

NO PHOTO Bohlman, Gilbert

Sioux Falls, SD

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Gilbert "Gib" Bohlman, age 83, of Sioux Falls, SD, died Sunday, June 10, 2001 at Sioux Valley Hospital. Funeral services will be 10:00 AM Wednesday at Faith Lutheran Church, Sioux Falls, SD with burial at Hills of Rest Memorial Park, Sioux Falls, SD. Visitation will begin at Noon Tuesday at George Boom Funeral Home. The family will be present to greet friends from 7:00-8:00 PM Tuesday at George Boom Funeral Home.

Gib Bohlman was famous for his elaborate "fish stories", but his real accomplishments needed no embellishment. Gib used to joke that he was born in the famous community of Ramona, SD...famous because, he said, he was born there on June 1, 1918. Gilbert Helmuth Bohlman died Sunday, June 10, 2001, but it was his passion for family, friends and activities that defined his life. In his early years, he played guitar for dances throughout the area where he met Carol "Macky" Winans. On July 8, 1940, Gib and Macky were married in Pipestone, MN.

He served in World War II, spending time on Okinawa and the Phillipine Islands. Gib received the Bronze Star and numerous other medals.

Gib supported his growing family by trapping mink and working at various other jobs until he settled in at American Advertising, where he worked until his retirement. In the 1950's, he began racing at Huset's Speedway where he won a heroism award for saving the life of a fellow racer. He often teased his wife, Macky, about the "customary kisses" and trophies he received from the trophy girls at the racetrack. Gib was also one of the first stockholders of the original Huset's Speedway. In the 1960's he volunteered as a civil defense tornado spotter through a local CB radio club where he also served as an officer.

One of his greatest passions was shooting archery. He joined the Minnehaha Archers in 1964, later serving as the organization's President. Traveling to tournaments throughout the country, Gib was well known in archery circles and taught many youngsters and adults to hunt and compete. He won the Senior National Archery Championship in New York in his 70's, continuing to shoot and teach archery classes until he was 82 years old.

After retirement, Gib fished-and fished-and fished some more. He was an outstanding fisherman on two fronts: he held records for the largest fish in several categories and he topped his real accomplishments with elaborate and humorous tales of the ones that got away. He spent the last few years playing cards with his kids, traveling with his family and best friends, Dale & Delores "Tootie" Nopens. He lost his best friend, Dale, just a few months ago.

More than anything, Gib was proud of his children's accomplishments. Gib is survived by his wife, Macky; daughters, Pattie Vargas, Dayton, OH, Susan and her husband, Dick Elton, Emery, SD, Debbie Ingalls, Sioux Falls, SD, Lynne and her husband, Bill Casey, Inwood, IA, Cindy and her husband, Marv Morrison, Sioux Falls, SD; a son, Gilbert Bohlman and his special friend, Marcie, Sioux Falls, SD; 21 grandchildren; 23 great-grandchildren; and two brothers, Leonard and Algy Bohlman, both of Sioux Falls, SD.