



## Jerry Lee Starkweather

June 12, 1935 - March 3, 2017

Jerry Lee Starkweather, 81, of Arnolds Park, Iowa passed away on Friday, March 3, 2017 at Lakes Regional Hospital in Spirit Lake, Iowa.

Jerry was born on June 12, 1935 in Sioux City, Iowa to Fred and Gertrude Starkweather. He grew up in Boyden, Iowa where he excelled in sports at Boyden High School, graduating in 1953. He elected to further his education at Morningside College where he majored in education and was a multi-year letterman in both basketball and baseball. During his junior year, he started dating Marjorie (Marge) Kathleen Bauer, the woman who became the love of his life. They were married on June 16, 1957.

Following college, Jerry coached multiple sports and taught at Ocheyedan High School (1957-1963) and North Fayette High School (1963-1965). He received his Master's Degree from Colorado State College in 1965 and accepted the position of Junior High Principal at Westwood Community Schools, where he served from 1965 to 1972. In 1972, he became the Elementary Principal at Rock Valley Community Schools, the position he held until he retired in 1997.

Jerry was a devoted husband, father, grandfather and friend. He loved spending time with his family, sports, especially golf, enjoying the numerous leagues he played in with his friends, and traveling. He was also active in the Spirit Lake United Methodist Church. Jerry had great Christian faith and had a servant's heart. His infectious personality, quick wit and love of life will be greatly missed by his

family and many friends.

He is survived by his wife Marge, sons Randy (Joanna) of Nashville, Tennessee and Scott (Gwen) of Orange City, Iowa, grandchildren Brady Starkweather of Omaha, Nebraska, Trevor Starkweather of Orange City, Iowa and Jena Starkweather (fiancé Jon Nilles) a college junior at Lipscomb University in Nashville, Tennessee, brother-in law and sister-in law Ron and Peg Juffer of Orange City, Iowa and numerous nephews and nieces. He was preceded in death by his parents, his brother F. Thomas Starkweather and sister-in-law Margot Starkweather.

Memorial service will be at 11:00 a.m. on Thursday, March 9 at Spirit Lake United Methodist Church. Visitation with family members present will be held on Wednesday, March 8 from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. at the Schuchert-Lentz Funeral Home. Interment will be at Lakeview Gardens Cemetery in Spirit Lake, Iowa. The Schuchert-Lentz Funeral Home is assisting the family. In lieu of flowers, donations can be sent to Spirit Lake United Methodist Church Memorial Fund.

## Cemetery Details

### Lake View Gardens Cemetery

Spirit Lake, IA

## Previous Events

### Service

MAR 9. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (CT)

United Methodist Church  
1812 Gary Ave  
Spirit Lake, IA 51360

# Tribute Wall

LK

“ *Marge and family  
Sending you our heartfelt sympathy to you and your family. Blessed  
by all our memories when you lived in Sloan.  
Lita (Frantz) Kruger*

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**Lita (Frantz) Kruger** - March 15, 2017 at 08:53 AM

BB

“ *Starkweather Family,  
I am sorry for your loss. Mr. Starkweather walked his faith and it  
was demonstrated in his interactions with others. One good memory  
for me of Mr. Starkweather is: During my 6th grade year, I had  
numerous visits in the principal's office. At the end of that year, on  
my final visit, Mr. Starkweather said, "Bill, we have enough visit this  
year, that when you are a 7th grader, I think can call me, Jerry." My  
excited reply was "Really?" He gave that wonderful smile and said  
"No".*

*I have been blessed by Mr. Starkweather and I am not even family.  
Praying for you,  
Bill B. Boer*

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**Bill B. Boer** - March 09, 2017 at 02:21 PM

MH

“ *Marilyn Hoekstra lit a candle in memory of  
Jerry Lee Starkweather*



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**Marilyn Hoekstra** - March 09, 2017 at 10:14 AM

TM

“ As we all walk our way down the path of life we encounter many people... If we're lucky some make a lasting impression on us. For me, and apparently many others, Jerry was one of those people. What a fine man. Jerry was one of those priceless people who crossed my path for whom I will be forever grateful. Jerry was just the best.

*I met Jerry at Emerald Hills and Jerry and I were golf partners. If you asked him today he would be quick to point out that he has been carrying me for years. That was Jerry..and his quick wit of course. Although a great competitor, he was always so kind, so thoughtful and generous to everyone he encountered.....both on and of the course. I noticed over the years that people were always quick to count Jerry as a friend... and he was in fact a friend to all.*

*Jerry touched so many people in so many positive ways throughout his life. I'm afraid It's just not going to be near as much fun here on earth without him. I consider myself so very lucky to have known him.*

*Godspeed dear friend. Go now in peace.*

*My sincere condolences to you and your family Marge.*

*Tom Madigan*

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**Thomas Madigan** - March 08, 2017 at 08:02 PM

SM

“ Glad to have known Jerry Starkweather he was truly a friend to all. His positive personality was a result of his christian walk and faith. God Bless Jerry , Marge and family. Steve&Anna More

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**Steve Moore** - March 08, 2017 at 01:18 PM

