrtle Partin, from Elmdale, Montana on December 2, 1945. They celebrated 62 years of marriage before she preceded him in death in 2007. Merlin farmed on the Buffalo Rapids Project with his brother Don, on Cracker Box Route. In 1949, Merlin purchased his own irrigated farm on Whoopup Creek. Merlin always enjoyed raising cattle and in 1965 he bought a ranch north of Wibaux, MT, and he sold the ranch in 1995 when he retired. He enjoyed raising registered Charolais cattle and selling them across eastern Montana. He was one of the first to bring the Charolais cattle breed to

Montana. He often talked of raising sugar beets when he was growing up. It was all hand labor and horse drawn equipment. He said it took three men to raise fourteen acres of beets. They got 14 tons to the acre and \$14.00 per ton. For extra money he would go to the neighbors with his wagon and a team of horses and load the wagon by hand, haul it to the beet dump and unload the wagon. All for \$1.00 per load. Merlin accepted Jesus Christ as his personal savior when he was 27. He had a passion for the Lord and supported many mission and church groups. Jesus was not just his savior, but also his closest friend. He was a Gideon and spoke in many churches in support of their work. Merlin and Myrtle adopted 3 children. Dean at 8 months old, Donna at 4 years of age and Dennis was 3 years old. Merlin was preceded in death by his wife, Myrtle; parents, Charles and Katherine Bouchard and brothers, Don and Art. He is survived by his children, Dean (Leslie) Bouchard of Glendive, Donna (Darol) Erickson of Milaca, MN. and Dennis Bouchard of Forsyth, MT.; one foster son, Don Skartvedt of Billings, MT.; one sister, Adelaide Almond, of Glendive; seven grandchildren, six great-grandchildren and numerous nieces and nephews. We will see you soon, Dad! Remembrances and condolences may be shared with the family at: www.silvernale-silhafuneralhome.com.

Tribute Wall



“ *Merlin L. Bouchard*

December 07, 2022 at 04:10 PM