



## Merle Potthoff

October 29, 1930 - March 7, 2019

Merle Potthoff, 88 of Halbur, died Thursday, March 7, 2019 at St. Anthony Regional Hospital in Carroll.

Mass of the Christian Burial will be celebrated at 2 p.m. Monday, March 11, 2019 at St. Augustine Catholic Church in Halbur. The Celebrant will be Fr. Shinoj Jose. Music will be by Julie Sibbel and the St. Augustine Choir. Mass Servers will be Lucas Reising, and Owen Nepple. Lector will be Phil Markway. Gift Bearers will be Merle's Granddaughters: Heather, Shannon, Larron, Jennifer, Mandi, Tamie, Stephanie, Rachael, and Madison. Eucharistic Minister will be Beverly Nepple. Casket Bearers will be Merle's Grandsons: Jay Ryan, Travis Drees, Justin Drees, Christopher Potthoff, Adam Potthoff, Aaron Falke, Josh Potthoff, and Jonah Potthoff. Burial will be in the parish cemetery.

Friends may call at the St. Augustine Church in Halbur, after 4 p.m. on Sunday, where there will be a Rosary, and a Christian Wake Service held at 6 p.m.

Visitation will resume at the church on Monday from 1 p.m. to 1:45 p.m.

Funeral arrangements are under the direction of the Sharp Funeral Home in Carroll, and online condolences may be left for Merle's family at [www.sharpfun](http://www.sharpfun)

eral.com.

Merle, the son of Henry and Clementine (Wittrock) Potthoff was born on October 29, 1930 at Carroll, Iowa. He grew up on the family farm northeast of Halbur, and attended St. Augustine School. After his formal education Merle began farming with his father.

On October 16, 1951, Merle was united in marriage to Lila Davis, at Sts. Peter and Paul Catholic Church in Carroll, the couple made their home northeast of Halbur where Merle was engaged in grain and livestock farming. Merle semi-retired from farming at age 65. Although he “retired” he still continued to help his son John farm on a part time basis.

Merle enjoyed country music, attending concerts, playing cards, watching baseball, and golfing. He took great pride in his acreage, planting, and caring for hundreds of mums that lined their lane each year. Merle also enjoyed woodworking, building many different crafts for his children and grandchildren. Most of all, Merle loved the farm life, and all his children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren. He was a lifelong member of St. Augustine Church in Halbur.

Left to celebrate Merle’s life is his wife, Lila Potthoff of rural Carroll; 7 children: Sharon Ryan of Perry, Nancy (Patrick) Monjarez of Omaha, Michael Potthoff of Panora, Joan (Randy) Drees of Carroll, John (Gail) Potthoff of Halbur, Brenda (Jim) Falke of Omaha, and Mark (Jane) Potthoff of Polk City; 17 grandchildren 23 great-grandchildren; siblings: Arlene Rupiper of Carroll, Lois Hinnners of Carroll, and Joyce (Dick) Wright of Carroll; sister-in-law: Betty Potthoff of Manning, and brother-in-law: Danny Rowedder of Carroll; as well as many nieces, nephews, and other extended relatives.

Merle was preceded in death by his parents; his siblings: Carol Rowedder, Mel Potthoff, and Norbert Potthoff; his sister-in-law, Irma Potthoff; his brothers-

in-law: Ernie Rupiper, and Don Hinnens; a niece, Diane Hinnens; his parents-  
in-law: Percy and Vera Davis; and a step-father-in-law, Harry Laurinet.

# Tribute Wall

LM

“ I am very sorry for the loss this loving gentleman. Family is everything, and I'm sure he will be greatly missed. His grandfather, was my great grandfather's, Bernard "Barney" Potthoff, brother.  
*Lori Olson Mollenkopf*

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**Lori Mollenkopf** - March 13, 2019 at 07:13 PM

SS

“ Please accept our condolences for the loss of your husband and father.  
*Steve and Sue Seidl*

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**Steve Seidl** - March 12, 2019 at 09:00 AM

JP

“ I don't think I ever remember seeing Mert without a smile. Just a great guy. We played a lot of softball in their yard, and I first learned how to ride a bike going down that big grassy hill (soft landing). Lila cut my hair and was another great excuse to visit. She told me a funny story Sunday about me biting her during one of my haircuts when I was 2 or 3 years old, but I bet she got me confused with Brian! In typical Lila fashion, she blamed herself for surprising me when she grabbed me from behind while I was playing on the floor. I obviously don't remember, but it sounds like something I would've done. Our deepest sympathies.

