



NICHOLAS ROBERT GENGLER

October 28, 1959 - April 17, 2026

It is with heavy hearts that we announce the passing of Nicholas Robert Gengler, who passed away on April 17, 2026, at the age of 66.

Nick was born on October 28, 1959, in Caledonia, Minnesota. He was a man deeply rooted in his community, known for his strong work ethic, steady hands, and the kind of knowledge that only comes from years of experience and curiosity. He took pride in being someone others could rely on—whether it was fixing a piece of machinery, lending a hand, sharing advice, or helping friends and family when they needed it the most.

From a young age, Nick began working in his family's business, Sno Pac Foods, where he worked in the fields growing and harvesting organic vegetables. Over the years, he wore many hats—running the boiler, operating ammonia compressors, planing wood at the sawmill, butchering at the family locker plant, smoking meat, fixing machinery, and driving truck—doing whatever needed to be done to keep things running. Through dedication and perseverance, he eventually became Vice President, working alongside his brother Peter, sister Joan, and later his sons. His commitment to the family business was not just a career, but a lifelong passion and source of pride.

He was a longtime member of the Sons of the American Legion and the Caledonia Rod and Gun Club. In his younger years, he was also involved with

the Jaycees, reflecting his lifelong connection to community and tradition.

Nick found joy in the outdoors and in working with his hands. He loved fishing, hunting, and had a particular passion for working on old cars and repairing equipment. He was a proud collector of Hamm's Beer memorabilia, and lever action rifles. He also had an eye for detail and creativity through architectural drafting. In quieter moments, he enjoyed watching western's and war movies—stories of grit, resilience, and character that reflected much of who he was.

Above all, Nick was a devoted husband, father, and grandfather. He is survived by his loving wife, Nicolette; his sons, Zachory (Jessica) Gengler and Seth (Ashley) Gengler; his cherished grandchildren, Isaac Gengler, Ezekiel Gengler, Max Gengler, Reed Gengler, and Luci Gengler; and step-grandchildren, Jaida Degenhardt and Jameson Degenhardt, his siblings Peter Gengler, Joan Gengler and Jenny (Troy) Winjum. His family was the center of his life, and his presence, guidance, and quiet strength will be deeply missed. He was preceded in death by his father Ramon Gengler, his mother Darlene (Donnie) Gengler-Rommes, and his children Collette Rose Gengler, Anna Marie Gengler, and Izzie Gengler, his father-in-law Arvin Carlson, his step-father-in-law Eugene Schroeder, his sisters-in-law Kristin (Carlson) Shroeder and Patricia Yarbrough.

Nick leaves behind a legacy of hard work, loyalty, and love—a legacy that will live on through his family, his work, and all who had the privilege of knowing him.

The funeral service will be held at St. Mary's Church, Friday, May 1st at 11 a.m., visitation will be held before the service from 10 a.m. until 10:45 am at St. Mary's Holy Family Hall, with a luncheon after the service.

There will also be a celebration of life held at the Caledonia American Legion

on Saturday, May 16th.

He will be remembered always and missed beyond words.

Previous Events

Visitation

MAY 1. 10:00 AM - 10:45 AM (CT)

St. Mary's Holy Family Hall
513 South Pine St.
Caledonia, MN 55921

Mass of Christian Burial

MAY 1. 11:00 AM (CT)

St. Mary's Catholic Church
513 S Pine St
Caledonia, MN 55921
(507) 725-3804

Tribute Wall

SC

“ I remember how Nick could whistle full songs while we were working, it made work a lot less like work!

Scott Connor - May 13 at 09:35 PM

KH

“ Very Sorry for your loss.
Brian and Kim Hammel

Kimberly Durand Hammel - April 30 at 04:37 PM

MP

“ My condolences to Pete, Joan and the family at this sad time.
Marsha Price

Marsha Price - April 21 at 06:13 PM

KG

“ Deepest sympathy to Nick's family.

Kathy Link Gill - April 20 at 05:33 PM

DS

“ So sorry to hear of Nicks passing. Please accept our deepest condolences for this great loss of a great person! RIP Nick!

Dave & Wilma Schoh - April 20 at 01:00 PM

JM

“ Nick was one one in a million he will be missed by so many,my heart is with you all,much love coming your way ,you all know hes setting up there drinking a cold one with all the family he has lost and hopefully hes having a wonderful family reunion,but here he will be missed dearly love ya nicki and joan

Jamie Meiners - April 19 at 06:46 PM



“ So very sorry to hear of Nick's passing. We always enjoyed seeing and visiting with him at the Legion in Caledonia. Far too young to be gone, but fortunately he will no longer have any suffering to endure. The Lord now has him in His keeping, the rest of us have him in our hearts. Sending love and sympathy to all of Nick's loved ones. Sincerely, Steve and Joanne Schuldt

Joanne Schuldt - April 19 at 03:51 PM

BS

“ Bryan S. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of NICHOLAS ROBERT GENGLER.

Bryan S. - April 19 at 02:38 PM