



Clifford "Cliff" Dale Phipps

March 12, 1932 - January 4, 2023

Clifford Dale "Cliff" Phipps, 90, of Spirit Lake passed away on Wednesday, January 4, 2023, at Lakes Regional Healthcare in Spirit Lake.

A memorial service for Cliff will be held at 11:00 a.m. Saturday, January 14, 2023, at Grace Lutheran Church in Spirit Lake. Military Honors will follow the service at the church presented by the American Legion Post Timpe Post #23 and the VFW John W. Kidd Post #4514. A visitation will be held one hour prior to the service on Saturday at the church. Arrangements are under the direction of the Robinson Funeral Home, formerly the Schuchert-Lentz Funeral Home in Spirit Lake. Online condolences may be left at www.spiritlakefuneralhome.com

Clifford Dale Phipps was born March 12, 1932 to Ruth (Weaver) and Ernest Phipps in Sioux Rapids, Ia.

He graduated from Sioux Rapids High School in 1950 and attended the University of South Dakota in Vermillion for one year. In 1952 he was united in marriage to Martha Dengler at Immanuel Lutheran Church in Rock Rapids, IA where he was also baptized and confirmed.

Cliff was drafted into the Army in 1952 where he received training in Explosive Ordinance in Aberdeen, MD and then served in Salzburg, Austria for one year. After his discharge from the Army in 1954 he was engaged in farming in the Sioux Rapids area where he belonged to the First Lutheran Church being active in teaching Sunday school and sponsoring Luther League.

In 1964 Cliff enrolled in Buena Vista College in Storm Lake, IA, graduating

with a bachelor's degree and honors in 1966.

Following one year of teaching, he and Martha moved to Bloomington, MN to accept an accounting position with Blue Cross & Blue Shield of Minnesota until his retirement in 1994.

Cliff enjoyed the hobbies of antique cars, woodcarving, reading and playing cards. He also enjoyed watching football and golf on T.V. He volunteered at Lakes Regional Health Care for 17 years, delivering meals-on-wheels and represented the American Legion at military funerals.

Cliff held many positions, both locally and nationally in the Antique Automobile Club of America (AACA). He was an active judge for many years and attended several tours, driving his 1957 Chevrolet, 1931 Pontiac or his 1982 Chevrolet - meeting many wonderful people and seeing many interesting and beautiful parts of the U.S. His 1914 Model T Roadster is on display at the Michigan State Museum in Lansing. Cliff was an honorary member of the MN Region AACA, and a member of the Iowa Great Lakes Region ACAA. .

In 2019 Cliff was gifted with the privilege of going on the Veteran's Honor Flight to Washington D.C. – an awesome experience of seeing military memorials and other sites in the area.

In 1996 Cliff and Martha moved back to NW Iowa, settling in Spirit Lake where he was a member of Grace Lutheran Church and American Legion Tempe Post No. 23.

Cliff passed on January, 4th 2023 at the Lakes Regional Hospital in Spirit Lake and is preceded in death by his parents, one brother and two nieces. He is survived by his wife Martha, one sister Avis Davis of Spirit Lake, one niece Sheila Phipps of Mankato, MN, two nephews Frank (Debbie) Phipps of Everly, IA and Dan (Deb) Davis of Spirit Lake, other relatives and friends.

Blessed be his memory.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be directed to Grace Lutheran Church, Lakes Regional Health Care Hospital, Lakes Regional Hospice or to the charity of your choice.

Previous Events

Visitation

JAN 14. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

Grace Lutheran Church
801 Hill Ave.
Spirit Lake, IA 51360

Memorial Service

JAN 14. 11:00 AM - 11:30 AM (CT)

Grace Lutheran Church
801 Hill Ave.
Spirit Lake, IA 51360

Tribute Wall

JW

“ So sorry for your loss Martha. I remember a visit to “the cities”. Cliff gave us a ride in the Model T (I think). What a ride. I also remember the great carvings he was doing. Beautiful work, so much talent. He was so humble when complimented!! Thinking of you!
Janna Willnauer

Janna Willnauer - January 13, 2023 at 09:23 AM

FC

“ Frank & Debbie Phipps & Chelsea purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Clifford "Cliff" Dale Phipps.



Frank & Debbie Phipps & Chelsea - January 12, 2023 at 09:51 PM

CB

“ Craig and Doug Bruswitz purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Clifford "Cliff" Dale Phipps.



Craig and Doug Bruswitz - January 12, 2023 at 07:16 PM

RB

“ Martha, sorry hearing of your loss. He was such a nice and caring man. We will miss him.
Randy and Jan Bobolz

Randy Bobolz - January 11, 2023 at 06:09 PM



“ *Large Basket Garden was purchased for the family of Clifford "Cliff" Dale Phipps.*



January 08, 2023 at 06:11 PM



“ *Twyla Garnmeister lit a candle in memory of Clifford "Cliff" Dale Phipps*



Twyla Garnmeister - January 07, 2023 at 03:14 PM



“ *Sorry to hear of Cliff's passing, I will miss seeing him at church.*



Lynn Greimann Hassebroek - January 06, 2023 at 11:02 AM



“ *Martha, Our sincere love and sympathy on Cliff's passing. His smile and friendly presence will be missed.*



Reba and Alan Munson - January 06, 2023 at 09:26 AM

DH

“ I will always miss the brightness of his amazing smile and his unending faith in our Lord. Always willing to serve - well done our faithful servant may you rest in peace. God bless you!

Deb Heidebrink - January 05, 2023 at 04:13 PM



“ Mary Ellen Inbody lit a candle in memory of Clifford "Cliff" Dale Phipps



Mary Ellen Inbody - January 05, 2023 at 11:00 AM

CP

“ Cheryl Petersen lit a candle in memory of Clifford "Cliff" Dale Phipps



Cheryl Petersen - January 05, 2023 at 10:11 AM

JF

“ Jona Forbes lit a candle in memory of Clifford "Cliff" Dale Phipps



Jona Forbes - January 05, 2023 at 09:24 AM

CO

“ *ConnieLange lit a candle in memory of Clifford "Cliff" Dale Phipps*



ConnieLange - January 04, 2023 at 09:42 PM

HA

“ *Very sad to learn of Cliff's passing. I worked with him for many years at Lakes Regional Healthcare where he volunteered. Cliff always had a smile on his face and was willing to help in any way. He was a delight to have known and he will be missed. My thoughts and prayers go to his dear wife, Martha and the many others who knew and loved him.*



Holli Axtell - January 04, 2023 at 03:52 PM

MB

Saddened to learn of Cliff's passing. While at LRH he volunteered always smiling and upbeat. He will be missed. My thoughts and prayers to Martha and other family members. His star will shine bright from above.

Marlys J Blum - January 13, 2023 at 11:23 AM