



Ernest L. Sabatka

October 14, 1930 - January 11, 2019

Ernest L. Sabatka, age 88, Seward, formerly of Brainard, passed away on January 11th. Ernie was born on October 14, 1930 on the family farm near Touhy, Nebraska to Thomas C. and Emma E. (Busek) Sabatka.

Ernie was educated through 8th grade in a rural country school, where he learned to speak English having Czech as his first language. He farmed with his father and brother. He worked as a cement finisher for Olson Construction. He retired after 25 years as a custodian of East Butler Schools in Brainard. Ernie also was a volunteer umpire, emergency medical technician, blood donor, Brainard city planning board member, news paper carrier, Brainard Holy Trinity Parish board member, church volunteer, member of the Knights of Columbus, and funeral assistant at Chermok Funeral Home. He also was a beloved father, grandfather and great-grandfather.

Through his love of Czech music and dancing, Ernie met Florence Sisel. They married on June 6, 1953 in Loma, Nebraska. For their first years of married life they lived near Touhy and later moved to a farm outside of Brainard. In 1967 they moved to acreage near Brainard. Ernie cared for Florence when she became ill with Alzheimer's. Florence passed away in 2007. Ernie moved to Seward in 2016 where he lived until his death.

Surviving are his three children: Cynthia and husband Scott Spilinek of Weeping Water; Daniel and wife Lisa of Plattsmouth; and Anthony and wife Karen of Seward; his 13 grandchildren: Jeremy (Lisa) Spilinek, Megan (Ryan) Schmid, Chad (Darlene) Sabatka, Nicholas (Ashley) Sabatka, Melanie (Matt) Rauert, Corey (friend Kaitlyn) Sabatka, Jared (Allyson) Sabatka, McKenna (Patrick) Elsener, Caitlin (Steven) Falcone, Brea (Tristan) Sabatka, Travis, Noah and Chloe Sabatka; his 28 great grandchildren, Kaileigh, Nathan, Lucy, Trevor, Marylynn, Reese, Roland, Aubrielle, Magdalene, Lawrence, Cecily, Mila, Viggo, Benedict, Amelia, Augustin, Liliana, Adilyn, George, Peter, Virginia, Asher, Leo, Avalynn, Sutton, Dominic, Malachi and Felicity. Also surviving is his sister, Marianne (Henry) St. Pierre of Florida, many nieces and nephews, cousins and special friends.

Preceding him in death were his wife: Florence, his parents, sister: Marcella and brother: Thomas.

Cemetery

New Holy Trinity Catholic Cemetery

Brainard, NE, 68626

Events

JAN **Visitation** 05:00PM - 07:00PM

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Holy Trinity Catholic Church

108 E. Brainard Street, Brainard, NE, US,
68626

JAN **Parish Rosary** 07:00PM

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Holy Trinity Catholic Church

108 E. Brainard Street, Brainard, NE, US,
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JAN **Funeral Mass** 10:00AM

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Holy Trinity Catholic Church

108 E. Brainard Street, Brainard, NE, US,
68626

Comments



“ I met Ernie while I took care of his wife Florence for the time she was at the Nursing home...Ernie came every day to visit her and hold her hand or joke. My daughter Hannah always knew Ernie as Grampy..He "adopted" her at 3 yrs old ..Grampy always stopped to tell people how she was his Grandchild and would treat her always as part of his heart. He is her Godfather and stood with her as she was Confermed in the Church..They loved to play UNO and kept EVERY score sheet..lol. We called Grampy every day and our last visit was the week before he passed..Grampt won 3 UNO games that day.. Hannah will never forget his kind heart and life lessons he taught her about kindness..faith..family..hardwork and love. He will be forever missed in our home.

Deborah Cooney Saucier - January 18 at 11:11 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Ernest L. Sabatka.



January 15 at 01:55 PM



“ Serene Retreat was purchased for the family of Ernest L. Sabatka.



January 14 at 04:59 PM



“ When I was a kid, Ernie was a part of my life and the life of Brainard. I have many good memories of him living "up the hill" from us in Brainard and his quiet care of all of us at East Butler was never appreciated enough. In my interactions with him, he was always generous and caring. So sorry for your loss.

Brenda (Perk) Reichle - January 14 at 10:56 AM



“ I would like to express my deepest sympathy to family and friends. May all of your good memories be greater than your sadness during this difficult time. (Isaiah 25:8)

chris c - January 14 at 08:12 AM



“ So sorry to hear this and our deepest sympathy to your family! I always loved talking about Valparaiso days with Ernie at Brookdale while he was there. My father-in-law, Vaughn Carlson knew him well and he was such a sweet man. Prayers and peace to your family! Linda Carlson-David City

Linda Carlson - January 13 at 06:44 PM



“ Especially appreciated his presence as an Acolyte when I was Pastor in Brainard. My condolences to his family and parishioners at Holy Trinity. Fr John Ludvik

Rev John J Ludvik - January 13 at 03:49 PM



“ Ernie was a special person. He always had a smile and friendly greeting when we met (usually in Czech). Ernie was very proud of his children and grandchildren and always kept my wife and i informed of their many accomplishments. Brainard lost a great volunteer and fine gentleman with Ernie's passing. Our condolences to all of you.

Jim and Sharon Bruner

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Jim Bruner - January 13 at 08:53 PM