



Gertrude Purrier, Dorothy Bodwell's mother

AT THE TWO VALLEY
RETIREMENT CENTER



WITH SISTER MILKO











with Ray (brother)



AT Rys Funeral



FRED planting flowers
at Rys Grave



Jacob



John + Grant



Ethel, Mark
Mark, Grant











AUG • 71



APR • 71



JUL • 70



AUG • 71



APR • 71



JUL • 70











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*There is never a life without sadness,
There is never a heart free from pain;
If one seeks in this world for true solace,
He seeks it forever in vain.*

*So when to your heart comes the sorrow
Of losing some dear one you've known
To the touch of God's sickle at harvest
Since He reaps in the fields
He has sown.*

In Loving Memory
MRS. LENA BERGESON
July 27, 1882 — November 15, 1969

Funeral Services
Zion Lutheran Church
Twin Valley, Minnesota
Tuesday, November 18th, 2:00 P. M.
Pastor Maurice S. Molvik, Officiating
Mr. Lloyd Spielman, Meditation

Special Music
Mr. and Mrs. Paul Nornes, Vocal Duet
Mrs. Maurice Molvik, Organist

Pallbearers
Lloyd Hillesland James Waller
Milton Aasgaard Ruben Waller
Gilmer Olson Ernest Anderson
Roy Mickelson Arnold Hillesland

Interment
Zion Lutheran Cemetery



Mrs. L. Bergeson Dies At Age 87; Hold Rites at Zion

Mrs. Lauritz (Lena) Bergeson, 87, passed away Saturday morning, November 15th, at the Ada hospital. She had been a resident of Home Lake township 33 years and of Twin Valley the past 20 years.

Funeral services were held in Zion Lutheran church here Tuesday, November 18th, at 2 p. m., with the Rev. Maurice S. Molvik officiating. Vocal music was by Mr. and Mrs. Paul Nornes with Mrs. Maurice S. Molvik as organist.

Family services took place at the Erlien Funeral Home the previous evening at 7:30, with the Rev. Paul Bergeson as the presiding clergyman.

Pallbearers were Lloyd Hillesland, James Waller, Miton Aasgaard, Ruben Waller, Gilmer Olson, Ernest Anderson, Roy Mickelson and Arnold Hillesland.

Interment was in Zion cemetery here with the Erlien Funeral Home in charge of arrangements.

Mrs. Bergeson (Lena Risdahl) was born July 27, 1882, a daughter of Andreas and Gjilhaug Risdahl, in Stavanger, Norway. She was baptized and confirmed in the Lutheran faith and grew up in Norway, attending elementary schools there.

She came to America in 1899 and resided in Norway, Iowa. She married Lauritz E. Bergeson there in 1900 and they later farmed near Canby, Minn., for 16 years. They then moved to a farm in Home Lake township where they resided for 33 years. Her husband passed away a few days after their arrival here, April 4, 1916. Mrs. Bergeson retired in 1949 and moved to Twin Valley.

She suffered a stroke April 5, 1965, and had been a resident of the Lutheran Memorial Home and the Town Hall Estates since that time.

A member of Zion Lutheran church for many years, she was a life member of the Zion ALCW.

Mrs. Bergeson is survived by four sons and three daughters, Roy Bergeson, Auburn, Calif.; Mrs. Lee (Gertrude) Purrier, Hawley; Melvin Bergeson, Fertile; Mrs. Maurice (Mildred) Sargent, Twin Valley; Mrs. William (Olive) Barton, Las Vegas, Nevada; John Bergeson and Burnett Bergeson, Twin Valley; two brothers and three sisters in Norway and Canada; 24 grandchildren and 42 great-grandchildren, plus several nieces, nephews and cousins.

She was preceded in death by her husband, one daughter, one grandchild, two brothers, three sisters and





Lena Risdahl Bergeson
Born on the Island of Skudesnes
Stavanger, Norway
July 27, 1894 to
November 15, 1969



Andrew and Gjetlaug Risdahl
Grandma Bergeson's Parents
Island of Skudesnes near Stavanger, Norway



DEATH OF A NEWCOMER

E. A. Bergeson Dies Within Two Days After His Arrival At His New Home

To lose the head of a family of seven children is the sad experience of the Bergeson family that has just this week moved to this vicinity from Canby.

