



## Ernest E. Yoder

March 8, 1925 - March 28, 2017

Ernest E. Yoder, 92, of 1080 Browns Mill Road, Rustburg died Tuesday, March 28, 2017 at his home. He was the loving, devoted husband of Lovina Yoder for sixty-eight years till she preceded him in death on March 3rd, 2016.

He was born March 8, 1925 in Norfolk, a son of the late Eli M. Yoder and Amelia Beachy Yoder. He was a member of Bethel Mennonite Church of Gladys.

A lifelong dairy farmer by vocation, he was also involved in several other businesses over the years: a custom harvesting service, a liquid fertilizer service, as well as starting the family's first hydroponic tomato greenhouse. Most of all he loved his Savior, one expression of which was his love for music, leading congregational singing and directing the Bethel Church Choir.

He is survived by three sons, Leon Yoder and his wife Martha, Jerry Allen Yoder and his wife Cindy, and Delvin Ernest Yoder and his wife Barbara, all of Rustburg; three daughters, Mary Sue Zehr and her husband Milo of Long Island, Twila Mae Yoder of the residence, and Kathleen Joy Gilbert and her husband Randy of Long Island; one daughter-in-law, Ruth Arlene Yoder of Willis; and one sister, Ruth Naomi Yoder of Floyd. He was the beloved "Granddaddy" of thirty grandchildren, ninety great grandchildren and two great-great grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by a son, Howard Ray Yoder; one brother, Robert Edward Yoder; two sisters, Annie Kanagy and Grace Elizabeth Horsley; and a great granddaughter.

The family wishes to express a heartfelt thanks to all of the home health and hospice nurses and aides who cared so well for our Dad and enabled him to stay in familiar surroundings these last years. He loved you all!

The family will receive friends from 5:30 p.m. until 8:30 p.m., Friday, March 31, 2017 at Bethel Mennonite Church Fellowship Hall.

A funeral service will be conducted at 10:30 a.m., Saturday, April 1, 2017 at Bethel Mennonite Church Fellowship Hall with interment to follow in the church cemetery.

Finch and Finch Funeral and Cremation Service, Gladys is in charge of arrangements.

# Cemetery Details

## Bethel Mennonite Church Cemetery

5946 Brookneal HWY  
Gladys, VA 24554

# Previous Events

## Visitation

MAR 31. 5:30 PM - 8:30 PM (ET)

Bethel Mennonite Church  
5946 Brookneal HWY  
Gladys, VA 24554

## Funeral Service

APR 1. 10:30 AM (ET)

Bethel Mennonite Church  
5946 Brookneal HWY  
Gladys, VA 24554

# Tribute Wall

MA

“ *Marian lit a candle in memory of Ernest E. Yoder*



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**Marian** - February 14, 2018 at 05:25 PM

CP

“ *Connie Mae Pugh lit a candle in memory of Ernest E. Yoder*



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**Connie Mae Pugh** - April 07, 2017 at 10:15 AM

RT

“ *What a wonderful man. I so enjoyed him and Lavina when they moved to Rustburg. I was 16 yrs old. They are top on my list.*

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**RuthZehr Tester** - April 03, 2017 at 10:47 AM

DF

“ So many memories of "Granddaddy".

*I remember his kindness and interest in everyone. I only knew him for the last 6 years, but I treasure our friendship. He warmly welcomed us to Campbell County and to the Bethel Mennonite Church. He gave me copies of his history books, books that were born from his journals where he chronicled faith, family and friends. Everyone seemed to be adopted as his grandchildren. His love will live on.*

*I remember his interest in Christian music and the disappointment that his voice was failing. How fitting that Hannah Miller and Derek Yoder (two of his great-grandchildren) left the funeral to travel to Haiti on a Christian singing tour. I am so glad that the Bethel youth allowed me to tag along to his house on March 12 for Sunday School. At his request, we sang "Angel Band" around his bed. What a memory! Ernest's music, the praise of Jesus, will live on.*

*What a wonderful man of God he was, and his influence will live on in the lives of his children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren. And in all of us who knew and loved him. Recently, I visited him and expressed my appreciation for his faith and service. He humbly responded with "I just tried to fill my slot." Granddaddy, you filled your slot so well. Your example of faithfulness will live on.*

*Prayers for the family, especially for Delvin and Twila, who so tenderly cared for him at home and coordinated his many visitors. I treasure my memories of Granddaddy, and can hardly wait for our next visit. In Granddaddy's new home, with Jesus, in our Father's house.*

*Dan Freed*

*Comfort from Jesus as recorded in John 14:1-3*

*"Let not your heart be troubled; you believe in God, believe also in*

*Me. In My Father's house are many mansions; if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself; that where I am, there you may be also."*

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**Dan Freed** - April 02, 2017 at 05:31 AM

JT

“ *May God comfort you all in the days ahead with wonderful memories of your loved one.*

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**John & Robyn Troyer** - April 01, 2017 at 05:42 AM

AN

“ *Wonderful memories of Ernest and Lavina too. Together they made a warm caring contribution to many lives. My Daddy counted him his best friend and to Ernest's surprise, Daddy followed him in his move to Gladys when I was very small. I loved to hear him sing and enjoyed being with the family. I enjoyed hearing our family history told in stories. My heart is full of thoughts and feelings and would love to be with you all the next couple days.*  
*Love to all, Anna Marie Nissley*

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**Anna Nissley** - March 31, 2017 at 03:39 PM