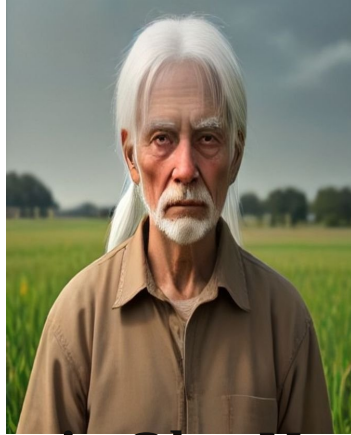




Torstein Olav Nesheim

August 31, 1939 - September 11, 2026

Fargo, North Dakota

Torstein Olav Nesheim died in Fargo on September 11, 2026, at eighty-seven. He was born there on August 31, 1939, when a beet plant was a clock and a river was a weekday neighbor. His people had come from Vestland. He learned a splice before he learned a highway south.

Thirty-four years of his life went into a factory that started before daylight. He arrived early. He did not advertise. Foremen called him because he would shut a line even when the truck was already promised. He kept extra coffee for the kid whose morning had already been too long. He would not let a buyer invent a grade that made the scale a liar.

He married Solveig Nesheim in 1961. They raised two sons in a bungalow that needed a new mudroom every decade. After Solveig died in 2007 he still came out for a favorite shift, moving slower, swearing with more precision.

Friends remember a man who would jump a battery in a lot that looked like a glacier, who could sit through a long potluck without making the wind a personality, and who owned one good parka. He liked the river early, before the heat. He died in Fargo, among flats he had never needed to explain. The plant still opens.

Services

A memorial in Fargo. A gift to a plant-workers' fund suits him.

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