

James O. Hetland, 81, Grand Forks, N.D., died February 1, 2003, at Luther Memorial Home in Mayville, N.D.



Hetland

Mr. Hetland was born June 27, 1921, in Valley City, N.D., the son of Jonas and Carrie (Jensen) Hetland. He graduated from Valley City High School and attended

Valley City State Teachers College (now VCSC) and North Dakota Agricultural College (now NDSU). He worked part time as a Valley City sports writer and radio announcer.

On October 20, 1946, Jim was married to Marilyn Roovaart in Fargo. His entire career was spent with the Straus Clothing Company, beginning in Valley City during his high school years. He later worked at the Straus store in Fargo and became manager of the Grand Forks Straus stores in 1954.

Throughout his career, he was actively involved in numerous civic events and organizations including the Jack Frost Winter Carnival, Boy Scouts of America, Red River Valley Potato Festival, Jaycees, Chamber of Commerce and Kiwanis Club. In his younger years he was avid fastpitch softball player, and was a lifelong sports fan.

He was a frequent speaker in high school and college business classes. He was also an active member of United Lutheran Church where he served in a variety of leadership roles for more than three decades.

He retired in 1983 and spent much of his time researching and writing his memoirs, gardening and volunteering throughout the community. He became a resident of the nursing home in 2002.

Survivors include his wife; two sons, David (Mary), Fargo; Steve, Grand Forks; a daughter, Karen, Richmond, Va.; and three grandchildren, Kristen, White Bear Lake, Minn., Allison and Michael, Grand Forks. He was preceded in death by his parents; a sister, Arlene; and a son, Mark.

Memorials are preferred to the United Lutheran Church chance mosaic project.

Memorial services: Wednesday, February 5, at 10:30 a.m. in United Lutheran Church, Grand Forks.

Private Family Burial: Memorial Park Cemetery, Grand Forks.

(Arrangements by Amundson Funeral Home)