

OBITUARIES

**Freda 'Jackie' Maag**



Freda 'Jackie' Maag

Funeral services for Freda "Jackie" Maag, 88, of Tripp, South Dakota will be held at 10:30 a.m. on Wednesday, December 17, 2014 at Emmaus Lutheran Church, Tripp. Burial will follow in the Gracehill Cemetery, Tripp. Casketbearers will be Jackie's grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Visitation will be held from 5:00 p.m. until 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, December 16 at the Goglin Funeral Home, Tripp. Funeral arrangements are being handled by Goglin Funeral Home of Tripp. Online condolences may be sent at [www.goglinfh.com/](http://www.goglinfh.com/). Freda Mae "Jackie" (Peyton) Maag, aged 88, died peacefully on Sunday, December 14, 2014 at the Tripp Good Samaritan Center after a

lengthy illness. Jackie was born on July 4, 1926, in Charlestown, Indiana, the daughter of Charles Peyton and Willie Mae Roberts. On July 27, 1945, Jackie married the love of her life Erwin Emil Maag at Fort Knox, Kentucky. Following Erwin's active service in WWII, they moved back to his hometown of Tripp, SD. Erwin served in many different positions,

such as a member of the National Guard (including tours in Korea), the Hutchinson County Clerk of Courts, and Tripp's Postmaster until his retirement in 1987. In addition to raising their three children, whom Jackie affectionately called "my three sons," she was a homemaker and operated the Tripp Village Toggery clothing store for many years. Jackie enjoyed spending time with her many friends and family, especially when shared around a good game of bridge or bowling. She was a member of Emmaus Lutheran Church in Tripp and the American Legion Auxiliary. Jackie is survived by her brother, James of Anthony, Florida; sister Eleda Reed of Louisville, KY; sons: Michael of Sioux Falls, Richard (Vicki) of West Chester, OH, and Jeffrey (Gwen) of Tripp; six grandchildren: Christopher

(Nikki) of Sioux Falls, Trisha (Andrew Kvasnica) of Manhattan, KS, Matthew (Diana) of Bonner Springs, KS, Justin (Amanda) of Sturgis, SD, Joshua of Little Rock, AK, and Meghan (Nathan Andersen) of Sioux Falls; and 13 great-grandchildren. Jackie was preceded in death by her husband of 54 years, Erwin, in January 1999, her parents, four brothers, and one sister.

Yankton Press & Dakotan  
December 16, 2014

**Goglin Funeral Home**

Tyndall - Scotland - Tripp



[www.goglinfh.com](http://www.goglinfh.com)

**Trains**

From Page 1

tempts to impose fees on interstate commerce. He also questioned why only crude oil would be taxed while there are pipelines carrying other hazardous materials. "The Legislature hasn't seen fit to put a special spill fund in," Nadinecek said. The commission's chairman, Bob McGrath of White, said training money is available but he doesn't know

where equipment money would be found. McGrath said he doesn't foresee the Legislature imposing fees and won't allow special tax assessments. "I think the legislation approach probably is not going to work," he said. Nadinecek said state officials should be talking to Congress and federal officials. "So everybody has a level playing field," he said. There wasn't any call for commission action. DeYoung thanked the commission for listening. McGrath said he wants to keep the issue alive.

**Cathedral**

From Page 1

the audience to relate Henrickson's character to the homeless. "Two-thousand years ago, shepherds were lowest in society," Conzemius said. "They where thought of as dirty, because they lived outside in the hills with animals. They where unable to even go into the temple because they where considered unclean. The irony is they were preparing sheep to be sacrificed in the temple." Conzemius said that, despite their low status, they where still some of the first people to hear about Christ's birth. "This is a guy who lived in a cave," Henrickson said of his character. "He is not really welcomed in society and yet, he was among the first to have this all revealed to him." Henrickson said there are a lot of lines of dialogue that resonate with him, but there is one line that especially touches him. "It was painful to be so close to God's dwelling place, meaning the temple or church, and know that I was not invited," Henrickson said. To tie into this year's theme, the proceeds from "Christmas at the Cathedral" will support the poor through the Bishop Dudley Hospitality House. "It's kind of beautiful how everything came together," Conzemius said. Henrickson received an e-mail and a phone call in August after many people suggested he should play a part in the event. Because of all his work in area theater, Conzemius thought Henrickson was perfect for the role. "He kind of just asked if I would consider it," Henrickson said. "Of course, I said 'yes' right away." Conzemius said that he admires Henrickson's talent. "In addition, he has a great heart and a great faith," he said. "We are thankful for having a person from Yankton in our production. I know that he will make Yankton and other people from across this region very proud." Conzemius said that he

