



Feb. 8, 1938-Dec. 6, 2024

Mary Ellen (Traynor) Iverson was born February 8, 1938, to Frank and Verniece (Briggs) Traynor in Van Hook, ND in their home located in Traynor Park. She grew up and attended school in Van Hook before moving to the "New Town" when Van Hook was flooded. She was in the 1st graduating class at New Town High School in 1955.

Mary Ellen attended Minot Business

School and worked at Western Oil (Westland) Home Office in Minot, ND. She shared a house with a few gals. She spoke fondly of her memories with her roommates and had a lot of stories, although I'm sure we didn't hear all the good stuff.

On July 8, 1959, Mary Ellen married Donald Iverson in New Town, ND, where they planted their family roots. Through this union; they brought into the world three chil-dren: Mark, Molly, and Michael.

Mary Ellen worked at the Lakeside State Bank until 1966. In 1972, Donnie and she bought the Main Lanes bowling alley and restaurant. She helped run the family business for 30 years, even keeping it open 2 years after Donnie's passing. Don-nie passed away on March 16, 2000. Mary Ellen and Donnie were married for 40 years.

On December 6, 2024, it was a bright and sunny Arizona morning; Heaven got a little more exciting when Mary Ellen joined her lost loved ones on the other side, while she was in Arizona for the winter. It is with great sadness we share that Mary Ellen (Traynor) Iverson, 86, passed away on Friday, December 6, 2024, at an assisted living center in Gilbert AZ, following a recent fall.

Mary Ellen will be deeply missed by her children: Mark (Debbie) Iverson of New Town, ND, Molly (Joe) Wheeling of New Town, ND, and Michael (Cindy) Iverson of Spearfish, SD; grandchildren, Brandy (Jed) Heller, Calvin Iverson, Macy (Edgar) Linares, Emma Wheeling, Bekah Iverson, Miranda Iverson, Mike (Erin) Delahoyde, Chris (Hilary) Delahoyde, April Briggs, Michael Davidson, Lauren (Jamie) Briggs; and 13 great-grandchildren.

Mary Ellen has many cherished est friends and extended family Ryan Wheeling. Let's not forget the reunion she is having with all the friends that are already there to greet her, they have a lot of catching up to do!

Rosary prayer service will be Friday, June 27, 2025 at 7:30 p.m. at St. Anthony Catholic Church, New Town.

Graveside inurnment will be Saturday, June 28, 2025, at 1:00 p.m. at New Town Cemetery.

Celebration of life will be Saturday, June 28, 2025, at 2:30 p.m. at Edgewater Country Club, New Town, with an open house beginning at 3:15 p.m.

Mary Ellen's wishes are for memorials to be sent to Traynor Park in Van Hook, ND, or to the donor's preference. Please make checks to: Mountrail County Park Board Mountrail County Auditor PO Box 69 - Stanley, ND 58784 Memo Line: Memorial Fund Van Hook/ Traynor Park

(Langhans Funeral Home, Parshall, www.langhansfuneralhome. com)

Cletus Charles Foote

U.S. Veteran

Cletus Charles Foote, 79, Par-shall, a proud U.S. Marine Corps veteran, respected community leader, and devoted family man, passed away peacefully surrounded by loved ones on Monday, June 2, 2025, at a Minneapolis hospital.

Born in Elbowoods, North Dakota, Charles was the cherished son of James Foote Sr. and Elsie Fredericks-Foote. He grew up along the Missouri River with nine siblings, surrounded by prairie lands and humble beginnings. Charles carried himself with quiet strength, dignity, and a deep love for his family and homeland.

He met the love of his life, Ernestine, in high school in Stephan, South Dakota. Their bond would become the cornerstone of a 53-year marriage built on love, faith, and family. Together, they raised four children: Stephanie, Charlene, Kelly, and Cletus

A gifted athlete, Charles broke multiple state track records and helped lead his high school basketball team to a state championship in 1965-66, defeating Sioux Falls in a legendary underdog win. He later played basketball at Bottineau Colege on a full scholarship and continued his education in Spearfish, South Dakota.

In April 1968, at age 21, Charles enlisted in the United States Marine Corps. He completed basic training at Camp Pendleton and was deployed to Vietnam in December of that year. He served in Hotel Company, 3rd Platoon, 1st Squad, 2nd Battalion, 5th Marines (2/5) as an 0311 Rifleman, specializing in Reconnaissance missions through some of Vietnam's most dangerous terrain, including the infamous Arizona Territory and Charlie Ridge. In May 1969, during an assault

the jungle with the help of a corpsman. He witnessed unimaginable loss, surviving rocket attacks and firefights nearly every other day. He rose to the rank of Sergeant, commanding his own squad and courageously clearing mines during night patrols.

