



Maynard Okeson

November 1, 1926 - July 25, 2006

Maynard Okeson, age 79, of Twin Valley, Minnesota, died Tuesday, July 25, 2006, in the Roseau Area Hospital, Roseau, Minnesota.

Maynard Gene Okeson was born November 1, 1926, the son of Harry and Minnie (Engberg) Okeson on a farm northeast of Detroit Lakes, Minnesota where he grew up. As a youngster, Maynard attended school in Detroit Lakes later graduating with the class of 1944. While in high school, Maynard was very active in sports including baseball, track, and football. While in high school Maynard went to the state track meet in the shot put and he was also on the all conference football team. After graduation, Maynard farmed for a time with his father. Maynard went to Managers Training and did an internship with the Big 5 Co-op in Detroit Lakes. On September 11, 1948, Maynard was united in marriage to Bernice Helseth at Atlanta Lutheran Church near Ulen. The couple lived for a time on a farm near Detroit Lakes. They then moved to Ulen, Minnesota where Maynard managed the Ulen Co-op for two years. In 1956, Maynard managed the Co-op in Twin Valley until next becoming manager of the Viking Snowmobile Manufacturing in Twin Valley. Maynard also managed the Ada, Minnesota Co-op for two years before taking the position in the Twin Valley State Bank. He retired as Vice-President and was currently serving on the board of directors. During his years of employment in Twin Valley, Maynard also owned Okeson Clothing and the Twin Valley Variety Store. Maynard and Bernice enjoyed spending summers at their lake home on Tulaby Lake as well as time spent there with family and friends.

Maynard was a talented woodworker, making many pieces of furniture for family and friends. He also enjoyed hunting, fishing and all sporting events. Maynard especially found pleasure following his sons' sporting events and in most recent years, those of his grandchildren.

Maynard was an active member of Zion Lutheran Church in Twin Valley, serving for many years on the Church Council. He also retired from the Twin Valley Fire Department after serving as a fireman for 33 years. Maynard served on the School Board, City Council, Booster Club, Industrial Development Committee and was involved with the Minnesota Bankers Association.

Maynard is survived by his wife of 57 years, Bernice of Twin Valley, MN; three sons, Dave (Kathy) of Forest Lake, MN, Mark (Cheryl) and Keith (Missy) all of Roseau, MN; 12 grandchildren, five great-grandchildren and several nieces and nephews.

He is preceded in death by one daughter, Diane and one sister, Helen.

Funeral Services were held on Friday, July 28, 2006 at 10:30 AM in Zion Lutheran Church, Twin Valley, MN. Officiating was Pastor Charles Bade with Danette Gwin serving as organist and Mark and Rhoda Habedank serving as vocalists. Pallbearers were Harris Garberg, Don Skaurud, Clayton Skaurud, Harold Bergstrom, Eldred Opsahl, David Mickelson, Charlie Swanson, Dennis Hoekstra, Karl Schultz and Dave Mattinen. Honorary Pallbearers were Russell Okeson, John Okeson, Orin Okeson, Donald Okeson, Charles Okeson, Orville Johnson, the Coffee Club and the Employees at the First Financial Bank of Twin Valley.

Interment was in Zion Lutheran Cemetery, Twin Valley, Minnesota. Visitation was held Thursday, July 27th from 5:00 PM until 7:00 PM with a Prayer Service at 7:00 PM in the Zion Lutheran Church, Twin Valley, MN. Visitation was also one hour before services at the church on Friday.

Tribute Wall

KO

“ We were all thinking of you yesterday and wishing you peace in heaven on what would have been your 83rd birthday. Your deer hunting buddies are getting ready.

Kathy Okeson - November 02, 2009 at 09:02 PM

AN

“ Merry Christmas Grandpa! We are all thinking of you today. Love, Andrea, Stef, Dad, Mom, Doug and Grandma Bernice

Andrea - December 24, 2008 at 02:57 PM

SO

“ Grampy-- Missing you lots today! Our memories of you are still very much alive!! Love you so much

Stefanie Okeson - July 25, 2008 at 10:47 AM

AO

“ Grandpa, I can't believe it's been almost two years since we lost you. Sometimes I feel like this is my way to send you messages. I hope you know how much we love you. I still can't believe you're gone. You are forever in my heart and I love you so much. Love, Andrea.

AJ Okeson - April 07, 2008 at 12:34 AM

KA

“ Missing you on your 81st birthday. Love Kathy

Kathy - November 02, 2007 at 11:59 AM

SO

“ Gramps- On this one year anniversary I am comforted by all the memories I have with you. I am so thankful to have had you in my life for 25 years. Til we meet again..Love you & miss you, Stef

Stefanie Okeson - July 25, 2007 at 12:02 PM

ST

“ I'm missing you alot during this time of year and wanted to say how much I love you and am so thankful for all the years we had with you.

Stefanie - December 16, 2006 at 06:41 PM

KA

“ I know you're watching over the deer hunters and that your boys are keeping your spirit alive and with them. Always a special time for you. We miss you.

Kathy - November 04, 2006 at 09:52 PM

AO

“ happy birthday grandpa.

Andrea Jean Okeson - November 01, 2006 at 09:57 PM

AO

“ Thank you for being the best Grandpa I could ever hope or wish for. I can't wait to see you again. I love you.

Andrea J. Okeson - August 05, 2006 at 01:32 PM

KA

“ I will forever treasure the past month spent with Maynard and Bernice in Twin Valley and Roseau. He was the best father I could have received when I married Dave and the most wonderful Grampa to our kids. Thank you for all of the years and special times we had with you. I love you. Kathy.

Kathy - July 31, 2006 at 12:03 PM

MG

“ Bernice & Family,
We all grieve for Maynard, that he has been taken from us. We so enjoyed the visits with your family over the years. But we know that he is in a much better place, free from pain, with our Lord. We have all been promised this opportunity of an eternity together because Jesus went to the cross for us. Jesus conquered death, and death is not the end, but it begins the next step in our eternal life. We can smile at death when we know we have hope for the future.
Take comfort in the 23rd Psalm, "The LORD is my shepherd, I shall not be in want. He makes me lie down in green pastures, he leads me beside quiet waters, he restores my soul. He guides me in paths of righteousness for his name's sake. Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me. You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies. You anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows. Surely goodness and love will follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever."

Love,

The Goettels - Janelle, Mike, Brock, Allison

Mike & Janelle Goettel - July 29, 2006 at 10:08 AM

HJ

“ Our thoughts and prayers are with you and your family. We're just a phone call away. (773) 568-9122 Hank & Bev Watson Jr.

Henry & Beverly Watson Jr - July 27, 2006 at 11:28 PM

SO

“ We have been so fortunate to have had Maynard as such a good family friend. They just don't get any better than that. Our community will miss him greatly. We have many fond memories of Maynard.
Hugs from the Olsons

Steve & Karen Olson - July 27, 2006 at 03:21 PM

ST

“ I love you Grampa

Stefanie - July 27, 2006 at 12:14 AM