



## Delmer Richard Bockelman

December 29, 1938 - March 6, 2025

Delmer R. Bockelman, 86, passed away on March 6, 2025, at his Napoleon home. He was born December 29, 1938, in Adams Township to the late Richard and Erna {Nagel} Bockelman.

Delmer was a graduate of Northeastern Local {Jewell} High School and served two years in the US Army stateside. He was a lifelong farmer, working alongside his parents and brother on the family dairy farm near Okolona.

Delmer was baptized and confirmed at Bethlehem Lutheran Church, Okolona, and had served on the cemetery committee.

He is survived by his wife of 49 years, Suzanne; daughter and son-in-law, Andrea and Matthew Van Gilder; grandson, Zachary Van Gilder; and sister, Marlene Bockelman. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his brother, Larry.

A funeral service will be held at 2:00 PM on Tuesday, March 11, 2025, at Rodenberger-Gray Funeral Home, Napoleon, with viewing from 12 noon until 2:00 PM. A private interment will be at the Bethlehem Lutheran Church {Okolona} Cemetery. Memorial contributions may be made to a charity of the donor's choice. Online condolences and messages may be shared with the family at [rodenbergergray.com](http://rodenbergergray.com).



# Cemetery Details

## Bethlehem Lutheran Cemetery, Okolona

30997 Gerken Road  
Defiance, OH 43512

# Previous Events

## Public Viewing

MAR 11. 12:00 PM - 2:00 PM (ET)

Rodenberger Funeral Home - Napoleon  
1010 Westmoreland Avenue  
Napoleon, OH 43545

## Funeral Service

MAR 11. 2:00 PM (ET)

Rodenberger Funeral Home - Napoleon  
1010 Westmoreland Avenue  
Napoleon, OH 43545

# Tribute Wall



“ *Sympathy to you all. Prayers for comfort.*

Kathleen Lieb - March 10, 2025 at 04:44 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Delmer Richard Bockelman.*



March 10, 2025 at 10:21 AM



“ *Jenifer & LaMar Winward planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Delmer Richard Bockelman.*

Jenifer & LaMar Winward - March 09, 2025 at 10:02 PM



“ *Jenifer & LaMar Winward purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Delmer Richard Bockelman.*



Jenifer & LaMar Winward - March 09, 2025 at 10:02 PM



“ *A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Delmer Richard Bockelman.*

March 09, 2025 at 04:48 PM



“ *Blue Caribbean Bouquet was purchased for the family of Delmer Richard Bockelman.*



March 09, 2025 at 04:48 PM



“ *Brett and Jackie Perkins purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Delmer Richard Bockelman.*



**Brett and Jackie Perkins** - March 08, 2025 at 08:47 PM



“ *Gracious Lavender Basket was purchased for the family of Delmer Richard Bockelman.*



March 08, 2025 at 03:40 PM



“ *So sorry for your loss. I always enjoyed visiting with Delmer. He always had a smile. There was no doubt he loved his God family and farming.*

**Peg** - March 08, 2025 at 01:05 PM