Final Harvest

He was bound to the land from the day of his birth
His roots anchored deep in the fertile earth
Nurtured, sustained, by the soil he grew
And his life, like his furrows, ran straight and true.

In faith, each spring, he planted the seeds
In hope, to reap his family’s needs
With patience, he waited for the harvest to come
To gather the fruits of his labor home.

Ever turning the seasons, the years sped past
Till the final harvest came at last
Then claimed anew by beloved sod
He was gathered home to be with God.

Barbara W. Weber
In Loving Memory of

John Helmer Krabseth

July 15, 1929 ~ April 24, 2014

John was born on July 15, 1929, in Wildrose, ND, to Helmer and Nora (Martinson) Krabseth. He was raised on a farm south of Alamo, attended a rural elementary school in Winner Township and graduated from Alamo High School in 1947. He attended North Dakota Agricultural College (now North Dakota State University) in Fargo for one year, then returned to the family farm.

On October 11, 1952, John married Joyce Scott at the First Methodist Church in Williston. They made their home on the family farm where they started their family. In 1967 John moved his family into Williston into a home he designed and built.

In addition to being a lifelong farmer, John was the owner/operator of a Federal Crop Insurance/Krabseth Agency for 49 years. He enjoyed farming and working with area farmers with their insurance needs so much he considered working a “hobby”. The more success he had the more he put back into the communities. He believed in his community and participated in many different organizations. He was a member of Hauge Lutheran and First Lutheran Churches; Elks Club; Credit Union Board; Old Armory Governing Board; co-chairman of First Lutheran Church Lutefisk Dinner; and co-chairman of the Ernie French Ag Center Steering Committee. Professionally, John was CEO of Northern Crop Insurance, charter member and President of the National Association of Crop Insurance Agents; and served on a Crop Insurance Federal Task Force.

John loved spending time with his family. He enjoyed many fishing and camping trips with the family. In later years he and Joyce enjoyed traveling and made many friends. He served as President of the North Dakota Peace Garden Unit of the Wally Byam Caravan Club.

John’s loving family includes his wife Joyce; three children: Blake (Brenda), Minot, ND; Bruce (Melanie), Alamo, ND; and Holly (Kent) Stillson, Watertown, SD; eight grandchildren: Shannon (Cortney) Bushnell, Minot, ND; Amber (Ryan) Ogaard, Williston, ND; Jeremy (Anastasia), Fargo; Kayla, Fargo, ND; Kendrick, Alamo, ND; Kevin (Mara) Stillson, Sioux Falls, SD; Paul Stillson, Spearfish, SD; and Karise Stillson, Rapid City, SD; six great-grandchildren: Alyss and Ellie Ogaard, Williston, ND; Hannah and Myah Bushnell, Minot, ND; and McKenna and Hayden Krabseth, Alamo, ND. John also had a special bond with his three nieces, Carol, Jan and Roberta. John’s close family relationships also included cousins, nieces, nephews and extended family of in-laws.

John was preceded in death by his parents Helmer and Nora Krabseth; twin brothers, Herbert William and Helmer Gilmore; one sister, Elaine Preston; and one great granddaughter Leslie Ogaard.