

Irwin Henry Meier

April 3, 1936 – April 6, 2018

Irwin H. Meier, 82, of rural Doland, South Dakota, died peacefully at his home near Doland on Friday afternoon, April 6, 2018, after a few months of illness.

Funeral services were held at Furness Funeral Home Chapel in Clark, South Dakota. Burial was at Richland Cemetery near Carpenter, South Dakota.



Irwin was born in West Point, Nebraska, on April 3, 1936, to Christine (Koemann) Meier and Anton "Tony" Meier. He moved with his family to a farm south of Miller, South Dakota, when he was six weeks old. Later, the family moved to a farm near Tulare, where he attended school through fourth grade. They then bought a farm northeast of Doland.

He attended Mannie Country School through eighth grade and graduated from the South Dakota School for the Deaf in Sioux Falls in 1953.

Irwin and Joan Dudley were married on August 27, 1960, in Redfield. They had three children, Robert Irwin, Jean Marie, and Eric Charles. They lived, farmed, and ranched on the same place throughout their marriage.

First and foremost, Irwin loved farming and ranching. He custom-baled thousands of small square bales and hauled hay to farmers in South Dakota and Minnesota while also feeding and working cattle. He enjoyed trapping, fishing, and playing cards with the guys. In later years, he gardened and was especially proud of his tomatoes and cucumbers. Irwin also kept the lawn mowers and tillers running for Joan and his daughter-in-law, Christine. A highlight each fall was when his friends from Minnesota came to hunt pheasants and swap stories.

He will be sadly missed by his wife, Joan; sons, Robert (Christine Reppe) Meier and Eric Meier, all of Doland; grandchildren, Stephanie (Tony) Holscher of Waubay, Garret (Alex LaBrie) Meier, Justin Meier, and Haley Meier, all of Clark; great-grandchildren, Ava and Charlie Meier; and grand-puppy, Sammy. He also leaves a sister-in-law, Gail Dudley of Watertown, and several other in-laws.

Irwin was preceded in death by his parents; daughter, Jean Meier; sister, Joyce Zeglin; brother, Dennis Meier; sister-in-law, Nona Meier; nephew, James Meier; mother-in-law, Blanche Dudley; brother-in-law, Jerry Dudley; and other in-laws.