



“Jim” James Van Dyke was called home by his Lord and Savior Jesus Christ on October 29, 2009. He was 79 years old.

Born on April 9, 1930 in Manhattan, MT to Cora (Cline) and Lawrence Van Dyke, Jim was one of eleven children. Jim had fond memories of his childhood growing up on his parents’ farm. He was proud of his Dutch heritage and enjoyed sharing stories of his childhood adventures with the younger generations.

Jim completed the 8th grade and went on to become a successful dairyman and farmer. On Oct. 19, 1949, Jim married the love of his life, Betty Woldhuis, in South Holland, IL. Married for 60 years, they raised four children on farms in the Gallatin Valley and the South Holland area of Illinois. Jim passed his farming operation to his sons as they came of age and started their own families. Jim was a savvy businessman, despite his limited formal education. After retiring from farming, he went on to pursue careers as a commodity trader and a real estate agent.

Jim was a generous man with a big heart and an outgoing personality. He had a self-deprecating sense of humor and loved to tease and joke around. He was a hard worker and always willing to lend a hand to others in their time of need. He loved a good card game and spending time with his family. He will be deeply missed by all the loved ones he leaves behind.

He is survived by his wife, Betty and four children, Shirley Kaufman, Glen (Leslie) Van Dyke, Jim Jr. (Michelle) Van Dyke & Chuck (MaryLou) Van Dyke; 7 grandchildren, Dan (Becki) Van Dyke, Jeff Van Dyke, Wendy (Chris) Halverson, Michaela Kaufman, Jamie Van Dyke, Brenda (Ryan) Sweeney & Amy (Clark) Crowder; 7 great grandchildren, Tyler, Alex James, Natalie, Rozlyn & Felicia Elizabeth Van Dyke, Alexandria Halverson & Grant Crowder; 3 sisters, Sadie Oostema, Bernie Veltkamp & Margert Kamerman; 3 brothers, Clarence (Marian) Van Dyke, Robert (Betty) Van Dyke, Willard (Sylvia) Van Dyke; 4 sisters-in-law, Doweena Van Dyke, Ann Van Dyke, Joan Van Dyke and Joan DeBoer, numerous nieces and nephews and special friend, Marvin Doornbos.

He was preceded in death by his parents and brothers Neal, Arnold, Raymond, Louie, and Lawrence.

Memorials may be made to The Yellowstone Boys and Girls Ranch, of Billings, 1732 South 72nd St. West, Billings, MT 59106 or to the Grace Bible Church Benevolent Fund, 3625 S. 19th Ave, Bozeman, MT 59715.