



## KARL JOSEPH HENDEL

June 22, 1962 - September 6, 2024

Karl Joseph Hendel passed away Friday, September 6th at the age of 62. Karl was born on June 22, 1962, in Caledonia, MN, to George and Mary Jane (Huesmann) Hendel. He grew up on the family's dairy, Hendel Farms, and was a true farm kid who loved all things farming, along with dirt bikes, snowmobiles, and cars as he grew older.

Karl graduated from Caledonia High School and went on to receive a degree in Dairy Science from the University of Minnesota – Waseca. He then attended the University of Minnesota – St. Paul.

In 1990, Karl and brother, Matt, began their partnership at Hendel Farms. Karl was proud to continue the legacy of their 4th generation family farm which began in 1869. As both brothers and working partners, Karl and Matt shared both mutual respect and admiration for each other. Together, they made progressive changes to the farm and focused on their dairy herd. They received numerous awards and recognition for their farm management practices, outstanding milk quality, and elite registered Brown Swiss and Holstein herd. However, Karl was never one who liked to be the focus of attention. He remained quietly behind the scenes doing what he loved best, tending to the farm and cows.

Karl was a caring and loving brother, uncle, and friend. He was especially proud of his nieces and nephews. As they were growing up, he was a playful

uncle who loved to take them on tractor rides, four wheeling or hunting. He shared his love of the farm with them and spent many hours with them in the milking parlor. Karl was always present for their life events. He thoroughly enjoyed family gatherings and after his house was built, he was pleased to host some of the family holidays.

For more than twenty years, Karl hosted a Tuesday night gathering which he called the “Board Meeting” in the farm’s upstairs breakroom. It was a casual meeting of friends, co-workers, business partners or relatives, anyone was welcome to stop in. Karl enjoyed nature and the outdoors. His trips away from the farm were usually to go snowmobiling with friends. He especially liked sledding in the UP of Michigan. We will miss Karl’s quick wit and sense of humor followed by his distinct chuckle.

Karl was preceded in death by his parents, and his sister, Greta. He is survived by his sister, Katy (Dewayne) and brother, Matt (Pam), brother in law, Don; nieces and nephews, Eric (Julia), Jessie, Devin, Hannah (Brandon), Lauren, Callan and Sydney, and great-nephew, Parker. Karl is also survived by the dedicated Hendel Farms team of people who he considered family.

A Celebration of Life will be from 5 to 9 pm, Thursday, September 12, at the Four Seasons Community Center, Caledonia. A Memorial Service will be held at 7 pm. at the center.

# Previous Events

## **A Celebration of Life**

SEP **12.** 5:00 PM - 9:00 PM (CT)

Four Seasons Community Center  
900 N. Kingston St  
Caledonia, MN 55921  
(507) 725-4000

## **Memorial Service**

SEP **12.** 7:00 PM (CT)

Four Seasons Community Center  
900 N. Kingston St  
Caledonia, MN 55921  
(507) 725-4000

# Tribute Wall

RL

“ Rebecca & Lorrie planted a grove of 3 [Memorial Trees](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of KARL JOSEPH HENDEL.

Rebecca & Lorrie - September 12, 2024 at 03:10 PM

CN

“ Charles Nett purchased the Lavender Reflections Spray for the family of KARL JOSEPH HENDEL.



Charles Nett - September 12, 2024 at 08:22 AM

CN

“ Charles Nett planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of KARL JOSEPH HENDEL.

Charles Nett - September 12, 2024 at 08:22 AM

AU

“ Anna, Kenneth & Lisa Ullsperger purchased the Serene Retreat for the family of KARL JOSEPH HENDEL.



Anna, Kenneth & Lisa Ullsperger - September 11, 2024 at 06:09 PM

BI

“ *Brickl Bros., Inc. purchased the Sweet Tenderne  
s for the family of KARL JOSEPH HENDEL.*



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**Brickl Bros., Inc.** - September 11, 2024 at 12:30 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for  
the family of KARL JOSEPH HENDEL.*



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September 11, 2024 at 11:31 AM



“ *Large Basket Garden was purchased for the  
family of KARL JOSEPH HENDEL.*



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September 11, 2024 at 12:34 AM

FF

“ *From Katy's book club friends planted a <a  
href="/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518">Memorial Tree</a> in  
honor of KARL JOSEPH HENDEL.*

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**From Katy's book club friends** - September 11, 2024 at 12:34 AM



“ *Medium Dish Garden was purchased for the family of KARL JOSEPH HENDEL.*



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September 10, 2024 at 04:54 PM



“ *Stephen J. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of KARL JOSEPH HENDEL.*

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**Stephen J.** - September 10, 2024 at 04:54 PM



“ *Joseph H. planted a grove of 3 [Memorial Trees](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of KARL JOSEPH HENDEL.*

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**Joseph H.** - September 10, 2024 at 07:15 AM



“ *From the Hendels of Florissant, Missouri purchased the Arrive in Style for the family of KARL JOSEPH HENDEL.*



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**From the Hendels of Florissant, Missouri** - September 10, 2024 at 01:48 AM

FM

“ From the Hendels of Florissant, Missouri planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of KARL JOSEPH HENDEL.

From the Hendels of Florissant, Missouri - September 10, 2024 at 01:48 AM



“ Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of KARL JOSEPH HENDEL.



September 09, 2024 at 06:43 PM

RF

“ So Sorry to hear about Karl's passing. It was always nice dealing with Hendel Farms. by Ron Fruechte

Ron Fruechte - September 09, 2024 at 05:19 PM

SL

Snowmobiles and Mustangs.... two of Karl's favorite non farm things to talk about

Scott Longhorn - September 10, 2024 at 12:52 AM

MB

I had the honor of working with Karl on a number of building project. I left every meeting with a better understanding the outstanding knowledge he brought to his family's Dairy business. He will be missed!  
Mark Brickl.

Mark Brickl - September 11, 2024 at 10:26 AM



“ *Large Basket Garden was purchased for the family of KARL JOSEPH HENDEL.*



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September 09, 2024 at 02:45 PM



“ *Rounsville, Salmon and Process family purchased the Emerald Garden Basket for the family of KARL JOSEPH HENDEL.*



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**Rounsville, Salmon and Process family** - September 09, 2024 at 12:11 PM



“ *We are thinking of you and your family Robin and Tim Bichel*

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**robin and tim bichel** - September 09, 2024 at 04:52 AM



“ *Hendel family: So sorry to hear of the tragic loss of Karl. I enjoyed visiting with him for the 2 years I worked at EJ. Another classmate of Dave's taken too soon. Such fond farm memories to cherish forever. RIP Karl!*

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**Dave & Wilma Schoh** - September 08, 2024 at 09:52 PM