



## David K Acheson

April 14, 1938 - April 21, 2014

David K. Acheson, age 76 Cold Spring April 14, 1938 – April 16, 2014 Funeral services will be 1:00 p.m. Monday April 21, 2014 at First United Methodist Church on Pinecone Road in Sartell, MN for David Acheson, age 76, who died Wednesday, at St. Cloud Hospital. Burial will be in the St. Boniface Cemetery, Cold Spring, MN. Visitation will be held Sunday, April 20, 2014 from 4:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. at Wenner Funeral home in Richmond, and 10:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. Monday at the church. David Kent Acheson was born on April 14, 1938, in Chester, SD, the son of Claude and Ruth (Ponto) Acheson. He grew up on a farm in Moody County South Dakota and attended grade school in Rutland, SD. In 1956 he graduated from Flandreau High School where he participated in track, basketball, football, and FFA. He attended South Dakota State University, playing four years with the Jackrabbit football team and graduating with a BS degree in the summer of 1960 and an M. Ed degree in 1965 in agricultural education. David married Donna Frager at First Methodist Church in Madison, SD, on July 2, 1960. He started a 40-year career in public education as the high school vocational agriculture teacher in Burke, SD, with his new bride, who for 53 years was also known as “my secretary.” In 1962 he returned to Flandreau where he was the high school vocational ag teacher and FFA advisor for 12 years. His department served as a teacher training center for agriculture education majors from SDSU for nine years. He spent part of ten summers as an inspector of certified seed fields for the SD Crop Improvement Association. David served as an officer in the South Dakota

Vocational Agricultural Teachers Association, one term as president of the Flandreau Education Association, and ten years as a member of the Flandreau Jaycees. He was also a registered certified official with the South Dakota State High School League in football and basketball until his move to Minnesota. In 1974 he accepted the position of Adult Farm Management Instructor at Rocori High School in Cold Spring, MN, and found that working with area farm families at their kitchen table could be as much fun as teaching high school students in the classroom. David held memberships in the National and Minnesota Vocational Agriculture Teachers Associations, and the Rocori Education Association. He had served on the advisory board for the Farm Business Management Department at St. Cloud Technical College and on the executive board of the MN State Forage and Grasslands Council. In 1995 he was recognized as teacher of the year by the MN Vocational Association and the MN Agricultural Education Association. After his retirement from School District 750 and Ridgewater College in 2000, he worked several summers for the Stearns County Soil and Water Conservation District and as a seed salesman for Wensman. He was a lifetime member of the Methodist Church and served as a communion steward for many years and on the Building and Grounds Committee. He was a member of the Rocori Booster Club and a former member of the Cold Spring Lions. Dave was a strong supporter of the Future Farmers of America organization and was recognized by them with honorary State Farmer Degrees in SD and MN, and with the honorary American Farmer Degree, which he received at the national FFA convention in Kansas City in 1991. One of the highlights of his life was starting a summer fishing and camping trip to Lake of the Woods with two other fathers and their sons. Each summer the group grew and provided nine years of treasured memories for the "lads and dads" involved. He liked hunting but thought the best part was the commune with nature and the woods. Dave enjoyed playing slow-pitch softball until he was 55, then took up pitching horseshoes in the Eden Valley league. His children and grandchildren will miss his ever-present support and advice, but especially his sense of

humor. He is survived by his wife, Donna; three daughters, Margaret Acheson (Brett Bruvold), Rhoda (Duane) Paurus, Claudia Jean (Joel) Winter, and a son, Jon (Michelle); eight grandchildren, Mariah (Jason) Fischer, Mason and Myles Johannes, Matthew Paurus, Ian and Jasper Winter, Grace and Evan Acheson; and his brother, Gerald (Lynne), a niece and two nephews. David faced his six-year journey with T-cell lymphocytic leukemia with a positive attitude mixed with more than a little humor. It was an adventure that was made as pleasant as possible by Dr. Lemma and the oncology staff at CentraCare Health Plaza and by all of the kind and concerned people working in the Emergency Department and Fifth Floor North at St. Cloud Hospital. His family is so grateful to all of you for your compassionate care.

# Tribute Wall



“ *David K Acheson*

January 29, 2023 at 09:26 AM



“ *Very sad to hear of the passing of Mr. Acheson. He was a great Ag teacher, but was also a great person. That is what made you want to learn as much as you could from him. He pulled you in with his attitude and enthusiasm for learning!*

**Gary Headrick** - April 30, 2014 at 11:26 AM



“ *Donna & family,  
I am so sorry to hear of Dave's passing. He accomplished so much and was a blessing to many. And you were a blessing to him. When in Flandreau, I always thought the two of you were so cool! I pray that wonderful memories and great friends will sustain you and all the kids through this difficult time.*

**Jo Maxwell** - April 24, 2014 at 07:24 PM



“ *I was sadden to hear of the passing of Coach Dave. He was a teacher of mine and football coach at Flandreau High School. I always enjoyed the interaction that I had with him in class and on the football field. Still have the tool box that I made in ag. class. God is getting a very very good man.*

**Mike Schmidt** - April 23, 2014 at 07:39 PM

JD

“ Donna and family, we are so saddened to hear of Dave's passing. Please know we are with in prayer today. I am so sorry we weren't able to make it. Hugs all around! God bless you all. We will talk soon!

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**Jerry and Kathy Doyle** - April 21, 2014 at 09:31 AM

DG

“ Donna and family, You have our prayers and deepest sympathy. Lots of memories from the slow pitch games the guys all played while we gals chased our children at the playgrounds.

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**Dene and Gwenda Gullickson** - April 20, 2014 at 08:20 PM

GS

“ Oh Donna,  
We are with you in spirit and so sorry that Dave has passed! We are out of town and can not come be with you but please contact us and we would love to connect with you. George's phone is 320-828-2732 and mine is 320-250-1110 and my email is jsfiddler@charter.net and George's is drgeorge@charter.net. Be sure to contact us when you want company and we will meet and reconnect! Love you Donna!  
Jeanie and George Schoephoerster

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**George and Jeanie Schoephoerster** - April 20, 2014 at 02:53 PM

RT

“ *Dear Donna and Family,  
We join with your legions of friends in sending our sincere sympathy and heartfelt condolences on Dave's passing. We appreciated reading of all Dave' accomplishment and his contributions as well as his continuing involvements with sports and activities of all sorts. We pray God's comfort for all of you. May God Bless his memory.*

*Take care.*

*Love Roy and Mary Lou*

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**Roy and Mary Lou Terwilliger** - April 19, 2014 at 07:31 PM

PK

“ *Dearest Donna & your family, I am so sorry to hear of Dave's passing, but also joyful that we can all know he is in our Lord's everlasting arms, free from pain & worldly cares. My heart is full of loving prayers for all of you in your time of this great loss from your physical lives, but I also know from many experiences (as I'm sure you do too) that while death ends life as we know it, it does not end our relationship with our beloved ones. God is blessing you even now. Your loving friend Penny*

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**Penny Knudsen** - April 18, 2014 at 10:48 AM