



## Vernon Charles Sandmann

February 23, 1937 - May 2, 2025

Vernon Charles Sandmann passed away on May 2, 2025 with his loving wife and family beside him.

Born on February 23, 1937, he grew up on a small 40-acre dairy in Ridgefield, WA with his parents, Victor and Lydia Sandmann and younger sister, Diana. Growing up he enjoyed participating in baseball, choir and FFA. He attended Clark Junior College and studied engineering. After college he purchased a Texaco Service Station and rented some ground across from the family dairy where he raised strawberries. In 1960 he was drafted into the Army and sent to Korea and as a result he sold the service station. While in the Army he was a staff driver for the general. The one story he has told over the years was the time he was to drive for Marilyn Monroe when she came for a USO tour but someone with a higher rank decided to bump him. He ended up driving Danny Kaye around instead.

When he returned from Korea he went to work for Dorman Construction. While working highway construction and building I-5 his job took him to Blaine, WA where he met the love of his life, Barbara. They married in 1963. They had their first child, their daughter Lynn, in 1964 and Chuck shortly after in 1966. Their youngest son Michael was born in 1970 to complete the family. Vern and Barb purchased a 40-acre dairy from his parents and his passion for farming began. Vern farmed strawberries and raised hay on another 80 acres. Due to over population in the area they decided to sell the dairy. In September of 1966 they purchased a 320-acre farm and moved to Moses Lake. He

passed on his love for farming to his son Chuck, who still manages Sandmann Farms today. His farming career included many notable accomplishments. In 1969 he received the Block 89 Young Farmer of the Year Award. He has entered and been honored with the Grant County Hay King three different times and in 1990 he won the Northwest Alfalfa Hay Championship at the Washington State Fair. In 2017 Vern was inducted into the Grant County Ag Hall of Fame.

Vern loved being involved in the Moses Lake community. He mentored young farmers, coached softball for his daughter's team and Little League and Babe Ruth for his son's teams. He served as a school board director for the Moses Lake School district from 1979-1989 and was on the Paul Lauzier scholarship committee for many years. Vern and Barb were members of the Moses Lake Country Club for many years as well. He loved going to watch his grandkids and support others in various events. You could count on him being in the stands at the Grant County Fair, bidding and purchasing animals to support our youth.

Vern had a love for travel and family trips. Through all his travels he met many cherished friends from all over. His world travels included places like Egypt, Peru, Italy and Australia. Some of his favorite family trips included fishing at Ross Lake, and traveling to Mazatlán, Mexico. For over 40 years, they stayed at the Hotel Playa during the winter months. That is where he could totally relax before the next farm season.

We are very proud of our father and husband. He lived his life to the fullest and never failed to finish what he started. He always believed in hard work, honesty and helping others. He was committed to this community for many years and loved living in Moses Lake.

He leaves behind his loving wife of 62 years, Barbara Sandmann, Moses Lake; his sister Diana (Murray) Gustafson of Plano, Texas; his two sons Vernon Charles "Chuck" Sandmann II (Dawna); Michael Sandmann; daughter Lynn (Clark) McAlavy; seven grandchildren, Jessica (Kyle) Chamberlain; Nick McAlavy; Austin Sandmann; Hailey (fiancé Josh Kiolbassa) Sandmann,

Seguin, Texas; Taya (Steve) Botello, Alexya (Will) Connors; Farrya Sandmann, Stillwater, Oklahoma; and five great grandchildren Macoy Chamberlain, Landrie Chamberlain, Khloe Sandmann, Vernon Wyatt and Ressie Botello.

# Previous Events

## Memorial Service

MAY 13. 2:00 PM (PT)

Moses Lake Presbyterian Church  
1142 W. Ivy  
Moses Lake, WA

# Tribute Wall

DH

“ Please accept my sorrow for your family loss. The one joy of my work day was a visit from Vern. He will be missed.  
*Dick Herman*

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**Dick Herman** - May 13, 2025 at 10:34 AM

DE

“ I will always remember Vern fondly. What a great guy! Was fun to wait on at Bob's. My heartfelt sympathy to the whole family.

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**Dessie** - May 12, 2025 at 02:39 PM

AB

“ Mr. Sandmann was an awesome man and great softball coach! So sorry for your loss Lynn & family! HUGS!!

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**ALICE TURCOTTE BROOKS** - May 07, 2025 at 11:09 AM