



THOMAS HAROLD BECHTEL

January 14, 1935 - June 3, 2025

Thomas Harold Bechtel

Thomas "Tom" H. Bechtel, age 90, of Caledonia, passed away on June 3, 2025

Tom was born January 14, 1935, in Lansing, Iowa, son of Theodore and Harriet (Peterson) Bechtel.

Tom graduated from high school in 1950. He served in the United States Army in Korea in 1955, until he was honorably discharged in 1957. He married Mary Whalen on June 17, 1961, at St. Joseph's Catholic Church, New Albin, Iowa.

Tom, along with his wife raised 8 children, on their farm, in Minnesota, near New Albin, and other farms in Lansing, Iowa. As a 50+ year lifetime farmer, he raised dairy cattle and beef cattle, along with crops of corn, alfalfa and soybeans. Tom enjoyed traveling between his farms, checking on his cattle, and spending time on his cherished red bench at the point. Tom had a gift of talking, telling stories and meeting new people to see where they were from. He was proud of his children, grandchildren, and great grandchildren, and cherished his visits with them

He was a member of St. Joseph's Catholic Church, New Albin, and the VFW in New Albin. He completely enjoyed his time at the table of knowledge at the High Chaparral in New Albin.

Survivors include his children, John of Lansing, IA, Sue (Bob Harris) Snell of New Albin, Rose (Bill) Blake of Waukon, IA, Jim (Crystle) of Caledonia, MN, Paula (Stacy Gramlich) Bolstad of Ferryville, WI, and Joel (Tina) of LaCrescent, MN; his former daughter in law, Crystal Schulte of Dorchester, IA; 18 grandchildren, Luke, Kayla, Lee, Amber, Kody, Jade, Zachary, Karli, Madison, Thomas, Jordan, Samantha, Cassaundra, Kristina, Sierra, Kaitlyn, Mitchell, and Kyle; and 12 great grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his wife; parents; sons, Jerry and Tim Bechtel; and brother, Jerry Bechtel.

A Celebration of Life will be from 4 to 6 pm, Friday, June 13, at the New Albin Town Hall, located behind the bank. Burial with military honors will take place at a later date in St. Joseph's Cemetery, New Albin.

Previous Events

A Celebration of Life

JUN 13. 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM (CT)

New Albin Townhouse
136 Elm Street
New Albin, IA 52160

Tribute Wall



“ *Beautiful in Blue* was purchased for the family of
THOMAS HAROLD BECHTEL.



June 10, 2025 at 12:27 PM