Some two years ago E. A. Bergeson bought the Lauritz J. Sethney farm in Home Lake Township. Last year it was rented to Adolph Benson, but this year Mr. Bergeson intended to farm the land himself. Accordingly last fall he came up from Canby and made arrangements to move here this spring. About the first of March he packed up his household goods and shipped them here, but he was detained himself by a severe attack of Bright's Disease, from which he had been suffering more or less for some time, and was forced to go to the hospital at Canby. For five long weeks he lay there and when the doctors at length informed him that there was no hope for his recovery he decided to go to his new home, settle up his affairs and spend his last days at his home. But he overestimated his strength and never got out to his farm. Sunday he arrived in Twin Valley with his wife and several children, but he was so weak he had to be carried from the train. A trip out to his home over the rough roads was considered out of the question by the doctor and he was taken to the hotel. He continued to get weaker and passed away Tuesday morning about four o'clock.

The funeral will be held at Our Saviors Church Thursday afternoon at 1 o'clock.

The deceased was a man of 42 years and leaves a wife and seven children. The circumstances of the death make it a particularly unfortunate one and the sympathy of the entire community goes out to the bereaved family.

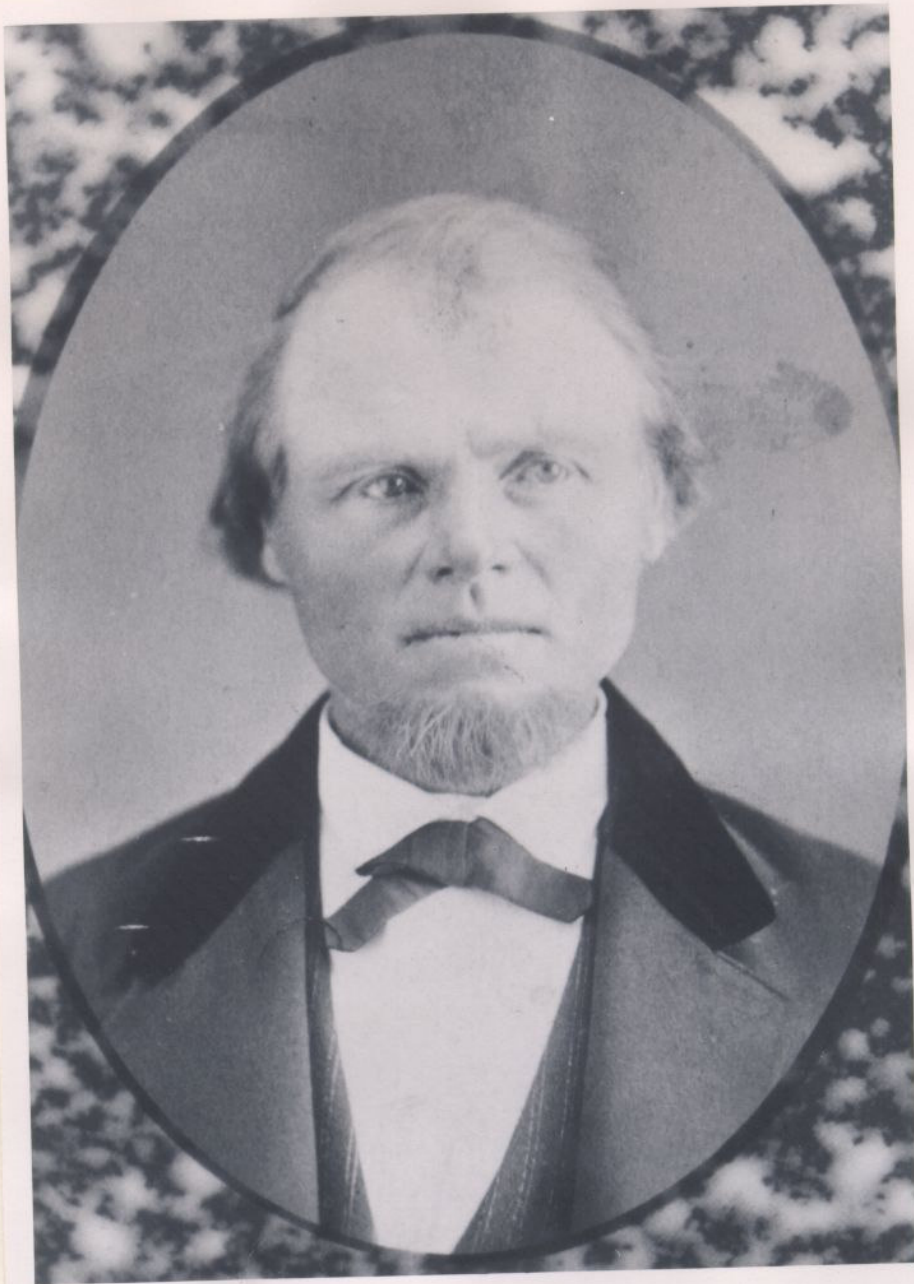
Mrs. Bergeson will remain here on her farm. Her oldest boy is fifteen years and will be a great help; and her brothers, who came up here with the goods in March, will remain for a time and assist with the farm work.

