An aerial photograph of a rural farm. A white house with a brown roof is partially visible on the left, surrounded by lush green trees. A dirt road winds through the center of the property. In the foreground, there are more trees and a small blue building. The background shows rolling green hills and more trees.

*MY FARM*

*My farm to me is not just land  
Where bare unpainted buildings stand--  
To me, my farm is nothing less  
Than all created loveliness  
My farm is not where I must soil  
My hands in endless dreary toil  
But where, through seed and swelling pod  
I've learned to walk, and talk with God.*

*My farm, to me, is not a place  
Outmoded by the modern race  
For here, I think, I just see less  
Of evil, greed, and selfishness.  
My farm's a haven -- here dwells rest,  
Security and happiness --*

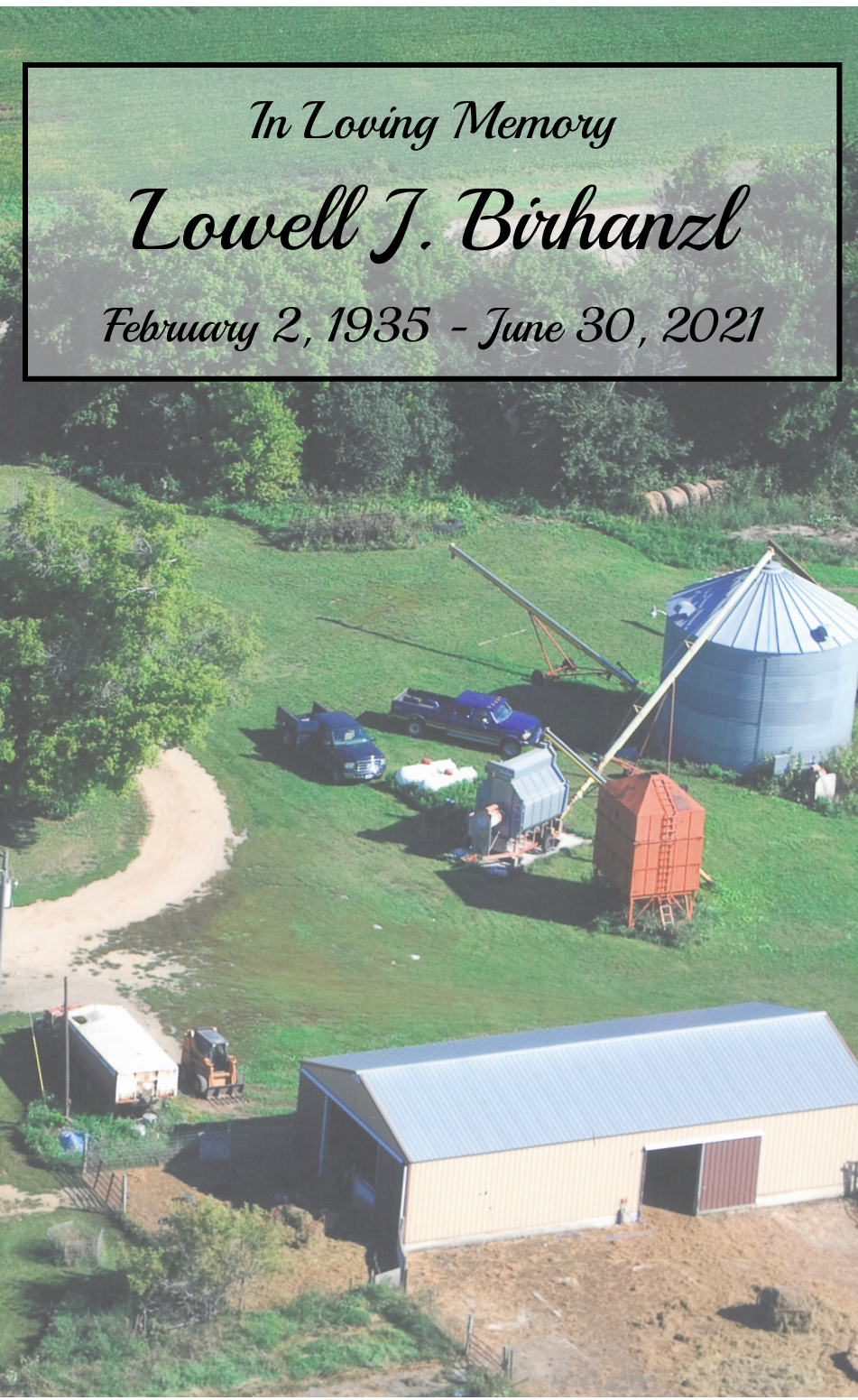
*Whate'er befalls the world outside  
Here faith and hope and love abide.*

