



Duane Rohde

January 15, 1930-January 15, 2015

Duane E. Rohde, Age 85, of Watertown, SD, passed away on Thursday, January 15, 2015, at the Jenkins Living Center in Watertown. He died on his birthday. A Celebration of Life & Open House was held at the Crawford Funeral Chapel in Watertown, from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. on Thursday, January 22, 2015.

Duane attended deaf schools in Marshfield, WI and Devils Lake, ND. He graduated from NDSU in 1952. He married Jona Burkle in Watertown, SD on December 26, 1953.

Duane and Jona were married for 61 years. They had three children together.

Duane worked for the Watertown Public Opinion newspaper as a printer and press operator for 43 years. He retired in 1995 but then worked part-time as a self-employed custodian for many years at the Watertown City Hall.

Duane was an avid outdoors man who enjoyed hunting, fishing and traveling. He was also a loyal Green Bay Packers fan. In fact, before his death he told his daughter that the only reason he would have to live beyond his 85th birthday, in January, would be to see his beloved Packers make it to the Super Bowl. If that should happen, he wanted to live just long enough to see them play on Super Bowl Sunday. But as fate would have it, the Packers did not make it beyond the play offs and sure enough, Duane died on his birthday. Duane had also been a loyal member and staunch supporter of SDAD for more than 52 years. Duane's family, co-workers and friends probably best remember Duane as a jokester who had a great sense of humor and who loved to make people laugh with his many jokes, stories and pranks.

Burial took place at Mt. Hope Cemetery in Watertown. The members of the SDAD and Deaf Community express their heartfelt sympathies and condolences to Jona and rest of the Rohde family on the loss of their beloved one. May Duane rest in eternal peace.