



Richard W Van Weelden

May 11, 1924 - September 17, 2020

Richard William “Rich” Van Weelden, age 96, of Oskaloosa, passed away on Thursday, September 17, 2020 at the MHP Serenity Hospice House in Oskaloosa. He was born on Sunday, May 11, 1924, in Rose Hill, the son of James and Effie (Dykstra) Van Weelden. He attended country school until 8th grade. On February 28, 1945, Rich was united in marriage to Joyce M. Van Roekel, and to this union 5 children were born, Leon, Lynn, Allen, Roxanne, and Rick. Rich and Joyce enjoyed over 71 years of marriage until she passed on October 30, 2016.

Rich worked at Pierson Seed Corn for many years as operating manager and later as a crop specialist at Mahaska Farm Service for over 20 years until his retirement. During his retirement he remained active and worked at the Oskaloosa Parks Department for 13 years and later took a job at Harvest Point Golf Course. He was always willing to help his neighbors and was known as the neighborhood handyman. Rich was passionate about sharing the Gospel of Jesus Christ. He was an active member of the Central Reformed Church in Oskaloosa where he held many leadership roles in youth ministry; serving as a Cadet Leader, Sunday School Superintendent, and Youth Group Leader to name a few. He felt led to use his carpentry and handyman skills to help others. He felt the best way to do this was through Habitat for Humanity. Rich was instrumental in bringing Habitat for Humanity to Mahaska County and served as one of the original board members as well as volunteering on projects for 23 years. He was also an active in Brothers in Blue and Cursillo ministries. Rich was a catalyst for bringing the Soap Box Derby to Oskaloosa and volunteered to make that event successful for many years. He enjoyed working in his flower garden, traveling, and camping all over the United States, antiques, and restoring and refinishing antique furniture. His real joy in life was sharing the Gospel of Jesus Christ spending time with his family and friends.

Those left to cherish his memory include his children, Leon Van Weelden of Springfield, Missouri, Roxanne (Don) Morrison of Oskaloosa, and Rick (Cheryl) Van Weelden of Eddyville; fourteen grandchildren; thirty-five great grandchildren and 1 great-great granddaughter due this winter; and many nieces and nephews.

Besides his wife Joyce, Rich was preceded in death by a son, Allen Van Weelden; a daughter, Lynn Renner; a granddaughter, Heron Van Weelden; three great grandsons; a brother and his wife, John J. and Willie Van Weelden and two sisters and their husbands, Greta and Charles Vanderbeek, Jennie and James Knoot and many nieces and nephews.

A graveside service and burial will be held Tuesday, September 22, 2020 at 10:30 a.m. in the Forest Cemetery in Oskaloosa with Pastor Jon Nelson and Marvin Knoot officiating. Those wishing to attend the graveside service should meet at the Bates Funeral Chapel by 10:10 Tuesday morning to form a procession to the Cemetery. It is also advised to bring a lawn chair to the cemetery. The Bates Funeral Chapel is in charge of the arrangements. According to the rules put in place by the Iowa Department of Public Health, proper social distancing and reasonable personal protective equipment is advised for attending a religious public event. Rich's family request that those in attendance please wear a mask during the service at the cemetery. The graveside service will be live streamed at the funeral home's YouTube Channel for those wishing to support the family from a distance. Visitation will begin Monday, September 21, 2020 after 9:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. in the Bates Funeral Chapel. Memorials may be made to the Central Reformed Church or Lakeview Camp.

Cemetery

Forest Cemetery

634 North 9th Street
Oskaloosa, IA, 52577

Events

SEP 21 **Visitation - Open** 09:00AM - 05:00PM

Bates Funeral Chapel
114 South 7th Street, Oskaloosa, IA, US, 52577

SEP 22 **Graveside Service** 10:30AM

Forest Cemetery
634 North 9th Street, Oskaloosa, IA, US, 52577

Comments



“ Nancy Kelderman lit a candle in memory of Richard W Van Weelden



Nancy Kelderman - October 17, 2020 at 03:20 AM



“ My deepest sympathy to Rich's family. It is hard losing our Dad's and Mom's. Rich van weelden was our cousins as my Mom's (Elsie's) Mother and Uncle Jim were brother and sister. My Dad, Harold Kelderman married Elsie Brink Feb. 12, 1947 2 years after your parents were married and us kids were all the same age. I remember you went to Central Reformed Church so you likely were closer to Bob and Evelyn and family, But I remember playing with you kids whenever we had Van Weelden reunions. I remember when Allen passed, and it was so sad. My brother Dan, used to visit Uncle Jim and Aunt Effie as long as they were still with us. Dan was the only one of us kids that stayed in Osky and the rest of us, Dennis, Mary and I, all lived out of state. I remember that our parents were closer when they first got married and after us kids show up it changes lifestyles a lot. My Mom is at Homestead, but can not speak, but she expressed sadness when she heard of Rich's passing.

I am praying for God to wrap his arms around all of you and and give you peace in knowing that your Dad, your Grandpa, was a decent, kind and loving person and has always been well thought of by his peers no matter where he was found to be. He loved his Savior and enjoyed sharing the Gospel.

Sincerely,

Nancy Kelderman
for Elsie, Dan & Dennis Kelderman and Mary Kelly

Nancy Kelderman - October 17, 2020 at 03:19 AM



“ About 40 years ago we hosted a Knoot family Christmas gathering with my brothers and their families in Ottumwa. The doorbell rang and their were Mr. and Mrs. Claus in their full-blown Christmas time best clothes with big smiles and candy canes for all. They loved brightening family events!

Marvin Knoot - September 21, 2020 at 09:59 AM



“ Thank you cousin. He loved his VW family gatherings!

