

HEIRIGS, Joseph

August 7, 1925
near Turkey Ridge SD
May 10, 2011
Menno

Viborg Enterprise
May 19, 2011

JOSEPH HEIRIGS

Joseph Heirigs, 85, died May 10, 2011 at his home in Menno.

He was born August 7, 1925 to Joseph and Iva (Johanson) Heirigs on the farm by Turkey Ridge. He farmed with his Dad until joining the US Army in February of 1946. He served in post war Germany until December of 1948. While in Germany, he married Tonja Kotschegarow and their first son Henry was born. After his discharge, they returned to the farm at Turkey Ridge and 4 children joined the family: Ralph (Roxie), Dorothy (Gary) Sanborn, Debby (Dan) Grace and Rick (Laura). Tonja passed away in May of 1970. Joseph married Joyce Hertz on July 2, 1971. She brought 5 sons Tom, Robert, Charlie, Jack and Jim Hertz to complete their family.

Joe followed in his father's footsteps and took up woodworking. He and Joyce started J & J Crafts. They traveled statewide to many craft shows and made many new friends along the way. Joe was an active member of the VFW and the American Legion. Joe and Joyce retired and moved into Menno in 1983. This year



they would have celebrated their 40th anniversary.

He was preceded in death by his parents, his first wife Tonja, a sister Evelyn Hauger and a stepson Charlie Hertz.

Joseph is survived by his wife Joyce of Menno; 9 children; 32 grandchildren; 22 great-grandchildren; and a sister, Helen (Jerome) Weier of Turkey Ridge.

Services were held on Saturday, May 14, 2011 at St. Boniface/ Idylwilde Catholic Church, rural Freeman with Father Matthew Vashappily officiating. Organist was Jennifer Weier and pallbearers were his Grandsons. Interment: St. Boniface Cemetery. Arrangements Fraternal Burial. Register online at www.viborgfuneralhome.com.