



Francis "Fran" Ray Parrish

July 31, 1943 - July 30, 2023

Francis "Fran" Parrish, 79, of Milford, passed away on Sunday, July 30, 2023, at Lakes Regional Healthcare in Spirit Lake.

A memorial service for Fran will be held at 10:30 a.m. Saturday, August 12, 2023, at the First Lutheran Church in West Okoboji. A visitation will be held on Friday from 5-7 p.m. at the church. Burial will take place in the church's columbarium. Arrangements are under the direction of the Robinson Funeral Home in Spirit Lake. Online condolences may be left at www.spiritlekefuneralhome.com

Francis Ray Parrish was born on July 31, 1943 in Homer, NE to Laverne Parrish (Cooper) and Elzy Parrish. He passed away at 79 years old on July 30, 2023, in Spirit Lake, IA. He lived in Sioux City and moved to Milford in January of 1982 with his family where he took a job at Ingham Okoboji Lutheran Bible Camp. He then formed a business with a friend doing construction work.

On October 26, 1963, he married his true soulmate Betty Ann Pas. He met Betty because she was babysitting his Aunt Helen's kids and the rest is history. Fran and Betty had a lot of adventures together and for 60 years they never left each other's side.

You could always find Fran cheering on his beloved Nebraska Cornhuskers, and he never left the house without his Nebraska hat. He had a keychain on his car keys that played the Nebraska fight song, and every time they scored a touchdown you could hear him play the fight song and just giggle! Fran

enjoyed spending time with family and friends. The light of his life was his three granddaughters. He was a lover of all things tractors. His first love was farming with his dad near Kingsley Iowa. In his spare time, he rebuilt a Minneapolis Moline tractor, and after he got done with that one, he couldn't stand not having something to do in his spare time, so he bought a Massey Harris and rebuilt that one as well. He would take both of them to tractor pulls. He also loved to go on the KICD tractor ride every year. He also enjoyed TRAWL and giving rides to his grandkids and their friends. Another love was snowmobiling (when we had snow). He would give the kids a ride and then he would go off and enjoy the ride with friends and family.

Fran was an avid jokester. He loved making people laugh. He would sit at the kitchen island and ask questions while other people were cooking, but he never looked to cook himself.

Fran also loved spending time with his coffee friends at the camp. They would meet on Tuesdays and catch up on what happened during the prior week. Also, a shout out to his friends Judy and Tim for keeping him busy after mom passed. These times will never be forgotten.

Left to cherish his memory are Amy (Brad) DuPuis of Peachtree City, GA, Shannon (Paul) Anderson of Milford, IA. Three granddaughters Cassawandra, Adeanna and Mia. Brother Doyle (Patty) Parrish of Dakota City, NE, sister Dorothy (Bill) McGraw of Plattsmouth, NE, many nieces, and nephews.

Preceded in death are his wife Betty Ann Parrish (Pas), Parents Elz, Laverne and Lloyd Cox, sister Gail Jean Cox, and brother Richard (Dick) Parrish, in-laws Wesley and Marj Pas, brother-in-law John Pas, and sister-in-law Helen Kay Pas.

Previous Events

Visitation

AUG **11**. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

First Lutheran Church
1525 Three Cross Road
Milford, IA 51351
(712) 338-4514

Memorial Service

AUG **12**. 10:30 AM (CT)

First Lutheran Church
1525 Three Cross Road
Milford, IA 51351
(712) 338-4514

Tribute Wall

JP

“ *Both Fran and Betty were great prayer warriors and great friends.
John and Ellen Petersen*

john Petersen - August 11, 2023 at 07:05 PM

SH

“ *Our sincere condolences to Fran's family. We will always remember
Fran's kindness and ever flowing life practicing faith. Steve and
Sharon Hanson*

Steve and Sharon Hanson - August 07, 2023 at 07:49 AM

SH

“ *Steve And Sharon Hanson lit a candle in
memory of Francis "Fran" Ray Parrish*



Steve and Sharon Hanson - August 07, 2023 at 07:47 AM

TC

“ *Tom Cooper lit a candle in memory of Francis
"Fran" Ray Parrish*



Tom Cooper - August 06, 2023 at 11:25 AM

TC

To all family members I was a good friend to Fran and Betty and may I express my condolences to all of you!! he was a good man and so was she!!!!

Tom Cooper - August 06, 2023 at 11:28 AM



“ *Victoria Miller lit a candle in memory of Francis "Fran" Ray Parrish*



Victoria Miller - August 06, 2023 at 08:31 AM



Fran was such a great guy. I am happy his suffering is over and Betty and he are reunited.

Victoria Miller - August 06, 2023 at 08:33 AM

DB

“ *Dan And Linda Ballah lit a candle in memory of Francis "Fran" Ray Parrish*



Dan and Linda Ballah - August 02, 2023 at 08:41 PM

JE

“ *Fran was always cheering on the Pioneers and we both shared a special kind of love for zebras. Love and Peace to a great man / fan!*

Jeff - August 02, 2023 at 06:06 PM

KS

“ Well done. Good and faithful servant. Our sympathy to you and your family. May all the saints and angels 🙏 welcome him home.

Kathleen A Shaw - August 02, 2023 at 12:03 PM

SG

“ Sandi Guthrie lit a candle in memory of Francis "Fran" Ray Parrish



Sandi Guthrie - August 02, 2023 at 11:47 AM

MM

“ Blessings and Prayers for Peace to Fran's Family at this difficult time. I worked with Fran during the years he was part of the maintenance crew for the Parks Division of the Iowa DNR in the 28 park, lodge, and mowing areas of the Gull Point Complex. I had heard stories over the years of this wonderful builder who created lovely homes in Wahpeton and loved working at the Okoboji Lutheran Bible Camp. Fran's skills enhanced the homes and lives of many. Not only was he excellent at his craft, he was also fun to work with! Most importantly, Fran was a Good Man. His life made a difference, and he will be missed ~



Molly Mulqueen - August 01, 2023 at 10:28 PM

JH

“ Julie Hansen lit a candle in memory of Francis "Fran" Ray Parrish



Julie Hansen - August 01, 2023 at 02:36 PM

SK

“ Sharon & John Winter- Koch lit a candle in memory of Francis "Fran" Ray Parrish



Sharon & John Winter- Koch - August 01, 2023 at 12:34 PM

MB

“ Mel & Clarys Berryhill lit a candle in memory of Francis "Fran" Ray Parrish



Mel & Clarys Berryhill - August 01, 2023 at 11:34 AM

RB

“ Rosemary Booth lit a candle in memory of Francis "Fran" Ray Parrish



Rosemary Booth - August 01, 2023 at 11:24 AM

KW

“ *Kristie & Tim Wintz sent a virtual gift in memory of Francis "Fran" Ray Parrish*



Kristie & Tim Wintz - August 01, 2023 at 11:05 AM