



## Reuben H. Brei

April 24, 2015 - September 15, 2015

Reuben H. Brei, 92, of Kearney, died Tuesday, September 15, 2015 at CHI Good Samaritan Hospital in Kearney.

Funeral services will be at 11:00 am Saturday, September 19, 2015 at Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church in Winner, SD. Interment will be at 2:00 pm at Zion Lutheran Cemetery in Mission, SD. Visitation will be from 4-6 pm Friday, September 18, 2015 at O'Brien Straatmann Redinger Funeral Home in Kearney.

Memorials are suggested to the family for later designation. Online condolences may be shared at [www.osrfh.com](http://www.osrfh.com).

Reuben Henry Brei was born on April 24, 1923 at the family home near Mission, SD in Todd County to Henry and Anna Brei, nee Kasat. He was baptized and confirmed at Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church in Mission, SD. He was a faithful member of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod his entire life, having served for many years on various boards and committees. Reuben was a member of Zion in Mission, SD, Trinity in Winner, SD and Good Shepherd in Kearney, NE.

Reuben graduated from Todd County High School in 1942 and worked for Wierr Construction Co., Orville Barry and L.E. Jones prior to beginning his

career with the South Dakota Department of Transportation, where he worked for 36 years, retiring in June of 1986 as a certified heavy equipment operator.

Reuben married Phyllis Christiansen on June 12, 1954. To this union two children were born, Philip Reuben and Cheryl Irene Brei-Phillips.

Reuben retained his family's farming roots as was evidenced for many years by the large garden and fruit trees at their home in Mission, SD. Caring for the lawn and the trees around the home was a passion of Reuben's, the time and care spent on their home was very apparent. Reuben enjoyed hunting and fishing around the Mission, White River area. He was an avid fisherman for much of his life and loved to spend time with family and friends at a lake or perhaps even better telling and re-telling stories of past adventures. He also enjoyed attending Todd County High School reunions, he looked forward to them with great anticipation and loved to visit with old friends from the area and from across the country.

Reuben and Phyllis moved from Mission, SD to Winner, SD in November 2001, after living at their home in Mission for 45 years. They enjoyed their retirement years in Winner, especially the opportunity to meet old friends at coffee and the friendship that they made with their neighbors in Winner. They lived in Winner until February of 2012 when they moved to Cherry Hills in Valentine, NE. Reuben and Phyllis moved to Kearney, NE in March of 2013 due to Phyllis's declining health.

Reuben is survived by his son Philip, daughter in law, Lois and two grandsons, Kevin of Charles City, IA and Matthew of Kearney, NE. Three nieces, JoAnn Holmes, Laura Emde and Doris Abraham and their families; nephews, Jerald Brei and Harold Brei and their families, as well as numerous cousins throughout Minnesota, Nebraska and Michigan.

Reuben was preceded in death by his wife Phyllis, his daughter Cheryl Brei-Phillips, his parents, Henry and Anna Brei, brothers, Richard, Emil and John, sister Irene Brei-Tuttle-Anderson, brothers in law, Leon Tuttle and Clifford Anderson, sisters in law Darlene Brei and Violet Brei, two great nieces, Lisa and Angel Holmes, and father and mother in law, John and Gladys Christiansen.

# Cemetery Details

**Zion Lutheran**

Mission, SD

# Tribute Wall



“ *Reuben H. Brei*

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January 28, 2023 at 08:01 AM



“ *So very sorry for your loss. I didn't get to spend a lot of time with Reuben, but it was always interesting to listen to stories about his past and his children !*

*Bonita Byrne*

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**Bonita Byrne** - September 18, 2015 at 01:03 PM



“ *Sorry for your loss. You are all in our thoughts and prayers. Everett & Marie Reagle*

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**Everett & Marie Reagle** - September 17, 2015 at 10:47 AM



“ *I am so sorry for your loss. Your memories will help you through this hard time. He truly enjoyed life. Sharon Eddie*

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**Sharon Eddie** - September 17, 2015 at 09:44 AM