



# *Philip Leidholt*

## **Family Receive Friends**

Sunday, May 5, 2024 ~ 3:00-5:00 p.m.  
Stevenson & Sons Funeral Home  
Miles City, Montana

## **Funeral Service**

Monday, May 6, 2024 at 11:00 a.m.  
Stevenson & Sons Funeral Home  
Miles City, Montana

## **Officiating**

Reverend Jamie Schmeling

## **Music**

"Softly & Tenderly"  
"Flying With The Angels"

## **Pallbearers**

Jeremy Fix, Justin Fix, Dillon Fix,  
Alanna Connor, Brooke Wright, Rylie Wright,  
Damian Leidholt & Robin Leidholt

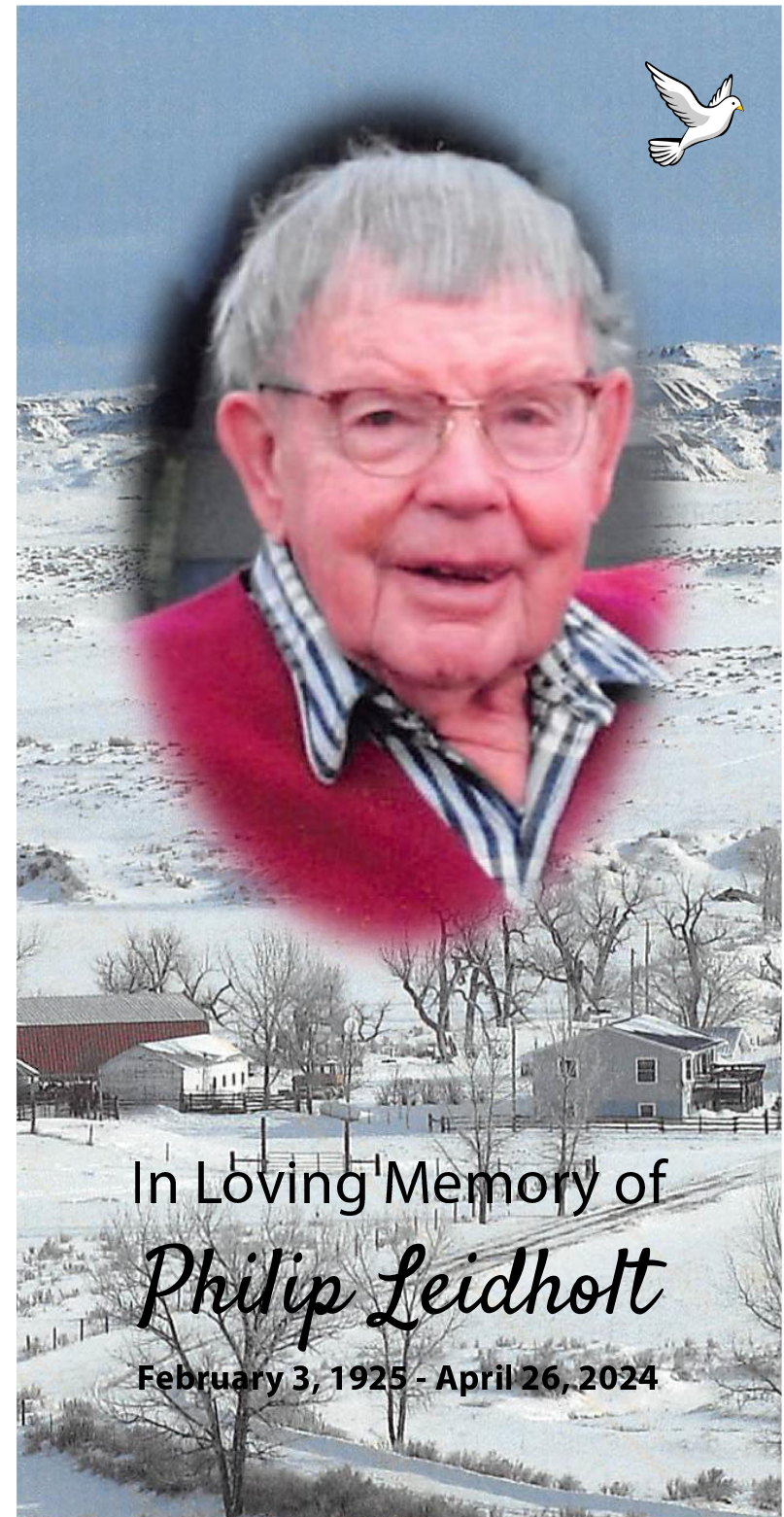
All of Philip's friends and family are considered  
honorary pallbearers.