For his bravery and service, Charles was awarded the Purple Heart Medal, Combat Action Ribbon, Vietnam Service Medal, and Good Conduct Medal. He remained humble about his honors, never seeking attention for the courage he displayed.

Charles returned home in 1972 and was honorably discharged. Like many veterans, he held his head high and carried on with grace and resilience. He rarely spoke of the war except to his grandchildren, to whom he was a hero.

He went on to co-found Little Hoop Community College, proudly serving as its first president and championing Native education. He later worked as a civil engineer, a self-employed businessman, and served with pride in the Tribal Employment Rights Office (TERO) for the MHA Nation. He cherished his work, his staff, and the people he represented.

Charles adored his ten grandchildren and loved them with his whole heart. They were his joy and legacy. He will be remembered as a man of few words and immense strength, defined not only by his service in war but by the way he lived in peace: loyal, honorable, and full of quiet grace.

Survived by his wife of 53 years, Ernestine Foote; children, Stephanie Foote, Charlene Foote, Kelly Foote, Cletus Foote II (Hailey); grand-children. Stone "Blake" Turner, children, Stone "Blake" Jelani Foote, Shane Foote, Alexander Foote, Joaquin Powell, Selena Powell, Isabella Damian, Kingston Foote, Dakota Foote, Namora Foote; siblings, Delvin Foote (Joey), Yvonne Gunderson (Mac), and Kaye Driver. He was preceded in death by his parents, James and Elsie Foote; brothers, Adrian Foote, Sr., and James Foote, Jr.; sisters, Inez Baker, Delores Packineau, Vera Bracklin, and Shirley Myrick; and many extended family members.

Charles' wake was held on Friday, June 6, 2025, at Red Bear NE Segment Community Center, Parshall, followed by a rosary service.

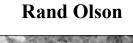
Charles' funeral service was held on Saturday, June 7, 2025, at Red Bear NE Segment Community Center, Parshall.

Burial with Military Honors was held at St. Bridget Catholic Cemetery, Parshall.

Nathan McCarty

Nathan McCarty, 38, New Town, died Saturday, June 21, 2025, in lew Town.

(Langhans Funeral Home, Parshall)





Rand Olson, 79, passed away on Monday, June 9, 2025, at the Mountrail Bethel Home in Stanley, ND.

There will be a public visitation held one hour prior to the memorial service starting at 10:00 a.m. Rand's memorial service will be held on Saturday, June 28, 2025 at 11:00 a.m. at the American Lutheran Church in Stanley, ND. Katie Harwood will officiate.

The funeral service will be recorded and uploaded, you can view Rand's service directly on his obituary page on the website www.springanstevenson.com

Springan Stevenson Funeral Home of Stanley have been entrusted with arrangements and services. Friends may sign the on-line register and give their condolences at www. springanstevenson.com.

Floyd Olaf



Aug. 1, 1934-June 13, 2025 Floyd Charles Olaf, 90, of Minot, ND, passed quietly on Friday, June 13th, 2025, at Edgewood Minot Memory Care; the eve of Father's Day weekend, leaving cherished memories.

Floyd was born August 1, 1934, in Mountrail County, the first born to Harry and Lila (Nelson) Olaf. He married LaDonna Gandrud on September 25, 1955, at St. Luke's Church in Coulee, ND. They first lived in Palermo then moved to Lignite where they raised their children, Neil and Janell. Floyd worked the oil fields, road construction and farmed with his dad. In 2000 they retired to Minot.

DWR Completes Missouri River Intake Study Identifies Optimal Sites For Future Water Use

nounced the completion of the Missouri River Potential Intake Locations Investigation, a strategic study aimed at identifying optimal surface and subsurface water intake sites along the Missouri River corridor. The findings mark a major milestone in North Dakota's efforts to support industrial development, expand irrigation capacity, and strengthen domestic water supply options using the state's most abundant freshwater source.

The study identified eleven topranking surface water intake sites and six top-ranking subsurface intake sites. These sites were evaluated based on multiple criteria, including but not limited to, water availability, water quality, sedimentation risk, proximity to infrastructure such as railroads, roads, power lines, and gas lines, as well as expressed interest by industry.