The funeral of the late Lauritz E. Bergeson was held from the United Church in Twin Valley last Thursday.

Although the bereaved family had just arrived in this vicinity, the neighbors in the vicinity of their new home in Home Lake Township, did everything within their power to assist at this sorrowful time. Some of the women who helped and donated toward the floral offering were the Mesdames John Olson, Juliana Gerdaal, Henry Bergeson, Oscar Nelson, Enok Berkland, Ole Bentley, C. O. Sande, Sidney Bentley, Herman Germolus, Adolph Benson, Theo. Ostrem, Lauritz Sethney, Louis Olson, Anton Larsson, Johnny Waller, Engebrit Haugen, Ole Lindberg, E. M. LaPort, Joe Hudson, Erick Ramsey, Edwin Ramsey and Gust Erickson.



LARS V. BERGESON
Great Grandpa
1833
February 18, 1896







BENGTSON GATHERINGS





69 • 330 •



69 • 330 •



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SEASONS GREETINGS 1955



MAY • 69







New Flower Gardens Adorn LMH Nursing Home Patio

The flower gardens on the patio at Lutheran Memorial Nursing Home were designed and donated last summer by Burnett and Adeline Bergeson in memory of his mother, Lena Bergeson, who lived the last years of her life at this Home.

The petunias in the larger garden and the flowers in the birch tree circle were

planted in a red, white and blue theme in keeping with the Bicentennial theme of 1976.

Annual flowers include petunias, fibrous begonias, dusty miller, and lobelia. Perennial flowers and shrubs include celosia, Eutin Roses, Pink Fairy Roses, Dwarf Mock Orange, Golden Ninebark, Cistena, and a Smoke Tree. The variety of flowers and shrubs held the interest of many former gardeners who now live at the Home and they look forward to the coming of spring to see how the perennials fared under their blanket of snow.



Lena Bergeson



The original Red Splendor flowering crab and Melvin Bergeson, of Bergeson Nursery, were honored last week by the Minnesota State Horticultural Society. Ken Simons, chairman of the Minnesota Heritage Tree Program, presented Bergeson with a certificate and plaque designating the Red Splendor as a Minnesota Heritage Tree.

Honored guests at the dedication are pictured, (l. to r.)—Ken Simons, Harold Thornforde, Duan Knutson, Mrs. Harold Larson, Paul Bergeson, Melvin Bergeson, Glenda Bergeson, Olga Bergeson, Edith (Bergeson) Lee, and Orville Lee.

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highway going through Ada, Climax, Twin Valley, Fosston, Shelly, Bemidji, along the campus drive at NDSU in Fargo, and Radisson Road in Crookston.

"The Minnesota Nurserymen's Association

sat in a rocking chair and never tried anything. You've got to try new things to get places . . ."

One thing for sure, the world's a lot more beautiful because of you, Melvin . . . look at all the Splendor you have given us.

by Ross Pfund

NORMAN COUNTY

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Serving The Heart Of The Red River Valley

ADA, MINNESOTA
56510

May 18, 1977

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Melvin and wife, Olga, stand in front of the Red Splendor holding the Certificate of Recognition, and the plaque that will be mounted near the tree identifying it

horticultural one.

A large crowd of friends gathered for the festivities, "the biggest group yet," Simons offered. And they all came to pay tribute to the man, as well as the tree.

the blooming season.

The vivid, healthy foliage turns many colors in the fall, and the trees bloom in their second year. (Some flowering crabs postpone blooming until they may be five years old.)



Ken Simons, chairman of the Minnesota Heritage Tree Program, has just presented Melvin Bergeson with a

certificate, proclaiming the Red Splendor an official Heritage Tree.



