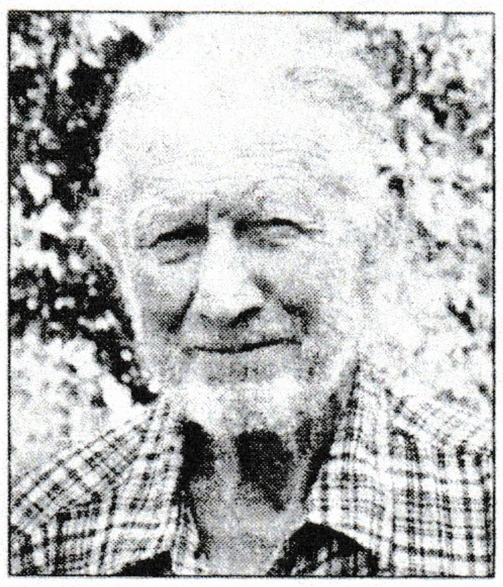
O'GORMAN, JOHN L. III
October 29, 1940
Burlington, Vermont
June 29, 2023
Viborg, SD
The New Era – July 20, 2023

John Leo O'Gorman, III

Viborg, SD
82
June 29, 2023



John Leo O'Gorman, III was born October 29, 1940 in Burlington, Vermont to John Leo O'Gorman, Jr. and Marion (Mahoney) O'Gorman. John died on June 29, 2023 at the age of 82.

John graduated from Sherwood High School in Sandy Spring, MD, and attended the University of Maryland. While living in Maryland he met Juanita Fraley Sese and they were united in marriage on June 3, 1961. They had three daughters, Kelly, Leslie and Erin.

John started his working life as a blacksmith in Olney, Md. In 1964, he and his family moved to the less populated state of Arizona, then finally settled in Centerville, South Dakota. John worked for a short time on his Aunt Eleanor Hunter's ranch before starting O'Gorman Welding in Centerville in 1965. He was a talented blacksmith, welder, mechanic, carpenter, and inventor, creating unique items such as spiral staircases, telescoping scaffolds, mechanical latches for gates and many more unique items. He closed the shop in 1987, as he had decided to start farming. John and Juanita purchased a farm in rural Viborg, SD, and lived and farmed there for all his remaining years. John loved farming, raising sheep and cattle, and continued to work on the farm right up until his passing.

John was an avid outdoorsman who relished hunting, fishing, and camping with his family.

John enjoyed many great friendships throughout the years. He served the City of Centerville as a fireman, council member, mayor and justice of the peace. John's greatest joy was his family; he was a loving gentle father, grandfather and great- grandfather.

John is survived by Juanita, his loving wife of 62 years, their daughters: Kelly O'Gorman (Mark Koch) and Leslie O'Gorman (Michael Weisensee), their grandchildren: Casey Eekhoff (Matt), Dane Jorgensen (Chelsea), Tyler Jorgensen (Christina), Aidan, Arieus and Acydia Christiansen, Chase Jacobson, Faith Newman (Josh), Brooks Geary, Josh O'Gorman (Tara), Tanner Geary, Cody Geary (Hannah), their great-grandchildren: Cleo, Dirk, Freya, Beatrix, Luke, Molly, Anaya, Abel, Ava, Zachary, Jacob, Trinity, Hunter, Titan, Magnus, Livi, Brinn, Maverick, Blake, Thomas, Jacob, Anna and Paisley; and his sister Marilee (O'Gorman) Reilly (Richard), as well as many nieces, nephews and cousins.

He was preceded in death by his parents, his aunt Eleanor Hunter, his daughter Erin Geary (Brian), his infant child and his siblings: Francis, Mark and Faith O'Gorman.

A prayer service will be held on Thursday, August 3 at 7:00 p.m., Good Shepherd Catholic Church in Centerville, S.D. with the family available for visitation from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. A Mass of Christian Burial will be held on Friday, August 4 at 10:00 a.m., with internment at Riverview Cemetery. A lunch and fellowship will follow the services and internment in the parish hall.

Condolences and memorials may be sent to 29022 446th Ave., Viborg, S.D., 57070. Good Shepherd Catholic Church will be available to receive flowers August 3 1:00-4:00 p.m. or August 4 8:00-9:00 a.m.