The study area spanned 231.6 river miles from the Montana state line to Washburn, ND, including 178 miles within Lake Sakakawea and 53.6 miles of free-flowing river channel. Conducted by HDR Engineering, Inc. and subconsultants, the study evaluated intake sites with the capacity to supply at least 15,000 acre-feet of water per year (approxi-mately 9,300 gallons per minute), suitable for industrial, irrigation, or municipal use.

To determine optimal intake sites, the study used two geospatial models, one for surface water and one for subsurface aquifers, to score and rank grid cells throughout

The North Dakota Department of Water Resources (DWR) has anwas used to identify the top-ranking surface water and subsurface sites for each river reach and aquifer identified in the study. "This effort supports our strate-

gic goal of putting North Dakota's water to its highest and best use," said Reice Haase, Director of the Department of Water Resources. With this study, we now have a data-driven framework to guide additional development and investment in water infrastructure along the Missouri River."

The intake study was commissioned after a formal request for proposals (RFP) was issued in early 2024. HDR was selected through a competitive procurement process, and the State Water Commission approved a \$335,000 contract for the work in April 2024.

"This study lays the groundwork for economic opportunity, thoughtful development, and long-term water planning in North Dakota," Haase added. "By narrowing the field to the most promising intake locations, we've created a clearer path forward."

While the data provided by this study is robust, the DWR will verify conditions in the field to confirm findings and determine the technical feasibility of site development. Field verification may include completing bathymetric surveys, LiDAR collection, geotechnical sampling, aquifer testing, and cultural resource evaluations.

To view the full report and site maps, visit www.dwr.nd.gov.

Dakota Gardener: Attract Bees To Your Vegetable Garden

By Tom Kalb, Horticulturist, NDSU Extension

We need bees to grow a productive vegetable garden. Almost all cucumber, melon,

pumpkin and squash flowers require pollination by bees to produce fruit. Without bees, there would be a worldwide shortage of zucchini. A very sad thought, indeed.

Tomato, pepper and eggplant flowers do not need to be pollinated by bees, but the vibration of bee wings on their flowers can increase yields.

A few bees are not enough. We want lots of bees. Fruit-bearing flowers are generally receptive for pollination for only one day. In many cases, these flowers require multiple visits by bees on that day to produce quality fruit.

How can we attract bees to our vegetable gardens?

Bees, like every creature, need food. They need food from spring through fall. You can attract bees by growing a mix of flowers that provide nectar and pollen throughout the growing season. Grow your flowers in a nearby plot or intermix the flowers among the vegetable plants. Flowers grown in clusters will be especially visible and attractive to foraging bees.

during warm, sunny days. Having a birdbath or something as simple as a shallow tray of fresh, clean water nearby will keep bees coming to your garden. Place a few rocks in the water to provide bees a place to land

Bees, like every creature, need a safe shelter. Bee houses filled with hollow tubes will be used by cavitynesting bees. These bee houses are available online and at many garden centers. Many bees nest in the ground. A patch of dry, bare soil in your yard may attract these bees.

You can protect bees by limiting your use of insecticides. Bees are insects, and most insecticides will kill bees.

If you see an insect in your garden, identify the insect and make sure it is a pest. Over 90% of the insects in your garden are beneficial or neutral to us. There are only a few troublemakers like aphids and potato beetles. You can take a photo of a mystery insect in your garden and e-mail it to your local NDSU Extension agent or me to identify. If you have an insect pest problem, use a natural insecticide that is less toxic to bees. Neem causes minimal risk to bees. Spinosad has little effect on bees after it has dried. Spray in the evening hours when bees are much less active. Avoid spraying the blooms directly.

that will miss her greatly too.

"I Can Only Imagine" the great joy that Mary Ellen had being reunited with her husband, Donald (Donnie) Iverson; parents, Frank and Verniece Traynor; sisters, Patsy Traynor and Gloria Helms; brother, Darrell Traynor; and grandson,

on a hostile bunker. Charles was wounded in the left shoulder by enemy fire. Though injured, he refused to leave the field and continued fighting. He would later survive a gunshot wound to the stomach durshall) ing an ambush, treating his injury in

Kave Driver

Kave Driver, 78, of New Town, died Monday, June 23, 2025, at her home. (Langhans Funeral Home, Par-

Floyd was a member of Christ Lutheran Church in Lignite, and Bread of Life in Minot. He loved traveling with his wife and making memories. He started planning the next trip after getting home from one. The Rand McNally Road Atlas was his favorite reading material. Pictures were developed as soon as they got home to show family and friends.