*Jeff Potthoff and Family*

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**Jeff Potthoff** - March 11, 2019 at 04:22 PM

HR

“ Rest in peace Grandpa, you will be greatly missed but never forgotten ❤️❤️❤️ I love you ❤️❤️❤️❤️



Heather Ryan - March 11, 2019 at 11:18 AM

MF

“ Midwife Service Family purchased the Medium Dish Garden for the family of Merle Potthoff.



Midwife Service Family - March 11, 2019 at 10:22 AM

HR

“ 2 files added to the tribute wall



Heather Ryan - March 10, 2019 at 06:03 PM



“ *Blue Caribbean Bouquet was purchased for the family of Merle Potthoff.*



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March 10, 2019 at 12:23 PM



“ *Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Merle Potthoff.*



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March 10, 2019 at 10:43 AM



“ *Mark,*

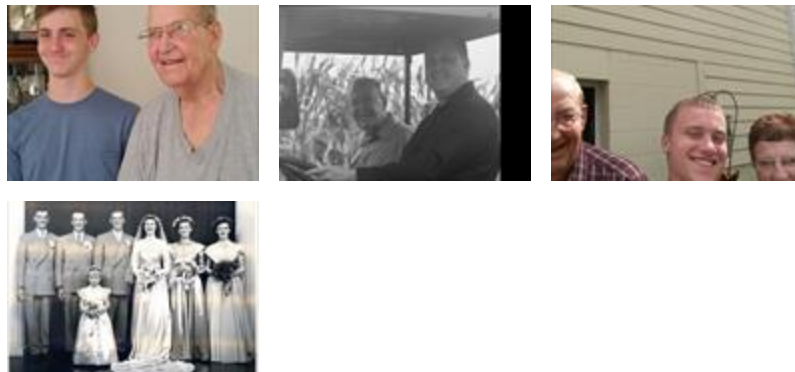
*So sorry to hear about the loss of your father. It's always hard to lose a parent. Again, my condolences to you and your family.  
Troy Hildreth X394*

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**troy hildreth** - March 10, 2019 at 09:41 AM

MP

“ 4 files added to the album Memories Album



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**Mark Potthoff** - March 10, 2019 at 12:36 AM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum* was purchased for the family of Merle Potthoff.



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March 09, 2019 at 06:43 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue* was purchased for the family of Merle Potthoff.



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March 09, 2019 at 06:24 PM

Maddie  
Potthoff

“ Love you grandpa ❤️



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**Maddie Potthoff** - March 09, 2019 at 04:51 PM

MW

“ Mary Wernimont lit a candle in memory of  
Merle Potthoff



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**Mary Wernimont** - March 09, 2019 at 03:41 PM

DY

“ David, Casey, Madysen, Ashlyn & McKenna Yu  
purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for  
the family of Merle Potthoff.



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**David, Casey, Madysen, Ashlyn & McKenna Yu** - March 09,  
2019 at 02:42 PM

JR

“ How can you say enough kind things when you as a family loss a loved one - Dad,  
Mert was always a kind n pleasant person  
Always having good things to say about people he touched ! If we all can learn from his lesson  
Of kindness I'm sure lives would be better for all! Our sympathy Lila n family !

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**jerry rupiper** - March 09, 2019 at 12:51 PM

JS

“ Our deepest sympathy to Lila and the 7 great kids she and Mert raised. We have so many fun memories of playing softball on the farm and in Halbur, Sunday afternoon get togethers with the cousins and just growing up together. I'll always remember Mert's great laugh! At such a sad time, know that you have so much love and support from all the Potthoff families.

*Jeanne & Ed*

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**Jeanne Samame** - March 09, 2019 at 01:01 AM

MP

“ Hi guys—I just want to tell you how sorry Marilyn and I am to about the passing of your dad. Next to my dad your dad was very important in my life!! I could tell you guys a million great stories of things he and I did together—we farmed together, baled hay, and we castorated many hogs together!!! Your mom cut my hair all thru high school—did an awesome job!!! I could go on forever!!

*Again I want to convey our deep felt sympathy to your family. In spite of the situation we look forward to seeing you on Monday—stay strong for each other!!*

*Craig and Marilyn*

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**Marilyn Potthoff** - March 08, 2019 at 07:48 PM

GM

“ Mark - I just wanted to extend my most heartfelt condolences to you and your family upon learning of your father's passing. You and your family will remain in our thoughts and prayers. The DPS family offers our support during this difficult time. Gerard Meyers

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**Gerard Meyers** - March 08, 2019 at 02:48 PM