BL

“ Dear Starkweathers,

*I owe so much to this special man. He was a mentor to me and his friendship and leadership at Rock Valley Elementary during my time as a teacher/coach in the school system will always be remembered. His sense of humor, his empathetic caring of students with special needs and servant heart are just some of the traits he possessed. I had many great talks with him and knew he always had my best interest at heart after speaking with him. Having been a principal's kid myself, I felt a special bond with him and so appreciated all he did for me. He was a great role model and the love he showed for his family was very evident to me, Marge, Randy and Scott, you and your families are in my thoughts and prayers.*

Love,

*Bruce and Laura Lubach*

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**Bruce Lubach** - March 08, 2017 at 11:51 AM

RS

“ Dear Marge, Randy, Scott, and families,

*Renae and I were sorry to hear of Jerry's passing but know he is at peace and in a better place. So many memories come back from our many good times at Westwood. Three good friends have gone in these last two weeks with Ike, Myron, and now Jerry. We want you to know you are in our thoughts and prayers. We wish we could be there with you to help celebrate his life.. He was a great guy who will be missed by many. Rich & Renae Servis, Wichita, KS*

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**Rich Servis** - March 07, 2017 at 11:19 PM



“ *Basket Full of Wishes was purchased for the family of Jerry Lee Starkweather.*



March 07, 2017 at 09:38 PM



“ *Ocean Breeze Spray was purchased for the family of Jerry Lee Starkweather.*



March 07, 2017 at 05:34 PM



“ *Mr. And Mrs. Rex King lit a candle in memory of Jerry Lee Starkweather*



**Mr. and Mrs. Rex King** - March 07, 2017 at 04:40 PM



“ *Dyke Jones and family purchased the Pretty Plea se for the family of Jerry Lee Starkweather.*



**Dyke Jones and family** - March 07, 2017 at 04:30 PM



“ *Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Jerry Lee Starkweather.*



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March 07, 2017 at 04:18 PM



“ *My condolences to Mr. Starkweather's family. He was my coach and teacher through Jr. High and High school. I have many fond remembrances of him. We were blessed in a small community to have so many qualified and dedicated young teachers. Jerry was highly respected and worked incredibly long days with us. He was a positive role model and had a sense of humor that I particularly enjoyed. He led us to eighteen consecutive wins my senior year which has been a lasting memory for me. I will miss him.*

*Jerry Petersen  
Ocheyedan class of 1963*

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**Jerry Petersen** - March 06, 2017 at 09:05 PM



“ *Fay and I would like to express our condolences to Marge and there family. Fay taught with Jerry while he was at Ocheyedan and we have many happy memories of the good times we had with them.*  
*mid Robinson*

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**mid robinson** - March 06, 2017 at 07:55 PM

LN

“ *Sympathy and prayers for the Starkweather family during this time. Jerry was a coach, teacher and mentor who became a life-long friend to students he interacted with during his long career. He had the ability to create a connection with everyone he came into contact with - he will be missed by many.*

*Larry Noble*

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**Larry Noble** - March 06, 2017 at 05:50 PM

RP

“ *Jerry was always a very kind and caring person. Our sympathy to his family as they are in our thoughts and our prayers with his earthly passing. Ric and Cynthia Porter*

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**Ric Porter** - March 06, 2017 at 03:01 PM

JS

“ *1 file added to the tribute wall*



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**Jerry Russell Starkweather** - March 06, 2017 at 12:23 PM


LG

“ We are saddened to hear of Jeery's passing. We are praying for each of your family. We pray you will sense God's presence each step of this journey. May God fill your hearts and minds with the perfect peace he promised [Isiah 26:3]. His grace is amazing, lean on Him. Love, LaVonne and Rod Grooters  
I was a HS classmate



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**LaVonne R Grooters** - March 06, 2017 at 11:47 AM

 Cathy Van Kley

“ Our thoughts and prayers are with Marge and family. Cathy and I enjoyed stopping and visiting with Jerry and Marge in Arnolds Park and we also enjoyed visiting with them at the Ocheyedan Class of '59 reunions. I will never forget Jerry and Marge's new '58 white Chevy Impala and our conversations about it later in life. Our sympathies  
Al and Cathy Van Kley

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**Cathy Van Kley** - March 06, 2017 at 10:25 AM

 Cathy Van Kley

“ Cathy Van Kley lit a candle in memory of Jerry Lee Starkweather



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**Cathy Van Kley** - March 06, 2017 at 10:23 AM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Jerry Lee Starkweather.*



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March 06, 2017 at 09:34 AM



“ *I still remember catching a pass from Mr. Starkweather at recess. He was the man, my thoughts and prayers are with the family.* Kirk Eknes

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**Kirk Eknes** - March 05, 2017 at 10:45 PM



“ *Ken Farmer lit a candle in memory of Jerry Lee Starkweather*



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**Ken Farmer** - March 05, 2017 at 04:46 PM



“ *Bill And Marge Ruml lit a candle in memory of Jerry Lee Starkweather*



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**Bill and Marge Ruml** - March 05, 2017 at 02:49 PM