Roxanne Morrison - October 10, 2020 at 10:19 AM



“ I was fortunate to work with Rich for ten years at Mahaska Farm Service! He taught me a lot both personally and professionally. My wife and I would play cards and go out for supper with Rich and Joyce! Wonderful people! Randy & Cathy Seligman

Randall Seligman - September 20, 2020 at 05:15 PM



“ Thank you Randy. Dad often talked about his years at Farm Service and the relationships formed there were special to him.

Roxanne Morrison - October 10, 2020 at 10:19 AM



“ 122 files added to the album LifeTributes



Bates Funeral Chapel - September 20, 2020 at 02:08 PM



“ There must be a big family reunion in heaven this week! How we are missing them all! I have many happy memories of Uncle Rich. The Van Weelden house was so much more active than ours in Fremont. Uncle Rich always had a big smile and the heartiest laugh. And David Taylor sorely misses his phone calls!
Beth Taylor

Beth Taylor - September 19, 2020 at 05:25 PM



“ Thank you cousin. Dad had a special relationship with David.
Roxanne Morrison - October 10, 2020 at 10:18 AM



“ So sorry to read about Rich, have known him for years (at least while). my thoughts and prayers to all the family. Rich was such a caring person, always enjoyed visiting with him.
Martha Veerman



Martha Veerman - September 19, 2020 at 02:43 PM



“ Thank you Martha.
Roxanne Morrison - October 10, 2020 at 10:17 AM



“ I am so very sorry to hear of your loss. Your father was a kind man. You are all very lucky to have been blessed by his long life and to share in his wisdom and support. Love to all. Timm and Debbie McCurdy

Timm McCurdy - September 19, 2020 at 01:27 PM



“ How kind of you. Thank you Timm and Debbie.
Roxanne Morrison - October 10, 2020 at 10:17 AM



“ What a Christlike man! He was very special to Bob. My condolences to all of you.
Linda Huff

Linda Huff - September 19, 2020 at 10:02 AM



“ Thank you.

Roxanne Morrison - October 10, 2020 at 10:16 AM



“ Rich was one of my mothers (Elsie Kelderman) favorite cousins! She always loved to chat with him. Even after moms stroke, he was so patient and kind to her as if he understood what she was saying. I will see to it mother gets a paper obit for her to read, and re-read. She will show it to her friends at Homestead, with great pride that Rich was her cousin! 'When we all get to heaven, what a day of rejoicing that will be!'
Family of Elsie Kelderman
Mary Kelly
Madison, Wi



Mary Kelly - September 19, 2020 at 09:50 AM



“ Thank you Mary. Those VW cousins had great memories!

Roxanne Morrison - October 10, 2020 at 10:16 AM



“ Small Garden Dish was purchased for the family of Richard W Van Weelden.



September 18, 2020 at 08:40 PM



“ Serene Retreat was purchased for the family of Richard W Van Weelden.



September 18, 2020 at 07:29 PM



“ Our condolences to Leon and family.
Cherol & Daryl Brown
and on behalf of the Class of 1964

Cherol Brown - September 18, 2020 at 06:46 PM



“ I will give Leon your message. Thank you.

Roxie Morrison - September 18, 2020 at 10:30 PM



“ I thank God for my Uncle Rich and Aunt Joyce. He was a loving uncle, a faithful Christian, and a true disciple of Jesus Christ. Our sympathies to all the family. Praise God that in remembering Rich Van Weelden, we have much to be thankful for.

Ron and Cheryl Vanderbeek

Ron Vanderbeek - September 18, 2020 at 06:07 PM



“ Thank you cousin.

Roxie Morrison - September 18, 2020 at 10:34 PM



“ Sincerest condolences to the Morrison/Van Weelden families.

Tom Hay - September 18, 2020 at 05:25 PM



“ Thank you, Tom.

Roxie Morrison - September 18, 2020 at 10:31 PM



“ Our thoughts and prayers are with you all, he was a great man and made a lot of difference in many peoples lives.

Karen Powell - September 18, 2020 at 05:01 PM



“ Thank you, Karen.

Roxanne Morrison - October 10, 2020 at 10:15 AM



“ Oh many will miss this kind and generous sole. Always a smile. I remember when it was recommended I give Rich a call when looking for a handyman for Santa Clara Apartments when I was managing them. He asked me why not himself. Not only was he an awesome handyman, he was able to share the love of Christ to the residents and to the staff. I am sure he was met with Jesus saying "well done good and faithful servant". He was a dear friend and will be greatly missed.

Penny Jean Adams - September 18, 2020 at 02:20 PM



“ His time at Santa Clara was his mission field. Thank you for sharing, Penny.

Roxie Morrison - September 18, 2020 at 10:33 PM



“ Rich and Joyce created such a loving family. It was a privilege to feel like a part of their family while I was growing up. Allen was the big brother I never had. Rick and my brother Mark were clones (born on the same day, best friends & both stinkers) and Roxie was definitely my sister. As members of their family pass on, big holes are left in their wake, but their love slips back in to mend them. My deepest condolences to all.

Aideen Vega-Van Auken - September 19, 2020 at 12:24 AM



“ I was privileged to work with Rich (and Joyce) at Cursillo and have good memories of those times. My sympathy to you as you miss him, but what great memories we have.

Marlene Dykstra

Marlene Dykstra - September 21, 2020 at 11:29 AM



“ I cant imagine how much your dad missed your mom. Hugs to you all

Kris Mitrisin - September 23, 2020 at 10:00 AM



“ Our condolences and Prayers to Rick and Cheryl and family.

Lord bless! Betty and Glen Everhart

Betty - September 24, 2020 at 04:55 PM