



Randall Ricklefs

August 11, 1953 - May 31, 2015

Randall Scott Ricklefs, one of four children born to Arnie and Shirley Ricklefs and the stepson of Curtis Gardner, was born August 11, 1953, in Algona, Iowa. He was baptized and confirmed in the United Methodist Church. Randy graduated from Algona High School in 1971 and then graduated from Wartburg College with a major in psychology. Randy had a love of the lakes area from spending his childhood summers on the north shore of Spirit Lake. It was here he met his future wife, Julie Heyer. Following his graduation from Wartburg College, he moved to Spirit Lake and co-opened with Bill Heil the popular franchise, Jake's Pizza. Jake's soon became the "fun" place to stop due to Randy's love of people and his entertaining personality. In 1978, Randy and Julie were united in marriage and raised three children, Kellie, Kyle, and Kami. Randy later co-owned with Ron Vincelli the Remington's Restaurant in Spirit Lake. Their life was full with work and family. Randy was a self-made business entrepreneur and pursued many interesting "career opportunities" including selling water purifiers, juicers, computer generated photos transferred to clothing and banners, video rentals, Merry Maids Cleaning Service, water balloon sling shots (not his finest idea....but so Randy), and selling insurance. Insurance was in his blood, following in the footsteps of his grandparents, father, and brothers, and continued to be a big part of his life. Randy was also very committed to the AA program and helping others with their addictions. In 1990, Randy's life changed starting with a Cursillo weekend and then going along with Kelly O'Brien to his first Steubenville

Youth Conference. He realized his true passion was serving the Lord and teaching youth about the love and awesomeness of the Lord. He started out as a volunteer youth minister, working into a part time and then full time youth minister with St. Mary's Catholic Church in Spirit Lake.

Randy was diagnosed with early onset Alzheimers in September of 2010 when he was 56 years old. His sense of humor and quirkiness remained, which was a tremendous strength and help to his many friends and family throughout the disease until he died on Sunday, May 31, 2015, at the Community Memorial Health Center in Hartley, Iowa.

A Memorial Mass will be 4:00 pm on Thursday June 4th at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Spirit Lake. Following the Mass there will be a Celebration of Life and sharing at the VFW. In lieu of flowers memorials may be made in Randy's name to the Gentiva Hospice, RESIPTE Angels or the Hartley Care Center. The Schuchert-Lentz Funeral Home in Spirit Lake is serving the family.

Randy will be cherished for his charismatic personality, his willingness to help others, his ODH (obsessive duck hunting), and his ability to make others laugh. One of his dreams (other than Dancing with the Stars), was to be a stand-up comedian.

Randy was preceded in death by his niece, Jenny Ricklefs, parents, and grandparents.

"Well done, thy good and faithful servant...enter thou into the joy of the Lord."
Matthew 25:21

Tribute Wall

FM

“ *Randall Ricklefs*

Fred and Margsret - June 05, 2015 at 11:36 PM

FM

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FM

“ *Randall Ricklefs*

Fred and Margsret - June 05, 2015 at 11:36 PM

RM

“ *I hadn't seen Randy in 40 years when this latest news arrived. We graduated the same year from Algona High School in 1971 but I was a bit more straight-laced than Randy in high school so we weren't all that close. That changed when we both went to Wartburg College and - though I never could keep pace with Randy - we had some uproariously good times. I graduated after 4 years from Wartburg but Randy lingered a little longer. He'd always start off the fall semester in fine shape but then duck hunting season would begin and Randy would disappear for weeks on end. Those extended absences were a little hard to overcome academically. Randy was one of those people I always hoped to cross paths with again. I guess I will just have to try to catch up with him in heaven.*

Ron Medin - June 05, 2015 at 09:06 PM

GM

“ I was staying on Lake Okobodji with my in-laws. I really needed an AA meeting and to laugh. Randy came and picked me up brought me to a meeting and out with some friends afterwards for some great fellowship and plenty of laughs. I remember the laughter and the kindness. Prayers for your family. Look forward to seeing you again one day in Heaven!