Harold Thomforde, mayor of

OBITUARIES

Melvin Bergeson

Melvin Bergeson, nurseryman and horticulturist, 86, of Fertile, MN, died on Thursday, May 14, 1992 at the Fair Meadow Nursing Home in Fertile.

Melvin was born at Gary, SD on January 31, 1906, to Lauritz and Olena (Risdal) Bergeson. He lived with his family at Canby, MN until the age of 10 when they moved to a farm east of Twin Valley, MN. Melvin attended the Minnesota School of Agriculture at St. Paul, MN before returning to the Twin Valley area to farm.

On October 14, 1932, Melvin was united in marriage to Olga Johnson at Fertile, MN, and to this union three sons and three daughters were born. They continued to farm and he also began his nursery business in Twin Valley. They later moved to southeast of Fertile to farm and operate Bergeson's Nursery, which he continued to own and operate until 1971, upon selling the farm and nursery to his son. He entered the Fair Meadow Nursing Home, Fertile, in 1987.

Bergeson was best known for his introduction of the Red Splendor Flowering Crab, designated by the Minnesota State Horticulture Society a "Minnesota Heritage Tree" in 1977.

The Red Splendor is considered by the Minnesota Landscape Arboretum to be one of the outstanding varieties ever introduced in Minnesota, and is planted along the streets of dozens of Minnesota cities. Several Red Splendor are planted around the John F. Kennedy Center for the Arts in Washington D.C., and several more were presented to the Chinese government as a gift by President Nixon on his historic trip to the People's Republic in 1972.

For his work in promoting new varieties of trees and shrubs, Bergeson received the Bronze Medal from the Minnesota Horticulture Society in 1975, and later was the recipient of the R.E. Wodarz Award, the North Dakota Horticultural Society's highest award.

Bergeson founded Bergeson Nursery in 1937 and operated the business until his retirement in 1971. Following his retirement, Bergeson continued to introduce new varieties of trees and shrubs, the most outstanding of which was the Bergeson Ash, patented in 1977.

After entering the Fair Meadow Home in 1987, Bergeson completed a small book on gardening and, up to the time of his death, wrote a weekly column on gardening for the Fertile Journal.

Melvin was an active member of the Gideons for several years, a member of Walworth Baptist Church, rural Flom, MN, and was a board member of Bethel Lutheran Missions at White Earth, MN. In the early 1970's he also originated and coordinated the Christian Fellowship Tent at the Fertile Fair which has continued as a ministry for over 20 years.

He is survived by his wife, Olga, Fertile, MN; three sons and daughters-in-law, Paul and Glenda, Fertile, Rev. Bob and Pam, Lake Park, MN, and Roland and Jean, Milwaukee, WI; three daughters and sons-in-law, Edith and Orville Lee, Fertile, Beth and Dale Haaland, Byron, MN, and Lois and Don White, Burns, OR; two brothers, John Twin Valley, MN and Burnett, Hawley, MN; three sisters, Mildred Sargent and Gertrude Purrier, both of Twin Valley, MN and Olive Burton, Fargo, ND; 18 grandchildren and nine great grandchildren.

Preceding him in death were his parents, his brother, Roy, and his infant sister, Mildred.

Funeral services were held at 2 p.m. on Tuesday, May 19 at Zion Lutheran Church in Twin Valley, with Rev. Rollie Leeman officiating. Organist was Betty Schoephoerster with Bob Jeska, Raymond and Marvie Stromstad as vocalists. Pianist was Beth Haaland.

Casket bearers were Bernard Klevgaard, Alvin Larson, Calmer Johnson, Paul Tollefson, Phillip Mork, Nels Holmberg, Duane Malmskog and Jacob Schneiderman.

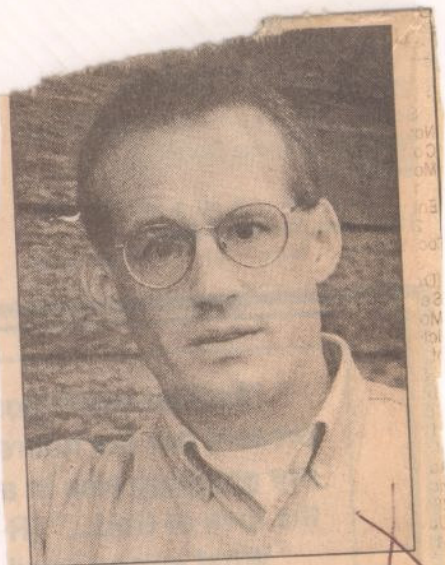
Honorary casket bearers were Gideon members present at funeral services.