sees a sense of sincerity and genuineness in Henrickson's performance. "He just comes through," he said. "That is something you can't fake. We are thrilled to have Andy. He believes deeply in the Christmas story." Henrickson said that he was excited "on so many levels" about the whole opportunity. "I can't wait. I'm stoked," he said. "It will nearly play to 5,000 people at the cathedral. And who knows how many it will see it on TV? It's exciting." Henrickson encouraged people that couldn't come to the performance to watch it on their televisions. "Set those DVRs!" he laughed. Henrickson will perform with Nashville recording artist, Shelley Jennings and tenor Mike Eldred who performed on Broadway in Les Miserables as "Jean Valjean." "Anyone who has played Jean Valjean professionally is amazing," Henrickson said. "So that will be an honor." Henrickson said that one of the best parts of the experience is spending time in the cathedral. "Last year, when I went to 'Christmas at the Cathedral,' we got there an hour early and just spent that hour walking around the cathedral," he said. "It's beautiful." Henrickson said his main challenge is to stay focused. "With all the marble, artwork and sculptures — it's hard," he admitted. Conzemius said the cathedral is a great jewel in South Dakota that everyone from all different backgrounds should share. "I just want everyone to feel welcome," he said. "I know sometimes because the Cathedral is the mother church of the Catholic Diocese that people may think that this show is not for them. But the Cathedral is everybody's place. It is a beacon of hope for all."

Tickets are still available for all but for the Friday, Dec. 19 performance at all Sioux Falls Hy-Vee stores, at [www.cfsd.org](http://www.cfsd.org) or by calling 605-988-3765. Follow Jordynne Hart on twitter at [twitter.com/hartjordynne](http://twitter.com/hartjordynne). Discuss this story at [www.yankton.net](http://www.yankton.net).

**Gerald Rupiper**



Rupiper

Gerald H. Rupiper, age 72, of Yankton, South Dakota, died Saturday, December 13, 2014, at Avera Sacred Heart Hospital in Yankton, surrounded by his family. A Mass of Christian Burial will be at 10:30 a.m. on Friday, December 19, 2014, at Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Yankton with Reverend Mark Lichter officiating. Burial will be in the Garden of Memories Cemetery in Yankton. Visitation is from 4:00 to 8:00 p.m. on Thursday, December 18, 2014, at the Wintz & Ray Funeral Home in Yankton with a rosary at 7:00 p.m. and a vigil service at 7:30 p.m. Visitation will resume one hour prior to the Mass on Friday at the church. Pallbearers are Anthony Bemrich, Matt Schlingman, Mitch Schlingman, Craig Rupiper, Brent Rupiper, Scott Becker, and Keith Becker. Gerald Rupiper was born June 29, 1942 in Fordyce, Nebraska to Clarence and Bernadette (Boehmer) Rupiper. He grew up on the

family farm and attended school at St. John the Baptist Elementary in Fordyce, then graduated from Holy Trinity High School in Hartington, Nebraska in 1960. He married Bonnie Stevens, October 17, 1964 in Hartington. After their marriage, Gerald farmed near Fordyce until they moved to Utica, South Dakota and he began farming with his brother, Larry in 1969. He started Missouri Valley Irrigation in 1976 and later moved to Pierre, South Dakota where he continued in the irrigation business. In 1981, they moved to Fort Dodge, Iowa, where Gerald began working at Northwest Bank as an Ag Loan Officer. They moved back to Yankton in 1988, and opened The Floor to Ceiling Store, which he continued to own and operate with his wife, Bonnie despite his failing health. He was an active member of Sacred Heart Catholic

Church and the Knights of Columbus in Yankton and was a former president and member of the Lewis and Clark Homebuilders Association. Gerald was a hardworking, soft hearted, loyal and faithful man who enjoyed working in his yard and driving his 1963 Pontiac Catalina. One of his most cherished memories was playing drums with "The Wanted". He was a strong man who fought his disease with everything he had and loved his family above all else, especially his wife and all of his girls. Survivors include his wife, Bonnie of Yankton; five daughters: Brenda Liddicoat (Greg Ching) of Denver, Colorado; Kristi (Jamie) Bemrich of Fort Dodge, Iowa; Robyn (Mark) Glaser of Denver; Dixie (Chris) DeGroot of Sioux Falls, South Dakota; and Jen Rupiper (Don Reyes) of Shakopee, Minnesota; five grandchildren: Anthony and Aubrey Bemrich, Logan DeGroot, and Matthew and Piper Glaser; three brothers: Larry (Jane) Rupiper of Yankton; Clair (Kathy) Rupiper of Fordyce, Nebraska; and Stanley Rupiper of Sioux City,

Iowa; four sisters: Mary Ellen (David) Kline of Yankton; Rose Mary (Terry) Becker of Norfolk, Nebraska; Carla (Jim) Schlingman of Yankton; and Cheryl Ann Rupiper of Hartington. He is also survived by numerous nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his parents. In lieu of flowers, monetary donations will be made to help future patients of the new hospice care facility in Memory of Gerald Rupiper. To send an online message to the family, please visit [www.wintzrayfuneralhome.com](http://www.wintzrayfuneralhome.com).

