



## Donald Sweeter

September 8, 1933 - April 28, 2023

Donald Gene Sweeter, age 89, of Worthing, SD, passed away April 28, 2023, at Sanford USD Medical Center, Sioux Falls, SD.

Don was born on the family farm on September 8, 1933, the son of Harry and Mollie (Meyer) Sweeter. He grew up attending Nelson District #34 rural school. At age 14 he began farming full time, and at the same age, became a cattle buyer. In 1956, he graduated from Reisch Auction School in Mason City, IA, which led to a lifelong career as an auctioneer. In addition to farming, Don conducted thousands of farm, livestock, machinery, personal property and benefit auctions. He auctioned over 40 years at the Menno Livestock Auction and assisted with the Lincoln County 4-H livestock sale for 60 years.

On June 5, 1959, he was united in marriage to Helen Hanson at West Prairie Lutheran Church. The couple made their home on the family farm for over 63 years, where they raised three children.

Don was baptized at Second Reformed Church, then became a member of West Prairie Lutheran Church, where he served on the church council and taught Sunday School. He was a member and served as a board officer for various organizations, including the Lennox Lions, Lennox Area Community Fund, Lynn Township, South Lincoln Rural Water and Lewis & Clark Rural Water. He was most active and proud of his service in the SD Auctioneers Association, and in 2004 was inducted into the SD Auctioneers Hall of Fame. Don's hobby was work. He was a people person who had a great sense of humor, loved to tell stories, jokes and laugh. He was a devoted husband,

father and grandfather who deeply loved his family. Don enjoyed giving the blessing at family gatherings and made it known that "Jesus has been with me my whole life!"

Don was preceded in death by his parents, Harry and Mollie Sweeter; infant sister Carol Ann; sister Elaine Farmer; brothers Gerhard, Elmer, Fred, and Harold Sweeter; and his father and mother-in-law, Helmer and Margaret Hanson.

Grateful for having shared his life are his wife of over 63 years, Helen; children Jeff (Lisa) Sweeter, Lennox, Lynne (Jay) White, Worthing, and Jon (Amy) Sweeter, Sioux Falls; grandchildren, Chelsea (TJ) Byl, Brittany (Jason) Haan, Sydney (Alex) Woods, Andrew (Emily) Sweeter, Jackson White, Jon White, Kathryn Sweeter; sister Dorothy VanBockern, Canton, sisters-in-law: Bernice Sweeter, Canton, Molly Sweeter, Milbank, and Myrna (Jeff) Ryder, Fond du Lac, WI, as well as a host of other relatives and friends.

Services will begin at 10:00 a.m. Wednesday May 3 at West Prairie Lutheran Church, rural Lennox. Visitation, with the family present, also at West Prairie Lutheran Church, will be 5 to 7 p.m. Tuesday, May 2. Service can be viewed via the West Prairie Lutheran Church facebook page.

# Tribute Wall

DF

“ To Helen, Jeff, Lynne, Jon and families:

*We extend our sympathy to you on Don’s death. Our dad often referred to Don as “The \$25 Million Dollar Man” because he had auctioneered off at least \$25 million worth of cattle at Menno Livestock Auction. We are sure our grandpa Arnold and my dad Arden welcomed Don into heaven and they are organizing livestock sales and Don is auctioneering.*

*Dr. Lori Dewald, EdD, ATC, MCHES, F-AAHE  
Delmar, MD*

*Steve Dewald and family  
Broken Arrow, OK*

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**Dr. Lori Dewald, EdD, ATC, MCHES, F-AAHE** - May 02, 2023 at 12:00 AM

AF

“ We will always remember Uncle Don as a kind, gentle man. Our thoughts and prayers go out to all the family at this difficult time.



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**Art & Peggy Farmer** - May 02, 2023 at 12:00 AM

JT

“ We are sorry for your loss. 🙏 He was a great man and lived life the right way.



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**Jim & Peggy Thorpe** - May 01, 2023 at 12:00 AM

BL

“ To The Sweeter family. Don was tremendous man whom I enjoyed visiting with him on several occasions. He was admired and respected throughout the community and raised a wonderful family. I enjoyed his visits and his jokes were well received. May God Bless all of you in these tremendous times but cherish the memories for EVER. God Bless  
Brian Lind

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**Brian Robert Lind** - May 01, 2023 at 12:00 AM

BW

“ Our thoughts and prayers are with all of you. Don was a fantastic person and will be greatly missed. Hugs to all.

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**Barbara & Russ Woolf** - May 01, 2023 at 12:00 AM

CR

“ Dear Jon and Amy,  
Tracy and I were so sad to hear about the loss of Jon’s dad Don. We are lifting your family up in prayer right now and hope you can take solace in the good memories and love you have of and for him. God’s Peace to you all.  
Love,  
Chris and Tracy Rossing



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**Chris and Tracy Rossing** - May 01, 2023 at 12:00 AM

HS

“ Dear Helen and Family:

*I'm sending my sincere condolences to you in the loss of your dear Don. May our Heavenly Father grant you His peace and comfort now and in the coming days.  
Blessed be his memory.*

*With my sympathy and prayers,  
Helen Schmidt (Youngquist) - Augustana Academy classmate of Helen's*

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**Helen Schmidt** - April 30, 2023 at 12:00 AM

LT

“ *Your in my thoughts and prayers*

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**LoAnn Tuenge** - April 30, 2023 at 12:00 AM

TB

“ *Our condolences to all. Don was a great influence in my life. The great smile and humility made him a friend to all.*

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**Terry Brick** - April 30, 2023 at 12:00 AM

J(

“ *I'm so sorry to hear this news. Don was such a kind gentle soul. I worked with him and for him. He will be greatly missed. My thoughts and prayers are with his family. Cherish the memories.*



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**Janel Kaltenbach (Short)** - April 30, 2023 at 12:00 AM

VF

“ *Helen, Jon and families. Words canâ€™t tell you what this man meant to us. All ways made us feel welcome. He was my Uncle Charlie. Always had a joke. RIP Don. We love you*



Val & Dawn Luckett & Family - April 30, 2023 at 12:00 AM

DP

“ *My thoughts and prayers are with you as you celebrate Don's life. May you find comfort know that others care and share your sorrow.*

Debra Petersen - April 29, 2023 at 12:00 AM

AL

“ *Our deepest sympathy to all the family.* 🙏🙏

Arlo & Vonnie Larson - April 29, 2023 at 12:00 AM

MM

“ *So sorry to hear about Don's passing. Prayers for all.*

Mac and Carol McEntee - April 29, 2023 at 12:00 AM

RS

“ *Remember this good man well!*

Russ Surdez - April 29, 2023 at 12:00 AM

AJ

“ *Psalm 116:15*  
*New International Version*  
*15 Precious in the sight of the Lord*  
*is the death of his faithful servants.*



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**Arthur & Marcia Jelsma** - April 29, 2023 at 12:00 AM