Interment at South Cemetery, St. John's Lutheran Church, rural Fertile.

Anderson Funeral Home, Twin Valley.



Lois & Don



Eric Bergeson

Area resident Eric Bergeson has published a book entitled "Down on the Farm." The 90-page paperback contains essays about Bergeson's experiences living and working in the small town. The essays were originally published as columns in the Fertile Journal.

Bergeson is manager of Bergeson Nursery in Fertile and is presently buying the nursery from his parents, Paul and Glenda Bergeson. The nursery has been in the Bergeson family for over sixty years.

But since he published the Bergeson Blab twenty some years ago as a fifthgrader, Eric Bergeson has had an interest in writing and journalism. Although he studied history in college, Bergeson wrote a column for the student paper at the University of North Dakota, earning a reputation there for sharp satire.

Bergeson's more recent columns, which were published by the Fertile Journal and a few other area papers, focused on the ups and downs of small town life. While retaining his sharp-edged humor, Bergeson also writes nostalgic reminiscences of his grandparents and of his experiences living in the country.

Down on the Farm may be purchased by sending \$9.46, which includes shipping and tax, to Country Scribe Publishing, RR 1 Box 169A, Fertile, MN 66640. Down on the Farm is also available at the drug stores in Twin Valley, Hawley, and Lake Park.



Rev. Bob Bergeson

Rev. Bob Bergeson, 53, died of cancer February 7, 1998, at Dakota Heartland Hospital in Fargo.

Allen Robert Bergeson was born April 10, 1944, in Fertile, MN, the son of Melvin and Olga Bergeson. He was raised in Fertile, and graduated from Fertile High School in 1962. He attended Northwestern College in Minneapolis and graduated from the University of Minnesota in 1967.

Bob married Pamela West in Wausau, Wisconsin August 27, 1967.

Bob received his seminary degree from Bethel Seminary in St. Paul, MN in 1970, and served a parish in Cushing MN, from 1970-74.

After further theological studies at Iowa State University, Bob and Pam moved to Fertile where Bob worked at Bergeson Nursery and established his own photography studio. He was a member of the Fertile City Council.

In 1982, Bob accepted a call to the Lutheran ministry at Lake Park Lutheran Church where he served until his death.

Bob is survived by his wife Pam, their two children, Laine and Benjamin, three sisters, Lois (Don) White, Burns, OR; Edith Lee (Orville) Mentor, MN; Beth Haaland (Dale) Byron, MN; and two brothers, Paul (Glenda) of Fertile and Roland (Jean) of Fresno, CA. He was preceded in death by his parents.

Funeral services will be held at Lake Park Lutheran Church at 2:00 p.m. Tuesday, February 10, 1998.

Mildred Sargent, age 92, of Twin Valley, Minnesota, died Sunday, May 14, 2000 at the Lutheran Memorial Nursing Home in Twin Valley.

Mildred Bergeson, was born on January 23, 1908 at Canby, Minnesota to Lauritz and Lena (Risdal) Bergeson. At the age of eight she moved with her family to a farm near Twin Valley. She attended rural school in Home Lake Township and helped her family farming. Mildred married Maurice R. Sargent in Ada, Minnesota, on September 27, 1930. They later moved to a farm by Borup, Minnesota, and in 1944, moved to Flom Township near Twin Valley. In 1953, Mildred and Maurice moved into Twin Valley. Maurice died in 1956 and she continued to make her home there while working as a cook at the Twin Valley Public School. She also baby sat for area families for many years. In 1994, she moved to the Lutheran Memorial Retirement Center and in the fall of 1999, she became a resident of the Lutheran Memorial Nursing Home.

Mildred was a charter member of the Twin Valley Garden Club and was very active in the Zion Lutheran Church in Twin Valley. She also loved being a member of the local "Kitchen Band".

Surviving are four daughters, Le Ann (Tom) Erickson, Cottage Grove, Minnesota, Ilene (Don) Ruud and Marlene (Edgar) Ruud, of Twin Valley and Sheila Ryhn, Golden Valley, Minnesota. Surviving also are twelve grandchildren and sixteen great-grandchildren; a brother, Burnett "B.J." (Adeline) Bergeson, Reno, Nevada and one sister, Olive Burton, Twin Valley.

