



Ernest "Ernie" Cupp

March 22, 1946 - June 5, 2026

Ernest "Ernie" Cupp, 80, of Spirit Lake passed away on Friday, June 5, 2026, at Lakes Regional Healthcare in Spirit Lake.

A private graveside service with full military honors will be held in the Lakeview Cemetery in Spirit Lake. Arrangements are under the direction of the Robinson Funeral Home in Spirit Lake. Online condolences may be left at www.spiritlakefuneralhome.com

Ernest James Cupp was born on March 22, 1946, to Henry and Flora (Dibbern) Cupp in Davenport, IA. He graduated from Davenport West High School. After graduation he was drafted into the Army during the Vietnam conflict. He returned to civilian life for a while, but returned to service in the US Army where he was a proud member of the 1st Battalion, 194th Field Artillery Regiment. Ernie retired after 28 years of service. Ernie was a highly decorated soldier, receiving some of the highest commendations and awards for his hard work and dedication. After retirement, he served as the Dickinson County VA Director.

He was united in marriage to Carol Duhn on June 18, 1988, at Grace Lutheran Church in Spirit Lake. They enjoyed nearly 38 years of marriage together. Carol was his caregiver for nearly a decade after his Parkinson's diagnosis.

Ernie was a member of Grace Lutheran Church in Spirit Lake. He volunteered for various roles such as Sunday School Teacher, member of the council, and wherever he was needed. Ernie volunteered on many different boards, to

include Discovery House, Child Advocacy Board, Kinship, HUD, Veterans Memorial Foundation, and a few others. He was a past member of Kiwanis, and was named by the club as the Citizen of Year in 2015. Ernie's countless hours of volunteer work had a great impact on many people's lives. In his free time, he enjoyed golfing and bowling.

He is survived by his wife Carol Cupp of Spirit Lake, IA; sons Jason Cupp of North Liberty, IA; and Brian (Julie) Cupp of Shreveport, LA; grandchildren, Calvin, Kevin Jr., Cruz, Nathan, Kyra, Benjamin, Matthew, Abigail, Jenna, Emily, Alexis, and Payton; twin brother David (Nikki) Cupp of Des Moines, IA; brother Kenny Cupp of Davenport, IA; and his sister Patti Devick of Maryland; and a large extended family.

He was preceded in death by his parents, son Kevin Galbraith, his brother Eddy Cupp, and his brother in laws Rick Duhn and Delmar Duhn.

Cemetery Details

Lake View Cemetery

2684 18th Street
Spirit Lake, IA

Tribute Wall

RA

“ Carol, I'm Sooo very Sorry to hear about Ernie's passing, He was an Awesome Man, Our Thoughts and Prayers are with You and Your Family during this very difficult time 🙏
RIP ERNIE, And Thank You for your Service



Ruth Shaffer - Albrant - June 11 at 10:43 PM

BA

So sorry Carol. R.I.P.
Billy n Darci

Billy Asberry - June 15 at 03:24 AM

BN

“ So sorry to hear he's left this world. I spent quite a few weekends and summer camps along side Ernie when we were in the Guard. We always referred to him as Ernest T. Fly carefully my friend, you'll get used to your wings soon enough. Be at peace my friend!!

Bruce Norgaard - June 11 at 09:25 PM

JS

“ Carol and Family, I am so sorry to hear about Ernie and I am lifting you up in prayer. Ernie was past president of the Discovery House Board of Directors and I was always grateful for his leadership.
Blessings, Julie Scheib

Julie Scheib - June 11 at 07:28 AM

FJ

“ *Fran Jungjohan lit a candle in memory of Ernest "Ernie" Cupp*



Fran Jungjohan - June 10 at 12:26 PM

JC

“ *Jeff & Linda Christoffer sent a virtual gift in memory of Ernest "Ernie" Cupp*



Jeff & Linda Christoffer - June 10 at 11:44 AM

EJ

“ *My deepest sympathies to Ernie's family. I met Ernie through Grace Lutheran, as we attended Saturday services, and Ernie was always in charge of the auto organ. Such a super nice guy. He will be missed.*



Erica Jacobson - June 09 at 01:53 PM

MT

“ *I talked with Ernie many times at the Veterans office after my husband died. He was a great help and supporter as I worked through Rich's military maze of paperwork. My condolences to the family*

Mary D Thunhorst - June 09 at 01:15 PM

PP

“ Pat And Judy Peddycoart lit a candle in memory of Ernest "Ernie" Cupp



Pat and Judy Peddycoart - June 08 at 09:28 PM

DC

“ You will be greatly missed Ernie! So glad we got to celebrate our 80th Birthday together brother!
-Love David



David Cupp - June 08 at 07:24 PM

PR

“ So sorry to hear about Ernie. What a guy.



Peggy Rick - June 08 at 04:57 PM

TD

“ Teri Duhn lit a candle in memory of Ernest "Ernie" Cupp



Teri Duhn - June 08 at 02:43 PM

JK

“ Carol, sorry to hear about Ernie’s passing.
Hugs to you



Joann Kastrup - June 08 at 01:16 PM



“ Sheryl McKeivitt lit a candle in memory of
Ernest "Ernie" Cupp



Sheryl McKeivitt - June 08 at 12:20 PM

JA

“ Janelle lit a candle in memory of Ernest
"Ernie" Cupp



Janelle - June 08 at 11:52 AM

JA

*I enjoyed talking to Ernie when we worked at the Courthouse. We
laughed a lot and just had a great time. You will truly be missed!! My
condolences to your wife!*

Janelle - June 08 at 11:56 AM

PD

“ To the best brother a sister could have, so many great memories. I will miss you terribly.

Pat Devick - June 08 at 10:30 AM

CL

“ Connie Lenox lit a candle in memory of Ernest "Ernie" Cupp



Connie Lenox - June 08 at 08:28 AM

CL

Besy brother in law i have had

Connie Lenox - June 08 at 08:29 AM

RI

“ We are many in thanking Ernie for his service in the Iowa Army National Guard. He touched us all!

Roger Ingledue - June 07 at 02:08 PM

WU

“ Wanda Hartman Untiedt lit a candle in memory of Ernest "Ernie" Cupp



Wanda Hartman Untiedt - June 07 at 02:00 PM

JB

“ Jim And Annie Bauer lit a candle in memory of Ernest "Ernie" Cupp



Jim and Annie Bauer - June 07 at 11:15 AM

JB

Carol and family we do sorry for your loss.

Jim and Annie Bauer - June 07 at 11:16 AM

DH

“ Carol and family we offer our peace and prayers to you. Ernie was such a great guy. Always helping others - veterans, at church wherever he was. God bless you and may your memories help comfort your hearts. Paul and Deb Heidebrink.

Deb Heidebrink - June 07 at 07:24 AM

DB

“ I'm so sorry to hear about Ernie. I worked with him years ago.
My sympathy to his family. 🙏🙏🇺🇸🇺🇸🇺🇸



Dayle Broocks - June 06 at 05:01 PM