

# Wayne R. "Butch" Preston

## 1938-2015

Wayne R. Preston, age 77, of Arnold, Nebraska, passed on December 31, 2015, at his home. Wayne was born February 12, 1938, in Holstein, Nebraska, to Merna and Rex Preston. He was the third of four children. He lived most of his life in the Arnold area.

He graduated in 1955 from Logan County High School in Gandy. Wayne entered the Army Reserves in 1955 and served six months active duty and eight years Reserve. He married his high school sweetheart Maxine "Mick" Bersley on July 22, 1956, at the Garfield Methodist Church. To this union came four children Christy, Carmen, Ray and Wade.

In the early years he worked for several farmers and ranchers in the area as well as farming and ranching for himself. He also drove truck for Pete Hagler. In 1965, he sold out on the farm and moved the family to California where he worked for Masonite at Ukiah, California. They moved back to Nebraska where he attended college and received his Accounting Degree at Grand Island School of Business. He then worked for CIT Financial Group and then was hired as an accountant at the St Mary's Hospital in North Platte. In 1971, Wayne and Mick purchased the Arnold Insurance Agency in Arnold from Don Kellenbarger. They operated it together until 1995.

After retirement he pulled camper trailers from factories and dealerships for a short time as well as drove long haul trucks from coast to coast for a short period of time. The farm boy in him always lured him back to the farm where in the spring he hauled fertilizer for All Points and in the fall he helped farmers harvest until his health failed.

He was a member of the Arnold Rotary Club from 1972 to 1995 where he held many offices. He was a member and officer of the Nebraska Wally Byam Airstream Caravan Club from 1993 to 2000. He led a caravan from Nebraska to Dayton, Ohio for a rally. He was a member of the Broken Bow Elks Club 1688. He was a member of the Arnold volunteer fire department and served on the city council. Wayne was a member of



the Arnold United Methodist Church and served on the administrative council.

He and Mick traveled the United States, and wintered in California

and Arizona for many years. He loved camping, golf, hunting, fishing and playing cards.

Wayne was preceded in death by his parents, brothers Larry of Arnold and Lanny of Phillipsburg, Kansas, and sister Shirley Callison of Big Spring, Texas, sisters-in-law Viola Preston and Anna Rothmiller, brothers-in-law Dale Bersley and Charles Bersley, nephews Lane Preston and Dirk Callison, mother and father-in-law Minnie and Clifford Bersley, and step-grandson Brian Willard.

Survivors include wife Mick, daughters Christy (Tim) Olin of Lincoln and Carmen (Larry) Willard of Stapleton; sons Ray (Jan) Preston of Griswold, Iowa, and Wade (Patty) Preston of Waukeg, Iowa; granddaughters Ashley (Brandon) Roth of Milford, Amanda (Erik) Isackson of Huntington Beach, California, Jenifer Wieting of Lincoln, Courtney (Tanner) Schacher of York, Jessica Preston of Budapest, Hungary, Rachelle Preston of Kearney, and Leah (Jeremy) Jech; grandsons Brad Willard of Conifer, Colorado, Landon Preston of Griswold, Iowa, and Tanner Preston of Atlantic, Iowa, Jeff (Michelle) Preston, Adam (Wendi) Glendy of Broken Bow, David (Tara) Glendy of Broken Bow; sister-in-law Kay Preston of Phillipsburg, Kansas, and brother-in-law Gene Callison of Big Spring, Texas. He will be missed by 16 great-grandchildren and many other relatives and friends.

Rather than flowers, the family would appreciate your memorials to Arnold Fire Department or Arnold United Methodist Church.

Memorial services were held at 10:30 a.m., on Tuesday, January 5, 2016, at the First United Methodist Church in Arnold. Inurnment was at the McCain Cemetery southeast of Stapleton. Cremation was chosen.

Those wishing to sign the memorial book may do so @ [www.carpenter-memorial.com](http://www.carpenter-memorial.com).