A FARMER'S HANDS

Hands that are large and tough
from years of rugged, outdoor work,
Hands with fingers sensitive to music,
but too thick to strike just one key on the piano,
or a single string on a violin.

Hands that are versatile,
simultaneously wielding an ax
and picking berries from a nearby bush.
Hands that give thanks for food, for rain, for sun,
for late frosts, early springs, good yield,
for soil, for health, for a newborn calf.

Hands that are strong,

squeezing out a pailful of milk in just no time, pulling strands of barbed wire taut, carrying mountains of hay and oceans of water to hungry, thirsty farm creatures,

Hands that are gentle,

marvelling at the softness of a furry kitten, rescuing a killdeer's nest from the path of the plow patting the shoulder of a disappointed child.

Hands that are inventive,

twisting, pounding, pinching until a machine is fixed, shaping an idea into something useful.

Hands that are tired

from over a half century of tilling, planting, weeding, harvesting.

Hands that I love a farmer's hands, my father's.



In Memory of

LEONARD L. "LUM" WARD

Departed This Life Monday, March 2, 2015 Age: 85

Services Held Kendall Funeral Home Boscobel, Wisconsin Saturday, March 7, 2015 2:00 p.m.

Clergy Pastor Lynn Schreck

Beloved father of Marsha (Jeff) Everson, Beverly (Cliff) Hitz, Anita (George) Wachuta, Nancy (Jeff) Wetter, Andy (Sheryl) Ward and Randy (Kris) Ward; cherished grandfather to Kelly Everson, Mike (Kim) Everson, Heather (Joe) Majerus, Megan Rice, Amanda Wachuta, Matt Wachuta, Angie (Shawn) Stluka, Jeff Wetter, Tory Wetter, Mitchell Ward, Jamison Ward, Rachel Ward and Brenden Ward; great-grandfather to Aiden, Bralen and Zuri Everson, Lucas Kastner-Majerus, Kylie Majerus and Shaedyn Lane-Majerus, Zoe, Hallie and Reis Stluka, and Aubryanna Wetter; dear brother of Ruth (Fritz) Reiger; brother-in-law of Pat (Larry) Ward.

Preceded in death by parents, Walter and Sadie Ward; toddler son, Michael Ross Ward; brothers, LaVon (Shorty), William, Ronald, Neil and Larry; sisters, Betty Ward, Lucille (Pete) Ritchie, Faye (Lewis) Roth and Mildred (Alton) Fortney.

At Rest Boscobel Cemetery Boscobel, Wisconsin

Arrangements by Kendall Funeral Service Boscobel, Wisconsin

Fisherman's Prayer

I pray that I may
live to fish until my
dying day
and when it comes
to my last cast
I then most humbly
pray
when in the Lord's
great landing net
and peacefully asleep
that in His mercy
I be judged
BIG ENOUGH
TO KEEP

