

NO PHOTO **Fredrickson, Walter**

921st Field Artillery

WILLISTON, N.D. n Walter S. Fredrickson, a longtime Williston resident and McKenzie County farmer, died Tuesday, July 24, 2001, at Mercy Medical Center in Williston, following a long battle with COPD, diabetes and congestive heart failure.

He was a member of Our Redeemer's Lutheran Church, the V.F.W. and the American Legion. Funeral services will be held at 10:30 a.m. Saturday, July 28, at the Everson Funeral Home, 112 Fourth St. E., in Williston.

Walter was born May 2, 1912, in McKenzie County, to Magnus and Mary (Nielsen) Fredrickson. Walter was the oldest of their six children. He was preceded in death by two sisters, Betty and Melvie, and a brother, Helmer. He is survived by two brothers, Fredrick of Ocean Park, Ore., and LaVerne of Modesto, Calif.

Walter's mother, Mary, died when he was 12 years old. Magnus, Walter and his younger siblings lived and worked on the farm that his father homesteaded, leaving for only a brief period to pursue a life near Swift Current, Saskatchewan, Canada. Ultimately, however, they returned to the original homestead, where Walter continued to farm well into his eighties.

Walter served in the 96th Infantry Division in the Pacific Theater during World War II. He was present during the battles on Leyte and Okinawa Islands. He was injured during the war and was offered, but refused, the Purple Heart, wanting only to get back to his unit. The members of his unit were like brothers to him and he kept in contact with many of them for years after the war.

Following his return from the service, Walter began working at the Williston Herald and also returned to farming. He worked at the Herald for nearly 20 years. That is where he met his first wife, Evelyn Johansen. Walter and Evelyn were married in 1947, and to that marriage was born their only son, Bruce. Bruce and his wife, Jan, who Walter considered more his daughter than daughter-in-law, now reside in Kalispell, Mont. Evelyn Johansen Fredrickson died in 1974. Walter married Maurine Mockel in 1976. Walter and Maurine remained married until 1984.

Walter is survived by his wife, Evalyn Rosslund Fredrickson. Walter and Evalyn were married in 1985. Walter considered Evalyn's family his family in every sense of the word. Evalyn's children are: son, Dave Rosslund, his wife Kay, and their children, Matt, Ben, Stephanie, Tammy and Kari Jungclaus, her husband Karl, and their son, Miles; son, Tim Rosslund, his wife Kim, and their children, Eric and Kassy; daughter, Doris Martinson and her children, Zach, Jay and Alex; and daughter, Dorothy Bertrand, her husband Garry, and their children, Tim and Ryan. Walter was a loving husband and father. He was a hard worker. He was kind and compassionate, humorous and artistic. He loved to visit and tell stories with anyone who would listen.

Celebrate his life on this earth and his new life in Heaven - he is now with his Lord. Friends may call until 7 p.m. today and from 9 a.m. to service time Saturday at the Everson Funeral Home in Williston.

Memorials are suggested to Mercy Medical Center, Swing Bed Unit, 1301 15th Ave. W., Williston, N.D., 58801, or to the charity of the donor's choice.