



## Melvin P Heilman

May 8, 1940 - June 24, 2020

Melvin Heilman, 80, of Toppenish passed away, Wednesday June 24, 2020 from complications following a stroke. He was born May 8, 1940 in Wapato, WA to Martin and Caroline (Schmidt) Heilman. Mel completed the 8th grade and began farming with his dad. In 1970 he acquired his own place. He farmed there until our dad passed in 1988, then helped farm dad's acreage and dropped the 80 he was farming.

He raised sweet corn for Del Monte and wheat. He loved farming and visiting with other farmers as well. If you knew Mel, you would know he liked his John Deere tractors and other J.D. equipment' nothing but the best. In 2008, he leased out his farm and worked in grape harvest and hay until recently. He enjoyed collecting his John Deere toy tractors, his Schwans vanilla ice cream and Hershey's chocolates, visiting with his neighbor Mike, and teasing his nieces and nephews.

The Family misses him very much, but we know he's in a better place. He is survived by 4 sisters, Marjorie Gregson, Yakima, Mary Derrey, Yakima, Geraldine and her husband, Jim Hinchey, Zillah and Patricia and her husband Tom Stegeman, Toppenish. One brother Ray and wife, Barbara Heilman, Harrah, many nieces and nephews.

Mel was preceded in death by his parents Martin and Caroline Heilman, his sister, Josephine Shields, brothers-in-law, Francis Shields, Lew Derrey, and Don Gregson.

The family would like to thank Toppenish Nursing and Rehab and the staff, for

their excellent care and owners of Just Like Home in Sunnyside for making Mel feel like one of their family and the good care he received the year he was there.

Visitation will be held at Heggie's Colonial Funeral Home on Monday, June 29, 2020 from 1 to 3PM, and Mass of Christian Burial will be held at Calvary Cemetery Pavilion on Tuesday, June 30, 2020 at 10AM. Heggie's Colonial Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements."

# Previous Events

## Visitation

JUN **29**. 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM (PT)

Heggie's Colonial Funeral Home  
228 S. Alder Street  
Toppenish, WA 98948  
(509) 865-3222  
[info@heggiescolonialfuneralhome.com](mailto:info@heggiescolonialfuneralhome.com)

## Mass of Christian Burial

JUN **30**. 10:00 AM (PT)

Calvary Cemetery  
Yakima, WA

# Tribute Wall



“ *Melvin P Heilman*

October 05, 2023 at 11:22 AM



“ *Rest easy Mr. Heilman*



**W.C. LaPierre** - August 11, 2020 at 08:37 PM



“ *Anita S. lit a candle in memory of Melvin P Heilman*



**Anita S.** - June 27, 2020 at 06:11 PM



“ *Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Melvin P Heilman.*



June 26, 2020 at 05:59 PM



“ Melvin was my beloved biological father that made me laugh, smile and asked me questions that I enjoyed answering. At times repeating the same question in one sitting. My most memorable of him was his dedication to farming corn for Del Monte and how I would always leave after visiting him with a hand full if not more of fresh corn that my family enjoyed. My daughter Elaina that never cared for Veggies loves corn because of this memory. He held the farmer images that a city grown boy (I was adopted and lived in Seattle where I was raised by a loving mother and an over abusive father that almost killed me twice) with his coveralls on and the hands in straps and a smile with a hello. It is hard for me to think he is no longer living with us. But I am a pre-law student and will attend law school here in Montana. I dedicate the remaining of my education, passing the bar exam and more to my father. I will see you again dad and will always love you.



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**Robert Worthington** - June 25, 2020 at 03:22 PM