*And so my farm is not just land  
Where bare unpainted buildings stand --  
To me, my farm is nothing less  
Than all God's hoarded loveliness.*

*In Loving Memory*

*Lowell J. Birhanzl*

*February 2, 1935 - June 30, 2021*

An aerial photograph of a farm. A large yellow barn with a blue roof is in the foreground. To its right is a tall blue silo. A red crane is positioned near the silo. Two blue pickup trucks are parked nearby. A small orange tractor is visible in the lower left. The farm is surrounded by green fields and trees. A dirt road runs along the left side of the property.



Lowell James Birhanzl was born February 2, 1935 in Sparta Township to James and Nellie (Lawrence) Birhanzl. He was baptized and confirmed at Our Saviors Lutheran Church in Montevideo. Lowell attended and graduated from Montevideo High School. After high school, Lowell enlisted in the United States National Guard. He was united in marriage to Vada Sharkey on March 29, 1958 at Spring Creek Lutheran Church, rural Clarkfield, MN. They moved to the Twin Cities area and Lowell attended the University of Minnesota studying

landscaping while Vada finished her nurses training. They moved back to Montevideo and together had three children: Gregg, Karin and Karla.

Lowell was a lifelong member at Our Saviors Lutheran church in Montevideo, and was very active in the church. He served on the Rosewood Township Board for many years. Lowell loved his life on the farm and raised livestock throughout his life. He enjoyed dancing and having coffee with his friends. Lowell enjoyed having coffee at Trailways Café then later at The Rivers, and would also have coffee at the local elevator. He was a loving father, grandfather and great-grandfather and will be missed dearly.

Lowell is survived by his children: Gregg (Mary) Birhanzl of Montevideo, MN, Karin (Ron) Koenen of Clara City, MN, and Karla (Jack) Anderson of Montevideo, MN; grandchildren: Travis (Kati) Birhanzl, Shantel (Andy) Kinman, Kelsey Bristle, Aric (Aftan) Koenen, Ethan (Natasha) Koenen, Kendyl (Anthony) Meseck, and Cal Anderson (fiancée, Nora Kronlokken); and great-grandchildren: Emmary, Kory, Tenley and Kashen Birhanzl, Jayla and Koyer Kinman, Rykurt, Knox, and Linkoln Bristle, and Violet and Henry Meseck.

He was preceded in death by his parents, and his wife, Vada.

Lowell Birhanzl, of Montevideo, died Wednesday, June 30, 2021 at CCM Health in Montevideo at the age of 86.

Blessed be his memory.

*Celebrating the Life of*

# *Lowell James Birhanzl*

## **BORN**

February 2, 1935  
Sparta Twp., MN

## **DIED**

June 30, 2021  
Montevideo, MN

## **PRIVATE FUNERAL SERVICE**

July 8, 2021  
Our Saviors Lutheran Church  
Montevideo, MN

## **CASKETBEARERS**

Travis Birhanzl  
Cal Anderson

Aric Koenen  
Andy Kinman

Ethan Koenen  
Anthony Meseck

## **HONORARY CASKETBEARERS**

Shantel Kinman  
Kati Birhanzl

Kelsey Bristle  
Aftan Koenen  
Nora Kronlokken

Kendyl Meseck  
Natasha Koenen

## **SCRIPTURE READINGS**

Psalm 23  
Ecclesiastes 3:1-15  
Matthew 11:28-30  
John 11:17-27

## **MUSIC SELECTIONS**

*"I Can Only Imagine"*  
*"The Old Rugged Cross"*  
*"Amazing Grace"*

## **OFFICIATING**

Pastor Marie Eckberg

## **FINAL RESTING PLACE**

Sunset Memorial Cemetery  
Montevideo, MN

Condolences can be sent online at: [www.andersontebeest.com](http://www.andersontebeest.com)  
Arrangements with Anderson - TeBeest Funeral Home, Montevideo, MN