



Herman H. Emkes

Herman H. Emkes

February 3, 1932 - August 5, 2016
Resided in Denver, IA

Obituary

Herman H. Emkes, 84, of Denver, Iowa, passed away Friday, August 5, 2016, at the Shell Rock Health Care Center in Shell Rock, Iowa.

Herman was born February 3, 1932, on the family farm in Grundy County, Iowa, the son of Anton and Jennie (Hempfen) Emkes. He attended school through the 8th grade and then began working alongside his father on the farm. He served his country in the United States Army during the Korean War until his honorable discharge in 1957. On December 22, 1958, he was united in marriage to LaVonne (Meier) in Sutton, Nebraska. Together they would build, own, and operate the mobile home park south of Denver for over 40 years, during which they were members of the Manufacturing Housing Association. They also owned the laundromat in Denver for many years. Herman had various trucking jobs over the years, most notably with Schumacher Elevator Company in Denver for which he drove over 25 years and Warren Transport in Waterloo for over 15 years. On May 15, 2016, while a resident of The Meadows in Shell Rock, Herman was presented with an honorary high school diploma issued by the Iowa Veteran Administration.

Herman was a longtime member of St. Peter Lutheran Church in Denver. He was a 40+ year member of the American Legion Post in Denver where he served as Post Commander, Membership Chair and numerous other positions. He served as the 3rd District Vice-Commander of the American Legion. Herman was very involved with the Boy Scouts of America where he served as scout master for over 10 years and earned several awards including Silver Beaver Award, The Lamb Award, Order of Arrow, Wood Badge and the Scouting Lifetime Achievement Award. He and LaVonne were members of the Ostfriesen Heritage Society and longtime active members of the Denver Starduster square dance club.

Herman was the proud owner of a 1951 Kaiser-Fraiser and was a member of KFOCI. He modified several tractors and created implement replicas, fit with moving parts and accurate detail. He also belonged to the local PTOS (Preserving The Old Stuff) tractor club. Herman and LaVonne traveled around the world; he was very proud of the work accomplished while on a mission trip to New Life School in Guatemala. His newest project, a Civil War Memorial at the American Legion Post in Denver, was very important to him and will be carried out posthumously.

Herman is survived by his wife LaVonne; daughter, Rosemary (friend Scott Plum) Weidler of Shell Rock, Iowa; son, Gary (Barbara Lovejoy-Hess) Emkes of Waverly, Iowa; three grandchildren, Jessica (fiancé Andrew Hannon) Weidler, Caleb Hess, and Sarah (Wade) Janssen; two great grandchildren, Alex and Samantha Janssen; two brothers, Fred (Suzanne) Emkes of Cedar Falls and George (Molly) Emkes of Albuquerque, New Mexico; sister, Jeanette Kottke of Fredericksburg, Iowa and numerous nieces and nephews. He is preceded in death by his parents and a brother-in-law, John Kottke.

Funeral services will be held at 10:30 a.m. on Wednesday, August 10, 2016, at St. Peter Lutheran Church in Denver with Pastor Ron Mathews officiating. Military Rites will be conducted at St. Peter Lutheran Cemetery by Acker-Matthias American Legion Post #653 of Denver. Visitation will be held from 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, August 9, at the Kaiser-Corson Funeral Home in Denver and an hour prior to services Wednesday at the church. Memorials may be directed to Acker-Matthias American Legion Post #653 of Denver or St. Peter Lutheran Church of Denver (for the church or mission partner New Life School in Guatemala). Online condolences may be left for the family at www.kaisercorson.com.

Kaiser-Corson Funeral Home in Denver is in charge of arrangements. 319-984-5379

Guestbook



Roger Foelske

Created: August 10, 2016

Sorry to learn of Mr.Emke's passing. I had the good fortune of working for him in the mid-sixty's when began to layout his dream in a pasture south of town along highway 63. He was a man of great vision and the drive to make it happen. May he rest in peace.



Tim Carlson

Created: August 09, 2016

We are sorry for your loss. Are thoughts and Prayer will be with you and your family in the next few days and weeks to come. Herman was what you call a straight shooter, you always knew where you stood with him. George Bishop was that same way and both are missed. God Bless Tim and Cindy Carlson



Steve, Melissa & Joshua Faga

Created: August 09, 2016

Our sympathies to the Emkes family you are in our thoughts and prayers.



Charles Woodford

Created: August 08, 2016

I will always remember when i was locked out of my VW at the mag. association meeting and Herman told me how to get back in, you were both very helpfull. My heat go out to you and your family at this time.May God be with you all. Charles and Marcia Woodford



[David Plond](#)

Created: August 08, 2016

LaVonne, Rosemary, and Gary

So sorry to hear of your loss. I fondly recall the scouting experiences that I experienced while serving as de in wild River. Herman was such a dedicated and loyal scout leader. I enjoyed our conversations. He influenced many young people over the years. May God give you comfort during this difficult time. Prayers to you all.



[Bradley Richardson](#)

Created: August 08, 2016

My sympathies to the Emkes family. Herman was a great model and teacher as the leader of Troop 118. He taught so many of us life skills which I still use today. His patience with us and zeal to try new things was always appreciated.



[Lavon Grimesse](#)

Created: August 07, 2016

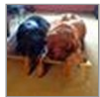
Rosemary so sorry to hear about your father. I will keep you in my thoughts and prayers.



[Rick and Kathy Sturdevant](#)

Created: August 07, 2016

Our sympathies to the entire family and especially to Gary and Barb, our cousins. His career and activities are very impressive! He leaves a long legacy.



[Lynne](#)

Created: August 06, 2016

Herman always came around faithfully to collect Dan's dues. My thoughts are with you, Rosemary and family.



[Marlin Weidler](#)

Created: August 05, 2016

One of my fond memories of Herman was my brakes on my car were wearing out and he said he would not change them for me but show me how to change them - which he did. He was always ready to help in any way or show you how to do it properly. God's Blessings to the Emkes Family.

Photos




Services

Visitation

Kaiser-Corson Funeral Homes, Inc. - Denver

110 S. State Street
Denver, IA US 50622-0525

 [Map / Directions](#)

 Tuesday, August 9, 2016
4:00 PM - 7:00 PM

Cemetery

St. Peter Lutheran Cemetery

701 E. Fayette St.
Denver, IA US

 [Map / Directions](#)

 Wednesday, August 10, 2016
10:30 AM

Service

St. Peter Lutheran Church

540 E. Franklin Street
Denver, IA US 50622

 [Map / Directions](#)

 Wednesday, August 10, 2016
10:30 AM