



Norman Herbert Storlie

April 16, 1919 - October 22, 2014

Norman Herbert Storlie, age 95 of Spring Grove passed away Wed. Oct. 22, 2014 at Tweeten Lutheran Healthcare in Spring Grove.

Norman was born in Black Hammer, MN on April 16, 1919 to Alfred and Lena (Lien) Storlie. He was one of 11 brothers and sisters. He attended school at the Rauk School, District 69, which was just down the road from their farm and was close enough to the farm that they could go home for their noon meal. The family made and sold Sorghum and the family also operated a saw mill, which was created by using a Packard car engine and various other parts.

On Feb. 1, 1942, Norman was drafted and entered the Army and was assigned to the Army Air Corps. He worked as a member of the ground crew on B-25's and A-20 medium bombers, he later became Crew Chief. He boarded the USAT Mariposa (a luxury line fitted for troop transport) at Angel Island in San Francisco Bay and arrived in Melbourne, Australia, from there Norman traveled to New Guinea, the Philippines, and ended up in Okinawa as the war ended. Norman returned home as a Staff Sergeant.

After returning home, he helped his family build the large barn on the family farm.

In 1951 Norman married Alma Burmester, shortly after, they built their house on 3rd St. N.E. in Spring Grove, where they had lived with their children, Carol, Craig and Diane.

Norman worked with Clarence Bjorlo and co-owned a furniture and flooring

store with him in Spring Grove. Norman installed tile and linoleum flooring and Clarence installed carpet. Norman was an extremely creative carpenter and an artist with wood. He has built barns, houses, done remodeling, added additions, turned an old barn into a house and fixed, repaired and turned something old into something new. His basement was his workshop and after a full day of work, it was common for him to be 'putzing' or working in the basement on another project.

Norman was helpful and generous, he served on church boards, American Legion Post #249, and Sons of Norway, and was a member of many other community organizations for years.

Norman enjoyed dancing, trail rides, fishing(for which he built his own boat), gardening. auction sales, Lefse making and traveling with his wife Alma.

In June of 2009 Norman participated in one of the Freedom Honor Flights, this is a one day flight from La Crosse to Washington D.C. for 160 WWII Veterans to see the WWII Memorial and other sites.

In the past few years Norman was interviewed by Giants of the Earth about his Military memories, one of the interviews includes his son Craig, and adds many stories about his WWII travels.

In October of 2010 Alma preceded Norman in death. In the fall of 2012, Norman moved to Spring Grove Assisted Living, and in January of 2014 after some health issues to Tweeten Lutheran Health Care.

An all around good, kind and generous soul, Norman will be missed by all who knew and loved him.

Survivors include his children Carol (Gerald) Geving of Mabel, Minnesota, Craig (Jill) Knueppel of Atlanta, Georgia, Diane (David) Lorenz from Elk River, Minnesota

Five grandchildren, fourteen great-grandchildren, six great-great-grandchildren, his sister Doris Folkert of Plainview, Minnesota, and two special four legged friends Benson and Murphy.

In addition to his wife Alma, he was preceded in death by his granddaughter Kristin Louise Lorenz, and many of his siblings.

Cemetery Details

Trinity Lutheran Cemetery

Hwy 44
Spring Grove, MN 55974

Previous Events

Visitation

OCT **24**. 4:00 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

OCT **25**. 2:00 PM (CT)

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