

Raymond Ben Soll, 87, of Burwell, Nebraska died February 26, 2013 at the Community Memorial Health Center in Burwell.

Funeral services will be held at 10:30 a.m. on Saturday, March 2, 2013 at the Burwell Baptist Church in Burwell, Nebraska. Burial will be at Rose Hill Cemetery in Albion, Nebraska at 2:00 p.m. Pastor Stan Gurney will officiate. Visitation will be Friday from 5 to 8 p.m. at Hitchcock Funeral Home in Burwell, Nebraska. In lieu of flowers, memorials are suggested Burwell Veteran's Park, Nebraska's Big Rodeo or Burwell Baptist Church.

Raymond was born June 23, 1925 at Irvington, Nebraska to Henry and Katherine "Katie" (Hagedorn) Soll.

Ray went to school through the eighth grade at Bennington, Nebraska and Elk City, Nebraska schools near Omaha.

Ray worked for Charles Warren Ranches before being drafted into the United States Army on March 20, 1952. Ray was a Corporal and was stationed in Germany during the Korean Conflict, following basic training at Ft. Breckinridge, Kentucky. After being honorably discharged on February 20, 1954 Ray was a ranch manager for Charles Warren and Sons until 1991, after 37 years in Spalding, Nebraska. During this time Ray married Eleanor Marie Bloom on June 19, 1955 in Ericson, Nebraska.

In 1991 Ray became the Ranch Manager for Donald Walvoord farms in Spalding, Nebraska. Ray also worked for the Ericson Livestock Market on sale days for 18 years.

Ray was a member of the Burwell Baptist Church. He enjoyed woodworking, making numerous birdhouses, feeders, dollhouse and yard ornaments. He also made aluminum twirly whirlies and Tin Man hangers. He was a fan of John Deere tractors and rodeo.

Ray is survived by his wife Eleanor Soll of Burwell, Ne. Five children; Kendall and his wife Sherri Soll of Ord, Ne. , Leona and her husband Rob Strumbell of Cloquet, MN., Peg and her husband Dirk Stryker of Callaway, Ne., Jill Eschete of Topeka, Ks. and Raymond Soll of Callaway, Ne. Grandchildren, Elizabeth (Russ) Roberts of Homer, Ne., David (Chitsana) Gerber of Grand Island, Ne., Joe (Violet) Gerber of Ord, Ne. and Haylee Stryker of Callaway, Ne. Great-grandchildren; Grant, Lilly and Jordan Roberts of Homer, Ne. and Jonathan (Layla) Gerber of Grand Island, Ne. A brother Harvey and his wife Helen Soll of Valley, Nebraska and many nieces and nephews.

Ray was preceded in death by a teenage son, Kerry Dean Soll, his parents, Henry and Katie Soll, five brothers, Bill, Ed, Cliff, Charles and Les, a sister, Louise and a son-in-law, Mike Eschete.