DN

“ *Don Nelson: Jerry was a friend, a mentor and yes, even a dad to me the 38 years I had the honor to know him. His humor and wisdom will be in my memories. I will truly miss him.*

*Myra Nelson: God has gain a wonderful loving soul in Jerry.*

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**Donald and Myra Nelson** - March 05, 2017 at 02:27 PM

BF

“ *Brad, Dee, Kim, Karri, & Karla Bauman (& families) purchased the Basket of Memories for the family of Jerry Lee Starkweather.*



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**Brad, Dee, Kim, Karri, & Karla Bauman (& families)** - March 05, 2017 at 01:38 PM

“ In 1976 we moved to Rock Valley, to become the pastor at First Reformed Church. I'm not sure exactly when it was, but in time I got to know Jerry, and our friendship continued to grow over the years. He was the principal of the elementary school, and did a fantastic job, and our girls attended school there. We also began to play racquetball together, had some great matches on the court, but even better was the social times before and after, as we would visit together. In time, we began to play tennis together, he always referred to me as "lucky". Especially if I happened to win a match or two...and so through the years, he would call me about another match, and it was always "hey lucky". Even after we moved on to Wisconsin to another church, he would every so often give me a call, I never had to wonder who was calling, the greeting was always the same "hey, lucky, how's it going?" And we would always have a good conversation and some laughs in the process.

*I always enjoyed playing with and against Jerry, but even more enjoyed our social times through the years. He was a man I greatly admired and treasured his friendship. Even in more recent years, when our paths would not cross very often, still when they did, it was always the same "hey, lucky, how's it going?"*

*And then when I was living in Rock Valley, I ran a before school program, for any kids interesting, a bit of a Bible Study, prayer time, social time...Scott came to those...and in future years, Scott would start the "My Choice" program, and my own children would participate in that. What a blessing for them and for me.*

*And so, the connections through the years and all the great memories. My sympathies and prayers to you as a family. So many wonderful memories of times shared with Jerry. I cherish those memories, and the joy of having known Jerry and shared with him through the years.*

*With my thoughts and prayers,*

*"Lucky"(Rog Voskuil)*

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**Roger Voskuil** - March 05, 2017 at 01:36 PM

CK

“ *He was tough, but he was fair. Jerry was a great leader of students*

*Clint Van Kley 1965 grad of Ocheyedan High*

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**Clint Van Kley** - March 05, 2017 at 01:35 PM

DE

“ *Marge and family, my sincere condolences to all of you! As with so very many students, Jerry was my most memorable teacher in high school! He and I had some very thought provoking "talks" in the "Cage" at Ocheyedan High School.*

*Most of the class of 1959 had the privilege of visiting with Jerry this past August!*

*May the Peace of the Lord be with you!*

*Dr. Jim Eiselt ('59)*

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**Dr. Jim Eiselt** - March 05, 2017 at 11:42 AM

RP

“ *Thoughts and Prayers for you and your family Margie remembering that you and Jerry never missed a class of 59 's reunion.*

*Richard Petersen*

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**Richard Petersen** - March 05, 2017 at 10:20 AM

ES

“ We're sorry to hear of Jerry's passing. Condolences to the whole family. I'm so grateful I called in January and visited with him. He was not only my coach but I included him as one of my best friends.

*Earl Siemon*  
*Ocheyedan High School 1963 grad*

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**Earl Siemon** - March 05, 2017 at 08:30 AM

JJ

“ Dear Marge, Randy, and Scott,  
Jerry was a wonderful uncle! He had that twinkle in his eye whenever he teased me. I remember many good times in the Sioux Falls hotel for Thanksgiving celebrations. You are all in my thoughts and prayers.

*Jane*

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**Jane Juffer** - March 05, 2017 at 06:33 AM

DY

“ Mr. Starkweather had a profound impact on me as a young man growing up in Rock Valley. Both at school and as my Sunday School teacher. He raised a great family also.

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**David Yates** - March 04, 2017 at 11:48 PM

LJ

“ Larry/Mary Ann Jansen lit a candle in memory of Jerry Lee Starkweather



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**Larry/Mary Ann Jansen** - March 04, 2017 at 07:55 PM



“ *Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Jerry Lee Starkweather.*



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March 04, 2017 at 07:09 PM



“ *Thank you for all you did for the kids of Rock Valley. Sincerely,  
Sheila Rozeboom*

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**Sheila** - March 04, 2017 at 06:18 PM



“ *Jerry will certainly be missed. He was a great coach and friend. Jan  
Niesen*

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**Jan Nielsen** - March 04, 2017 at 05:13 PM



“ *We were saddened to hear about Jerry!! We  
have many fond memories & will treasure  
each one. Just know that you all are in our  
thoughts & prayers.*



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**Jerry, Kathy & Michael Welter** - March 04, 2017 at 04:33 PM



“ *My thoughts and prayers have been for all the Starkweather family. I  
feel privileged to have known such a wonderful man.  
May God bless all of you.  
Sharon Judson*

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**sharon judson** - March 04, 2017 at 04:02 PM