



## Roger Brian Bechtold

July 29, 1960 - October 28, 2020

Roger Brian Bechtold died on October 28, 2020, in the St. Cloud Hospital. Roger belonged to Mary of the Immaculate Conception Church in Rockville and will be buried at St. James in Jacobs Prairie. A memorial service for Roger and his brother Gregory will be held when their whole family can attend.

Roger was born on July 29, 1960, in St. Cloud, Minnesota, to Jerry and LeMay Wagner Bechtold. He attended St. Boniface Grade School, Rocori Junior High, St. John's Prep School, the University of Minnesota, and St. John's University, where he earned a BS in Chemistry.

Roger grew up on the family farm in Rockville and joined his parents in running the Kipland Vale farm after college. Roger had the soul of a true farmer, nurturing the crops and stewarding the land, caring for the calves and cows (and dogs and cats) with gentleness and compassion, consistently maintaining buildings and equipment, and calmly managing the farm operations. He will be remembered for being an intelligent, honest, hardworking, and responsible steward of the land.

Roger dedicated his life to dairy farming, herd management, improving soils, and careful crop rotation for better production to improve farming methods for Kipland Vale and the whole farming community. This included serving on the New Vision Alliance Board for 11 years, on the Cold Spring Coop Creamery

Board for 12 years, and as a Land o' Lakes Leadership Council member and unit delegate from 1997-present.

Roger enjoyed visiting with associates connected with the farm, the farm workers, and neighbors, He helped neighbors care for their animals and farms and advised everyone who asked for help.

He enjoyed reading, cheering for the Twins and Vikings, following high school sports, and playing 500. He especially treasured having his nieces and nephews on the farm, helping with farm work and playing lively games of 500 over the years.

Roger is survived by his mother LeMay; sisters, Karen (Bernie Koltes), Brigid, Barbara (John Tomaro), Mary Ruth, and Joyce, his brothers, Stephen, Mark, and Timothy (Karen Knudsen); 19 nieces and nephews, Patrick, Brian, James, Shawn, Heidi, and Holly Koltes; Londi, Mark, Samuel, and Alicia Tomaro; Teresa, Thomas, Paul, and Joseph Bechtold; Shane, Cole, and Sage Christianson; and Stellan and Bente Bechtold.

He was preceded in death by his father in 2013; his brothers Michael in 1973 and Gregory on Easter Sunday, 2020. His grandparents were Albert and Clara Weyer Bechtold of St. Joseph, Minnesota, and Thomas and Margarette Jackins Wagner of Nashua, Montana.

Roger will be deeply missed by his family, friends, relatives, and neighbors. He will also be missed by all the farm workers and delivery and service people who became regulars on the farm. Roger appreciated working with them and appreciated their contributions to the farm. He is especially grateful for all the help with the crops and farm work during this summer and harvest when cancer caught him so suddenly.

Roger will be remembered as a kind and generous person with a gentle spirit.

He always took time for everyone and cared about them deeply. His nieces and nephews say he was the best role model they ever had.

# Cemetery Details

## **St. James Parish Cemetery**

Jacobs Prairie, MN

# Events

**Details are pending.**

# Tribute Wall



“ *Roger Brian Bechtold*

January 29, 2023 at 09:26 AM



“ *I served on a number of directorships as, and with Roger over the years. I treasure the meetings together and the rides to and from. The rides were always filled with good conversation and laughs. Roger was intelligent, challenging, creative, inspirational, kind and respectful. He always stopped his work and made time to visit when I stopped over. When I left, it was always with a glad feeling that I came. Good Bye for now my good friend!!*

*Roger Hommerding*

**Roger Hommerding** - November 02, 2020 at 11:06 AM



“ *My love to all of you! Roger loved a good joke, good conversation and I'll always remember the giant bowls of ice cream we all shared together! Lean on your faith and each other!*



**Pat Ebacher** - November 01, 2020 at 11:25 PM

KG

“ We will forever treasure our memories of weekends spent playing football, softball or volleyball with Roger and the rest of the family. He was a great person with so many talents. We will always remember his quiet chuckle and true friendship. Your family is in our prayers. We are sending our love.

Kurt and Jolene Braegelmann and Girls - November 01, 2020 at 10:10 PM

 Linda Westby

“ I am so sorry for your loss of Roger. My daughter works on the farm and said he was a great man and loved working with him. He will be missed by her a lot. Your family will be in my prayers.



Linda Westby - November 01, 2020 at 06:22 PM

RM

“ Rita Mosset sent a virtual gift in memory of Roger Brian Bechtold



Rita Mosset - November 01, 2020 at 01:30 PM