Yankton Press & Dakotan  
December 16, 2014



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**Leon Preszler**



Preszler

Leon K. Preszler, age 69, of Yankton, SD passed away peacefully at his home Friday, December 12, 2014. Funeral services will be 10:30 a.m. Wednesday, December 17, 2014 at the Opsahl-Kostel Funeral Chapel, Yankton, with Rev. Joel Fleischer officiating. Burial will be in the Hills of Rest Cemetery, Sioux Falls, SD at approximately 2:30 p.m. Wednesday afternoon with Military graveside rites by the Sioux Falls American Legion Post 15 and the South Dakota Army National Guard Honor Guard. Visitations will be 5 to 7 p.m. Tuesday, December 16, 2014 at the Opsahl-Kostel Funeral Home & Crematory, Yankton, SD and then one hour prior to the service at the funeral chapel. Leon Kenneth Preszler was born April 15, 1945 to Kenneth and Joyce (Bartell) Preszler. He

grew up at Meadow, SD on the family cattle ranch, attending country school through 8th grade at Grand Central in Meadow, and high school in Lemmon, SD. Leon attended college at South Dakota State University in Brookings, SD, where he met his wife, Suzanne (Wittmayer) Preszler. He graduated with a Bachelor of Science degree in Animal Science in December of 1967. He and Suzanne were married December 29, 1968 in Suzanne's hometown of Eureka, SD. In 1968, Leon was drafted into the United States Army and served in Vietnam from October of 1969 through October of 1970. Leon and Suzanne ranched at Athboy, SD for 17 years, raising beef cattle and grain crops. There they raised 3 children:

Christine, Lucinda and Trent. They moved to Yankton, SD in 1987, where Leon worked as a welder for KPI, Inc. until he retired in 2012. He was a member of Berea Lutheran Church in Sioux Falls, SD. Leon had a lifelong love of rodeo, starting as a kid in 4-H and competing all through high school, college and for several years after college on the NRCA and SDRA rodeo circuits. He was an avid hunter and outdoorsman, as well as a football fan, faithfully cheering for the Minnesota Vikings regardless of how often they disappointed him. He was a member of Yankton County Sharpshooters, and supported Ducks Unlimited, Rocky Mountain Elk and Pheasants Forever organizations. He was known for his infectious laugh and love of his family. Leon is survived by his wife, Suzanne Preszler of Yankton, SD; his son, Trent Preszler of Mattituck, NY; one daughter and son-in-law, Christine and

Gary Hoover of Lakeville, MN; one brother and sister-in-law, Floyd and Barbara Preszler of Rapid City, SD; two sisters and brothers-in-law, Nancy and Greg Kampfe of Rapid City, SD, and Linda and Frank Pisacka of Crawford, NE; two sisters and brothers-in-law, Cecelia Wittmayer and Norman Andenas of Howard, SD; John and Coleen Wittmayer of Roscoe, SD; and numerous nieces, nephews, cousins and extended family. He was preceded in death by his daughter, Lucinda Mae Preszler; two cousins, Wendy Voigt and Scott Bartell; his parents; and his maternal and paternal grandparents.

Yankton Press & Dakotan  
December 16, 2014

**OPSAHL-KOSTEL**  
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**Dean Kuchta**

Dean R. Kuchta, 71, of rural Crofton (Menominee), Nebraska, died peacefully at his home Monday, Dec. 15, 2014. Funeral services are pending with the Opsahl-Kostel Funeral Home & Crematory, Yankton. Wayne Hill Jr. Wayne Allen Hill, Jr., 65, of Creighton, Nebraska, and formerly of Yankton, died Sunday, Dec. 14, 2014, at the Avera Creighton Hospital, Creighton. Funeral services are pending with the Opsahl-Kostel Funeral Home & Crematory, Yankton.

ing with the Opsahl-Kostel Funeral Home & Crematory, Yankton. Thera Sherman Thera Ann Sherman, 34, of Yankton passed away unexpectedly on Saturday, Dec. 13, 2014, at her home. Funeral service will be 11 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 20, 2014, at Sacred Heart Catholic Church, Yankton, with the Rev. Mark Lichter officiating. Cremation will follow the funeral mass. Visitations will begin at 5 p.m., Friday, Dec. 19, at the Opsahl-Kostel Funeral Home &

Crematory, Yankton, with a rosary at 7 p.m. followed by a video tribute and then Scripture service at 7:30 p.m. Visitations will resume one hour prior to the service at the church. Charles Branaugh Charles R. Branaugh, 89, of Bonham, Texas, and formerly of Yankton, died under hospice care on Monday, Dec. 8, 2014, at the Clyde Cosper VA Center, Bonham. Memorial services will be 10:30 a.m. Dec. 29, 2014, at First United Methodist Church, Yankton, with the Rev.

Ron Johnson officiating. Burial of cremated remains will be in the Yankton Cemetery with Military Graveside Rites by South Dakota Army National Guard Honor Guard, Sioux Falls, and the Ernest-Bowyer VFW Post No. 791 Honor Guard, Yankton. Visitation will be one hour prior to service at the church.

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