



Gene Willard Rodenbeck of Goldsboro, North Carolina passed away peacefully on Friday, September 15th, 2017 at the age of 86. Gene was born to the late August Rodenbeck and Gertrude Huxoll Rodenbeck of Arapahoe, Nebraska. He was the oldest of 2 children. Gene was a proud Midwesterner for the majority of his life but happily followed his wife, Linda Jordan, to Goldsboro in 1994 and loved his adopted southern home.

Gene proudly served his country aboard the U.S.S. Estes during the Korean War where he was the Ship's Serviceman. Finding that he enjoyed this type of work, Gene pursued a successful 21 year career in retail management with the W.T. Grant Corporation and eventually opened his own retail store in Grundy Center, IA. He found more of his skills and talents serving as a mortgage and loan officer later in his career.

Gene was passionate about service to his God, his country, and his community. He was a member of the Good Shepherd Lutheran Church where he had served as a member of the church choir, sexton and church council member. He has many fond memories with the Goldsboro Downtown Lions Club where he has served actively on committees and as president.

Gene will be remembered for his love of singing, dancing, bowling, gardening, collecting, baking and fixing things but most of all, his love of fishing! Whether at the coast on a pier, at the edge of a small pond or out on a boat on the river, he was happiest when holding a fishing pole and hoping to catch the big one.

Gene is survived by his wife, Linda Jordan; his two children, Greg Rodenbeck and Nancy McMillin; his grandchildren, Jacob and Aaron; his sister, Darla; and his aunt Eleanora Haussler. He is also survived by a larger number of extended family and friends who will miss him dearly.

A graveside military honors service will be held at 11:30 AM, Saturday, October 14th at the Arapahoe Cemetery with military rites by the American Legion and Nebraska National Guard Honor Guard. Afterwards, all are invited to Trinity Lutheran Church for visitation with the family and a meal. On display will be a memorial table and a pictorial tribute of Gene's life. Around 1:15 PM, we will play the celebration of life service held in Goldsboro, NC and share more stories about Gene. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to the Goldsboro Downtown Lions Club, PO Box 1413, Goldsboro, NC 27533. Wenburg Funeral Home of Arapahoe, Nebraska is in charge of the arrangements.