He enjoyed giving his butt a ride daily to see what was happening around town or at the farm, collecting IH toy tractors, threshing bees, traveling, the North Dakota State Fair, Hostfest, walking at the mall and camping. What Floyd enjoyed the most was spending time with his family and grandchildren.

Floyd is survived by his son, Neil (Wanda) Olaf of Williston; and daughter, Janell (Doren) Schiele of Flaxton; grandchildren, Tyrel (Tiffany) Schiele of Burlington, and Dana (Justin) Melby of Stoughton, WI; great-grandchildren, Anderson, Elias, Annabelle, Lila, Royson, and Elizabeth; brother, Marvin (Betty) Olaf of Helena, MT; many nieces, nephews, cousins, extended family and friends.

Floyd was preceded in death by wife, LaDonna; infant daughter; parents, Harry and Lila; and sister, Colleen Olaf.

Floyd's funeral service was held on Monday, June 23, 2025, at the Springan Stevenson Funeral Home in Stanley, ND. Pastor Pauline Crowder officiated. There was a public visitation held prior to the funeral service. Floyd was laid to rest at the Fairview Cemetery in Stanley, ND.

The funeral service was recorded and uploaded, you can view Floyd's service directly on his obituary page on the website www.springanstevenson.com.

Springan Stevenson Funeral Home of Stanley have been entrusted with arrangements and services. Friends may sign the on-line register and give their condolences at www. springanstevenson.com.

NEWSPAPERS: Yesterday, Today, & To

Cosmos, marigolds, sunflowers and zinnias are easy-to-grow annuals and will attract bees. Hardy perennials such as coneflower, blazing star, rudbeckia, sedum and aster will attract bees through the summer until frost.

Herbs are a great addition to a vegetable garden. The blooms of basil, bee balm, borage, chives, thyme and sage will draw bees to your garden.

Bees, like every creature, need water. Bees get especially thirsty

and activated the State Emergen-

cy Operations Plan after multiple

tornadoes, strong winds and hail

caused widespread damage Friday

across North Dakota, claiming the

go out to the family and friends

of the three North Dakotans who

tragically lost their lives in Friday's

tornado, and to the close-knit com-

munity in Enderlin, which suffered

widespread damage," Armstrong

said. "We thank our dedicated first

responders and community leaders,

including our many volunteer first

responders, for their swift action to

keep residents safe and help them

recover. State teams, including the

24-hour Watch Center and State Ra-

dio, have been tracking through the

night and coordinating with local

emergency managers, and we stand

ready to support as requests arrive.

North Dakotans are resilient, and we

will recover from this as we always do, by working together and taking

The declaration issued recently

via executive order activates the

State Emergency Operations Plan

and directs all state agencies to utilize their response and recovery

resources accordingly, as well as

coordinate with the appropriate fed-

eral agencies to help local and tribal

officials restore services and infra-

care of each other.

"Our hearts and sympathies

lives of three people.

The recipe for attracting bees to your vegetable garden is simple. Provide them with abundant food, fresh water and safe shelter. These ingredients will lead to a garden that is both beautiful and bountiful.

For more information about gardening, contact your local NDSU Extension agent. Find the Extension office for your county at www.ndsu. edu/agriculture/extension/countyextension-offices.

Armstrong Declares Disaster For Tornado Damage, Extends Sympathy To Victims' Families

Governor Kelly Armstrong restructure. cently declared a statewide disaster

The National Weather Service (NWS) confirmed at least two tornadoes touched down near Enderlin and Spiritwood, and the agency was investigating an unknown number of tornadoes spawned by the two supercells. It may be several days before there is a clear picture as the NWS sorts through data and sends out teams to assess.

Approximately 25,000 people remained without power Saturday morning, down from nearly 37,000 overnight. Utility providers were working to restore power to affected areas.

North Dakota Highway Patrol troopers were ensuring roads stayed safe and assisting with early damage inspections, including an overturned semi. The tornado near Enderlin derailed a dozen empty train tanker cars, and a large derailment of grain cars was reported in Fraill County

The North Dakota Department of Emergency Services will work with impacted communities and infrastructure providers on damage assessments. Citizens are encouraged to be mindful of crews working to restore power and remove debris.

North Dakota Insurance Commissioner Jon Godfread urged residents to inspect their property for damage and begin the insurance claims process as soon as possible.

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