



Raymond Duda, 86, of Ord, Nebraska received his wings on September 17, 2017. He was a resident of Community Memorial Health Center in Burwell, Nebraska.

Ray's wishes were to be cremated. A Mass of Christian Burial will be held at 10:30 a.m., October 2, 2017 at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Catholic Church in Ord, Nebraska. Visitation will be Sunday, October 1, 2017 from 5 – 7 p.m. with a Rosary at 6:00 p.m. at the church. Fr. John Kakkuzhiyil will officiate. Inurnment will be in the Ord Catholic Cemetery with Military Rites. In lieu of flowers, memorials are suggested to St. Mary's School Library Fund, Heartland Ranch for equine therapy for children, or the donor's choice. Hitchcock Funeral Home in Burwell is in charge of arrangements.

Ray was born August 5, 1931 on a farm in Valley County, Nebraska to Peter J. and Victoria (Gregoroski) Duda. He attended country school through the eighth grade and then stayed at home to help his father with farming.

Ray entered the United States Army on January 20, 1953 and was honorably discharged on January 7, 1955.

Ray was a lifetime member of Our Lady of Perpetual Help Catholic Church.

Ray farmed in Valley County most of his life until retirement. He raised quarter horses and his sons were all very involved in rodeos, which was the joy of Ray's life. Ray also worked occasionally at Pitzer Ranch and loved every minute he spent with the little colts.

The second greatest joy in Ray's life was polka dancing. He rarely missed a polka dance, arriving before the band played the first set and staying until the last. He also enjoyed country western music and dancing. Playing cards was another of his favorite pastimes.

Ray is survived by two sons, Scott (Jane) Duda of Broken Bow, Nebraska and Randall Duda of Grand Island, Nebraska, seven grandchildren and four great-grandchildren, one sister, Berniece Fiala of Ainsworth, Nebraska and two brothers, James (Ruth) Duda of Ord, Nebraska and Peter E. Duda (Eddie) of Ocean, New Jersey.

Ray was preceded in death by his parents, a son, Gregory Allen Duda, sisters and brothers-in-law, Clara (Leland) Ingebritson, Lorraine (Elmer) Lukesh, Florence (Raymond) Bastow, Dorothy (John) Sacotte, brother and sister-in-law John (Delores) Duda, sister-in-law Kathryn Duda, one niece, Mary Kment and three nephews Johnny Sacotte, Charles Ingebritson and Bruce Fiala.