



Lester Joseph Redder

February 2, 1924 - April 13, 2015

Lester Joseph Redder was born to Ann and Henry Redder in a farmhouse near the town of Adrian in southwestern Minnesota on February 2, 1924.

He was graduated early from high school in nearby Canby in 1940, and attended Minnesota's Public School Teacher's Training shortly afterward at the same location. After obtaining his teacher's certificate when only 17 years old, he taught in rural one-room schools until 1942, when he enlisted in the U.S. Army Air Corps at the outset of World War II.

For most of World War II, Sgt. Lester Redder served as a remote mountain meteorologist for the Flying Tigers of the Fourteenth Air Force in western China, until the War ended, when he returned home to Minnesota and, under the G.I. Bill, attended the University of Minnesota.

While at the University in 1948, Lester married Ardell Susanna Hentges, a U.S. Lieutenant Army Nurse who had also just returned from the War, but whom he had known since seventh grade in Canby. Between 1949 and 1967, Ardie and Lester had six children – Jim, Bob, Terri, Tom, Bonnie, and Greg – although they lost son, Bob, to a drowning accident in 1971.

In 1949, Dr. Redder was graduated summa cum laude with a Doctorate in Veterinary Medicine from the University of Minnesota, after which he

proceeded to privately practice large-animal medicine for nearly 13 years -- first in Springfield, then in Canby, and later in Little Falls, Minnesota – interrupted only briefly by research projects in immunology and epidemiology that he pursued at Colorado State University’s School of Veterinary Medicine in Fort Collins in 1961 and again in 1963.

In 1964, Dr. Redder joined the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) as a Field Veterinarian in the Animal Disease Control Division, specializing in the eradication of brucellosis in cattle, primarily in the states of Utah, Nebraska, and Colorado.

Lester retired from the USDA in 1989 and began working instead for the Colorado Department of Agriculture, also as a Field Veterinarian for the control and eradication of large-animal diseases.

After retiring from the Colorado Department of Agriculture in 1994, and until Ardie, his beloved wife of 63 years passed in 2011, Lester spent nearly all his time reading, gardening, and traveling with Ardie throughout Colorado, the western United States, and, eventually, to London, Rome, and the Holy Land, although they continued spending most of their time visiting with their children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren.

After Ardie’s passing, Lester continued his voracious reading of newspapers, magazines, and war history books, as well as his frequent visits with his five surviving children -- Jim (Judy) Redder, Terri (Mike) Bryant, Tom (DeAnne) Redder, Bonnie (Ray) Kemp, and Greg Redder – with special love and attention always given to each of his eleven grandchildren, twelve great-grandchildren, and one great-great-grandchild.

A Rosary will be said for Lester at 7 PM on Sunday, April 19, at St. Joseph’s Catholic Church, 300 West Mountain Avenue, Fort Collins, Colorado and a

Funeral Mass with Military Honors and Luncheon Reception will be held in his honor at 10 AM on Monday, April 20, also at St. Joseph's Catholic Church in Fort Collins, Colorado.

Those who wish, may also attend a graveside service at 1:30 PM at Roselawn Cemetery, 2718 East Mulberry Street, Fort Collins, Colorado.

Lester has asked that contributions be made in his memory to the Columban Fathers, Missionary Society of St. Columban, P.O. Box 10, St. Columban, Nebraska 68056 www.columban.org

Cemetery Details

Roselawn Cemetery

2718 East Mulberry Street
Fort Collins, CO 80524
<http://www.fcgov.com/parks/roselawn.php>

Previous Events

Rosary

APR 19. 7:00 PM - 8:00 PM (MT)

St. Joseph Catholic Church
300 W Mountain Ave
Fort Collins, CO 80521
<https://www.stjosephfc.org/>

Mass of Christian Burial

APR 20. 10:00 AM - 11:30 AM (MT)

St. Joseph Catholic Church
300 W Mountain Ave
Fort Collins, CO 80521
<https://www.stjosephfc.org/>

Tribute Wall



“ *Lester Joseph Redder*

October 25, 2022 at 06:14 PM



“ *Chrissy McCollom lit a candle in memory of Lester Joseph Redder*



Chrissy McCollom - April 22, 2015 at 11:22 AM



“ *Rest in peace Mr. Redder; and thank you for your service in the war and to the animals you cared for, Andy Josey, Ft. Collins*

Andy Josey - April 22, 2015 at 10:44 AM



“ *1 file added to the album Lester's Photos*



Goes Funeral Care & Crematory - April 17, 2015 at 01:49 PM