A luncheon will be held immediately following  
the Funeral Service at The Parlor,  
1806 Main Street. Everyone is invited.

## **Interment**

Monday, May 6, 2024 at 2:00 p.m.  
Custer County Cemetery  
Miles City, Montana

Arrangements by  
Stevenson and Sons Funeral Home



In Loving Memory of  
*Philip Leidholt*

February 3, 1925 - April 26, 2024





Philip (Phil) Leidholt, farmer, rancher, former sheep herder, and harmonica player passed away at age 99 on April 26, 2024.

Phil was born February 3, 1925 in Roscoe, South Dakota the seventh of 13 children of Rose and Karl Leidholt. At six years of age the family traveled by train with their belongings, machinery, and livestock to a new life in Crow Rock, Montana with the hopes of a better future.

When the Great Depression or “dirty thirties” hit Phil worked at age 9 herding sheep out by himself with a dog and a sheep wagon. He graduated the eighth grade at Tree Coulee, a Garfield County School and worked for various ranches in the Crow Rock area. He started delivering coal for his brothers in Miles City before he had a driver’s license until his brothers sold the truck and he lied about his age to work at the Milwaukee Railroad at age 17. After leaving the railroad he worked on Bill Nefsey’s ranch south of Miles City for several years before moving to South Dakota where he worked for various ranches. He was introduced to the love of his life Beverly when his bosses were on the same train and convinced her to write to him. Although she was convinced he was the town drunk (he wasn’t), they exchanged letters and ultimately ended up marrying in Bingham Lake, Minnesota on December 27th, 1957. After the wedding they resided in South Dakota where their three children were born. Wanting to return to Miles City, they bought a farm in the Yellowstone Valley in 1972 where he and his brothers built a house for his family. In 2001 they fulfilled their dream of owning a ranch and moved south of Miles City where he lived until his death.

He had a passion for driving his restored tractors in the Bucking Horse Parade along with a wealth of farming and ranching knowledge. What was right was always paramount. He was prompt about directing you if he thought you could do something better and gave you heck if you slacked off. He didn’t have to be loud, just shake his head a little bit and give you that look, then you knew you needed to get it together. He was determined not to end up in a nursing home and he got his wish, passing on the ranch, with a meadowlark beckoning out the window.

In addition to his wife of 66 years, Beverly, Phil is survived by his daughters; Debbie Fix (Mark) of Miles City, Della Connor of Lufkin, Texas, and son; Dave Leidholt (Mish) of Miles City; a brother, Jim Leidholt and sister Violet Howe of Miles City. He was especially proud of his grandchildren: Jeremy Fix, Justin Fix, Dillon Fix, Alanna Connor, Brooke Wright (Rylie), Damian Leidholt, and Robin Leidholt. A special joy in his life was the addition of a great grandson, Hagen Wright.

He is preceded in death by his parents, Karl and Rose Leidholt, brothers, Leonard, Robert, Julius, Edwin, Adolph, Eugene and sisters, Martha, Tillie, Peggy, and Alma, and son-in-law Scott Connor.

The family wishes to thank Holy Rosary Hospice for their loving care.

In lieu of flowers, memorials can be made to Holy Rosary Hospice, 2600 Wilson St, Miles City, MT 59301, or First United Methodist Church, 24 N 11th St, Miles City, MT 59301.