Preceding her in death were her parents, her husband, three brothers and two sisters.

*A Mother holds
her children's
hands for
a while...
their
hearts
forever.*



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Art, Pub. Co. &
A/V







*God hath not promised
Skies always blue,
Flower-strewn pathways
All our lives through;
God hath not promised
Sun without rain,
Joy without sorrow,
Peace without pain.*

*But God hath promised
Strength for the day,
Rest for the labor,
Light for the way.
Grace for the trials,
Help from above,
Unfailing sympathy
Undying love ...*

In Celebration of the Life of
John E. Bergeson

August 29, 1913 - November 24, 1996

Prayer Service

Wednesday, November 27, 1996, 6:00 PM
Anderson Funeral Home, Twin Valley, Minnesota

Funeral Service

Friday, November 29, 1996, 11:00 AM
Trinity Lutheran Church, Twin Valley, Minnesota
Pastor Arvid Salvhus, officiating

Ruth Lerud, organist
Special Music

Harlan & Sylvia Bueng, Eric Bergeson, Gary Lee
Kim Jacobson, flutist
Marian Johnson, pianist

Casket Bearers

Mark Hanson	Brent Tufte
Kent Anderson	Bruce Jacobson
Charlie Bitker	Eric Hoven

Interment

Zion Lutheran Cemetery, Twin Valley, Minnesota

Arrangements

Anderson Funeral Home, Twin Valley, Minnesota



SEPT-46





*Johnny & Norma
Holiday Greetings*

John E. Bergeson

Twin Valley, Minn.

John E. Bergeson, 83, Twin Valley, died Sunday, Nov. 24, 1996, in Dakota Heartland Hospital/South University, Fargo.

Mr. Bergeson was born Aug. 29, 1913, in Canby, Minn. He grew up and attended school near Twin Valley. He then attended the University of Minnesota. On Feb. 6, 1949, he married Norma Hanson in Twin Valley, where they lived. He retired in 1978. He then helped develop a housing project south of Twin Valley.

He is survived by his wife; a stepson, Algie (Vi) Hanson, Red Lake Falls, Minn.; two stepdaughters, Shirley (Dick) Anderson, Cummings, N.D., Clarene (Mervyn) Larson, Ada, Minn.; three sisters, Gertrude Purrier, Mildred Sargent and Olive Burton, all Twin Valley; seven grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren.

Visitation: Wednesday from 4 to 8, with a prayer service at 6 in Anderson Funeral Home, Twin Valley, and one hour before the funeral in the church.

Funeral: Friday at 11 in Trinity Lutheran Church, Twin Valley.

Burial: Zion Lutheran Cemetery, Twin Valley.

In Celebration of the New Life of
Norma Bergeson

April 7, 1919 ~ June 9, 2004

Prayer Service

Friday June 11, 2004 at 7:00 PM
Anderson Funeral Home, Twin Valley, Minnesota

Funeral Service

Saturday, June 12 at 10:30 AM
Trinity Lutheran Church, Twin Valley, Minnesota

Officiating ~ Rev. Donald R. Schulz, Pastor

Organist ~ Myrna Thornton

Vocalist ~ Eric Bergeson

Pallbearers

Mark & Joelynn Hanson Kent & Audra Anderson
Charlie & Julie Bitker Kirk & Jill Roe Eric & Stacey Hoven
Brent & Kathy Tufte Bruce & Kim Jacobson

Honorary Bearers

Wednesday Morning Coffee Club
Marilyn Johnson Harriet Huseby
Connie Schultz Barb Bueng Clarene Larson

Interment

Zion Lutheran Cemetery
Twin Valley, Minnesota

*The support you have shown by your presence is gratefully
acknowledged by Norma's family and you are invited to join
them for lunch and fellowship following the service.*

Arrangements entrusted to
Anderson Funeral Home, Twin Valley, Minnesota
Your locally owned funeral home



...ous ready to go on the
spit before sunrise.



6. Norma and Johnny Bergeson are
are on the Talent Show each year
and very popular.

RAILROAD LANDS

—AND—

Improved Farms

FOR SALE.

COLLECTIONS PROMPTLY ATTENDED TO.

OFFICE AT CITY HOTEL.

S, M, T, NYKREIM,





Season's
Greetings

Burnett & Adeline

