



## Gordon Charles Pitel

February 4, 1921 - June 12, 2019

Gordon was born on February 4, 1921, in Hustler, Wis. to Albert and Flossie (Sanders) Pitel. After graduating from New Lisbon High School in 1938, he attended Luther College in Decorah, Iowa, where he received his B.A. degree. After graduating, Gordon taught radio theory at an Air Force Training Station in Sioux Falls before becoming a Radioman First Class in the U.S. Maritime Service during World War II, stationed at Gallops Island off the coast of Boston. There he met his wife of 69 years, Barbara Cody. They were married on September 8, 1945. After the war, Gordon taught math, physics, computer programming, and electronics at Spring Grove High School from 1947 until he retired in 1983.

In addition to teaching, he built an A & W Root Beer Stand in 1953 and operated it until 1958. During the 50s and 60s, Pitel's Radio Service was the place the people of Spring Grove brought their radios to be repaired. In the 1970s, he operated a chinchilla farm in his basement. From 1973 until 1987, he and Barbara ran the B-G Book and Gift Mart in Spring Grove.

Gordon was very involved in Trinity Lutheran Church, Ye Olde Opera House, and other community organizations. He loved fishing for trout in Bee Creek and walleye in the Mississippi River where he owned a boathouse near Brownsville. He enjoyed gardening and had one of the biggest vegetable gardens in town.

On June 12th At the age of 98, Gordon was reunited with Barbara in Heaven. He was preceded in death by his parents, his brother Lloyd, and his sister

Berneice.

He is survived by two sons Richard (Annette) and Robert (Jackie); one daughter LuAnne (Joshua) Barnet; seven grandchildren Brian (Angela) , Stephanie (Kevin) Lamb, Angela (Jeremy) Adelman, Bradley (Megan), Jesse and Casey Pitel, and Nicolena Barnet; and eleven great-grandchildren Kaden, Kael, and Kyler Lamb; Luca, Caio, and Noah Pitel; Alyson, Arya, and Zachary Adelman; Kamden Budde and Celeste Pitel.

The family wishes to express their gratitude to all the staff at the Gundersen Tweeten Care Center for the love they have shared with Gordon these past four years.

# Cemetery Details

## Trinity Lutheran Cemetery

Hwy 44  
Spring Grove, MN 55974

# Previous Events

## Visitation

**JUN 16.** 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Roble Funeral Home  
225 East Main Street  
P.O. Box 368  
Spring Grove, MN 55974  
(507) 498-3875  
mor4law@springgrove.coop  
<https://roblefuneralhome.com/>

## Service

**JUN 17.** 11:00 AM (CT)

Trinity Lutheran Church  
203 E. Main St.  
Spring Grove, MN 55974

# Tribute Wall

LM

“ Gordon served the community of Spring Grove for over 70 years. A favorite teacher and coach to many of us. A faithful and active servant of Trinity Lutheran and the Spring Grove community. Another one of the “Greatest Generation” has left us. Our hearts and sympathy goes out to the Pitel family.

*Lenny Myrah class of '54*

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**lenny myrah** - June 17, 2019 at 10:50 AM



“ Fruit Abounds was purchased for the family of Gordon Charles Pitel.



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June 16, 2019 at 04:00 PM



“ Pretty Please was purchased for the family of Gordon Charles Pitel.



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June 15, 2019 at 01:54 PM

JF

“ Gordon was my high school mathematics teacher and was a big influence in my life. If you were not paying attention in class, he would quietly ask you a question and add your name at the end. You would hear your name but have no idea what the question was about. He would NOT repeat the question but the resulting silence was very embarrassing and you were likely NOT to repeat your behavior---very effective. He ran a "loose ship" as far as discipline was concerned, but only "to a point". Thank You Mr. Pitel!!!  
Jim Forde. 1954

Jim Forde - June 15, 2019 at 01:33 AM



“ Small Garden Dish was purchased for the family of Gordon Charles Pitel.



June 14, 2019 at 04:41 PM

DK

“ Deepest sympathy to the Pitel family. Very sorry for your loss.

Duane Kinneberg - June 14, 2019 at 08:14 AM



“ Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Gordon Charles Pitel.



June 13, 2019 at 09:08 PM