

In Loving Memory Of

Nels Clarence Dige was born on August 17, 1927, in Sidney, Montana, to Danish immigrant parents, Otto P. and Emma (Gravesen) Dige. He was the third of 14 children. His early years were spent on the family farm one mile south of Sidney, and many fond memories of growing up in a large, active family were formed. He graduated from Sidney High School in 1946. He enlisted and served in the Army Air Corps in 1946-1947, after which he farmed with his brother Arnold until he attended auto body school in Fargo, North Dakota. In 1952, Nels was drafted into the U.S. Army and served until 1954.

Nels met his future wife, Lois May Mort, of Fairview in 1951, and they were married on August 7, 1954, at Pella Lutheran Church in Sidney. They made their home in Sidney and raised six children, Janet, Donna, Sue Ann, Diane, Nancy, and Scott. They were married for nearly 53 years when Lois died in 2007.

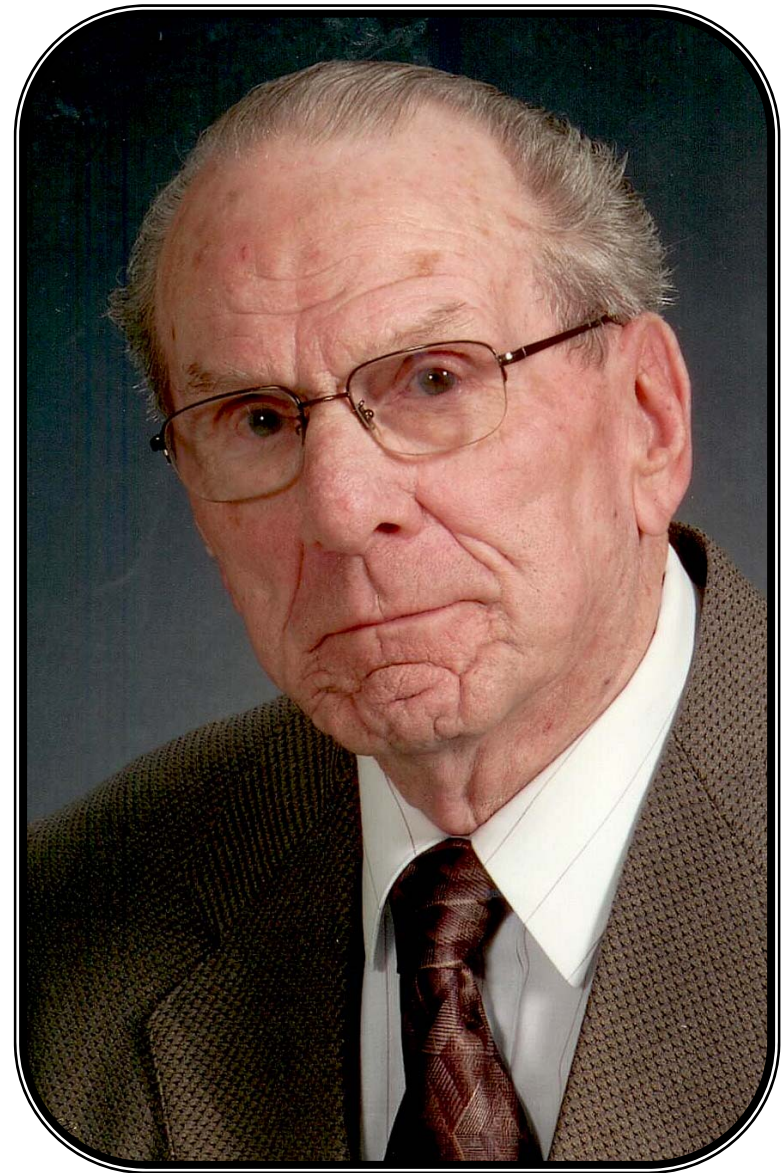
Nels developed a great interest in cars at a young age and that continued throughout his lifetime. He worked at area body shops for a few years, and in 1959, he built his own shop, Power City Body Shop, south of Sidney. He operated that shop until 1979, when he sold it and set up a new shop in town, 710 Auto Glass. In 1992, Nels retired, and his son, Scott, took over the glass shop, which is still in operation today. Over the years, Nels gained a reputation for excellence in his auto body repair work and painting, and he was well respected for his expertise as well as his honest and fair dealings. Both his work and his hobbies involved cars, as he also collected and restored classic cars, his favorites being Packards and Cadillacs.

When he wasn't working on cars, Nels enjoyed picking agates at his Three Buttes farm, polishing them and making agate jewelry. Nels was particularly in his element at large family gatherings, especially the Dige reunions, where his fun-loving spirit emerged. He enjoyed visiting with friends and neighbors and always found time for a chat. He was proud of his Danish heritage and continued many of those traditions at holidays. He was a man of rare character – hard-working, devoted, gentle, honest, and generous. He was a faithful member of the Lutheran church, and he served on the Sidney Cemetery Board for numerous years.

Nels passed away on Saturday morning, December 14, 2013, at Sidney Health Center.

Nels leaves behind five daughters: Janet (ElRay) Rasmussen of Spokane, WA, Donna (Don) McCammon of Missoula, MT, Sue Ann (John) Sult of Sidney, MT, Diane (Mark) Binder of Sidney, MT, Nancy (Tom) Hede-gaard of Sidney, MT; one son, Scott Dige of Sidney, MT; seven grandchildren, Neale and Keith Rasmussen, Brock, Aaron, and Jared (Rebecca) Hede-gaard, Jade (Mandi) and Alison Binder; three brothers, Arnold (Adeline) Dige of Sidney, MT, Victor (Bonnie) Dige of Maple Valley, WA, Bob (Rita) Dige of Sand Coulee, MT; four sisters, Selma Neilson of Seattle, WA, Betty Cholewinski of Murrieta, CA, Shirley Dige of Garden Grove, CA, and Clara Jo Dige of Garden Grove, CA.

Nels preceded in death by his parents; wife Lois; siblings Paul, Gerda, Alvin, Leon, Gordon, and an infant sister.



Nels C. Dige

1927 ~ 2013

14th Chapter of John

Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me.
In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also. And whither I go ye know, and the way ye know. Thomas saith unto him, Lord, we know not whither thou goest; and how can we know the way? Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me. If ye had known me, ye should have known my Father also: and from henceforth ye know him, and have seen him.

Nels Clarence Dige

August 17, 1927

December 14, 2013

Funeral Service

2:00 P.M., Thursday, December 19, 2013

Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church

Sidney, Montana

Officiating

Pastor David Huskamp

Music

Doris Norby

Rebecca Hedegaard

Don McCammon

Casketbearers

Neale Rasmussen

Keith Rasmussen

Brock Hedegaard

Aaron Hedegaard

Jared Hedegaard

Jade Binder

Honorary Casketbearers

All of Nels's many friends and family

Ushers

Paul Groshart

Bill Neiss

Interment

Sidney Cemetery

Sidney, Montana

***Lunch will be served at the church
following the graveside services***

*You may share your remembrances and condolences with
the family at the Fulkerson Funeral Home website
www.fulkersons.com*