



Gerald Sonksen

September 11, 1931 - April 11, 2011

Gerald "Beep" Sonksen, 79, of Kearney, died Monday, April 11, 2011 at the Good Samaritan Hospital in Kearney. Funeral Services will be 10:30 A.M. Friday, April 15, 2011 at the O'Brien - Straatmann Funeral Home in Kearney. Family will greet friends 5:00 to 7:00 P.M. Thursday, April 14, 2011 at O'Brien - Straatmann Funeral Home. Interment will be at a later date. Memorials are suggested to the Kearney Area Community Foundation or the Kearney Volunteer Fire Department. O'Brien - Straatmann Funeral Home of Kearney is in charge of arrangements. Gerald "Beep" Sonksen, son of John and Helen (Koch) Sonksen was born on September 11, 1931 in Ida Grove, Iowa. He was baptized and confirmed at Grant Township Missouri Synod Church. Growing up in Ida County and attending schools there until he entered Schleswig High School in Schleswig, Iowa graduating in 1950. On July 27, 1952 he was united in marriage to Arlene Miller in Freidens Evangelical and Reformed Church in Schleswig, Iowa. They made their home there where he entered into partnership in the Texaco Station. In 1956, he built the Standard Station in Schleswig and added a drive-in restaurant in partnership with Melvin Miller. In 1965, both were sold when Beep joined the Ralston Purina Company as Sales Manager. He was transferred to Kearney, Nebraska in 1974. He held this position with the company until his retirement in 1998. He was a member of the Missouri Lutheran Church both in Schleswig and Kearney. He served on the Schleswig Fire Department for twenty-four years, served on the Schleswig Community Club, Schleswig Golf Club, Kearney Chamber of Commerce,

including the Colonel's Club, as well as, many livestock clubs. He enjoyed golf as a life-long hobby. His survivors include his wife, Arlene; son, Bryce and his wife, Paula, their children Taylor, Sloan and Conner; daughter, Brenda Raatz, her children Derek and Ashley; son, Paul and his wife, Brenda, their children Tora, Nathan and Drew; son-in-law, Mitchell Wade. Preceding him in death was his parents; daughter, Ann; brother, DeWayne; sister, Janice and a son-in-law, Lonnie Raatz.

Tribute Wall



“ *Gerald Sonksen*

January 28, 2023 at 08:01 AM



“ *My sincere sympathy to Beep's family. Beep's mother and my father (Orville Riessen) were first cousins. Jerry Riessen*

Jerry Riessen - August 21, 2013 at 05:59 AM



“ *Arlene and family. Am sorry to hear of your loss. Beep was a wonderful guy and a good boss to Gailen. I remember babysitting for you and loved your kids. Pray all are doing well. He's home now and enjoying see all that went before him and they are rejoicing together*

Gailen & Barb Lyman - August 21, 2013 at 05:59 AM



“ *Please accept our heartfelt sympathy in your time of great sorrow. I have many fond memories of Beep, both in Schleswig when he was one of the few golfers who could cut the corner on hole #4 and when we moved to Grand Island and he regularly stopped by my office to purchase meat and visit. He always had several jokes to share and was always happy and laughing. I know he had many friends. We feel fortunate to have known him. Our thoughts are with you and we extend our greatest sympathy to the Sonksen family.*

Scott and Kathy Broers - August 21, 2013 at 05:59 AM

DK

“ *Arlene, we are so sorry to hear of Beep's passing. We are still in AZ but will be home soon and talk to you then. Please know that you are in our prayers and thoughts. Cheryl*

Duane & Cheryl Kuhnel - August 21, 2013 at 05:59 AM