



## Ralph E. Thurk

February 12, 1940 - March 22, 2024

Ralph Edwin Thurk, 84, of Fond du Lac, passed away peacefully on Friday, March 22, 2024, at Hospice House of Hope.

He was born in Woodhall, WI on February 12, 1940, to Alphonse and Agnes (Sullivan) Thurk. Ralph was the third oldest of seven children. He graduated from Goodrich High School and then served in the U.S. Army National Guard from 1964-1970. On June 4, 1976, he married Diane L. Streblow at United Methodist Church in North Fond du Lac. In Ralph's younger days after his father passed away, he spent his time helping his mother run the family farm full-time and still found time to lend a helping hand to neighbor farms milking cows when they needed a day off. When he did find free time, he loved snowmobiling, cutting wood, and playing cards.

After his mother decided to sell the cow's Ralph worked at Agromatic in Fond du Lac, for over 30 years, which he retired from in 2005. During those years working at Agromatic, besides raising a family, his new passion became gardening. At one point over multiple years, he had three gardens located at three different properties; his mother's farm, house in NFDL, and at Agromatic, which he tended to during breaks at work. On weekends, once the fruits of his labor came to bear, family and friends would gather in the garage to make canned goods for everyone to enjoy. Ralph also loved to hunt. Throughout his life, he hunted fox, rabbits, black bear, deer, and even went to Canada to harvest a moose.

Ralph is survived by his wife Diane, son Scott of Chicago, son Jonathan (Amanda) of Pound, step-grandson Duelly, his siblings: Lorraine Wheeler of Green Bay, Mary (Pat) O'Brien of Eden, Betty (Joe) Babler of Fond du Lac, Joan Perry of Lamartine, and Robert (Steph) of Fond du Lac; sister-in-law Nancy (Lester) Schingen, many loving nieces, nephews, and cousins.

Ralph was preceded in death by his parents, his father and mother-in-law Robert "Curly" and Margaret "Peggy" Streblow, brother Donald (Mary) and brother-in-law Jerrold Wheeler.

Ralph requested no visitation or ceremony, and for his ashes to be spread on the farm he grew up on.

# Tribute Wall

JB

“ *When my Dad worked at Agromatic he a Ralph became friends. He would come out to our farm and cut wood. I would always call him Uncle Ralph. It was my privilege to care for him at the Hospice House as a nurse.*

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**Joyce Breitenfeld** - March 28, 2024 at 06:12 PM