Greg Munce - June 04, 2015 at 01:34 PM

JP

“ Julie and family,
Though we have known you for a few short years, it is a pleasure to have that opportunity. Our sympathy to the family, prayers to know that life is celebrated both past and future for all of you and for Randy.

Jackie Paulsen and Dave Pelzer - June 04, 2015 at 11:51 AM

LE

“ Randy was such a positive and inspiring presence for youth group! He was always ready with a high five and a smile, a real spark plug for us! I remember him every time I hear a youth mass guitar song. My deepest condolences to all of you.

Lori Eich - June 04, 2015 at 11:22 AM

Jl

“ Randy introduced the Steubenville Youth Conferences to our parish (along with the efforts of my sister-in-law Peggy Staley) making an enormous impact on the lives of numerous youth in our area, including my own children. Randy has been the enthusiastic instrument God used to bring many souls to Himself. God bless Randy Ricklefs and welcome him into His loving arms. God be with his family and friends as they mourn his passing and celebrate his life so well lived. You will meet again.

Julie Staley, Charter Oak, Iowa - June 04, 2015 at 08:11 AM

AM

“ Julie & Family, Tom & Vicki & Family - It's proven once again that God only takes the BEST!! Randy was truly a one of a kind. He touched so many in so many ways and left a special place in the hearts of all who knew him! All of you continue to be in our thoughts and prayers!

Art & Lorelei Mulder - June 04, 2015 at 07:27 AM

LD

“ Randall Ricklefs

Laurie Dreier - June 03, 2015 at 10:08 PM

JT

“ Our sincere sympathy to Julie & family and all of Randy's family & friends. You are in our thoughts and prayers.

Jim & Carol Tholkes - June 03, 2015 at 08:54 PM

CY

“ Dear Julie,
I am so so sorry to hear of Randy's death. As I remember, he was such a wonderful man and I know will be missed by all who knew him. My sincerest sympathy to you, your children, and all of Randy's family. You are all in my thoughts and prayers, Cindy Tholkes Yaworske

Cindy Tholkes Yaworske - June 03, 2015 at 08:23 PM

LP

“ *Randall Ricklefs*

Linda and Mike Peschon - June 03, 2015 at 08:07 PM

LP

“ *Randy will be greatly missed, for his smiles, jokes, laughs, and for wonderful conversation. He has been an amazing Uncle to our kids, and a super brother-in-law to Mike and I. Always a kind word, and wonderful sense of humor!! Dance the nights away, Randy!!! "Well done, thy good and faithful servant....enter thou into the joy of the Lord"*
Matthew 25:21

Linda and Mike Peschon - June 03, 2015 at 08:04 PM

ML

“ *Randall Ricklefs*

marilyn lambert - June 03, 2015 at 07:21 PM

BH

“ Our thoughts and prayers are with you Julie and your family as we reflect on the many fond memories of Randy and all of you.

We first met Randy on the North Shore of Big Spirit Lake as he courted Julie the daughter of friends Tex and Nancy Heyer. A few years later we entered into a partnership and established Jake's Pizza of Spirit Lake. As we built the business but mainly Randy of course, we developed a strong friendship that lasted the rest of his life. Randy even gave me a job at Remington's as I transitioned through a difficult time in my life.

Randy was an inspiration as he developed his relationship, love and service to the Lord. We are thankful in the Lord to have known Randy and are confident that he is at peace as he resides with his Savior.

Bill and Pris Heil

Bill and Pris heil - June 03, 2015 at 02:15 PM

KL

“ *Randall Ricklefs*

Kari Lee - June 03, 2015 at 02:03 PM

BK

“ *I remember Randy from high school as well as the lakes and all of the fun that we had. He will truly be missed. My prayers are with the family.*

Barbara (Cook) Krieg - June 03, 2015 at 12:44 PM

DJ

“ *Randall Ricklefs*

Dick & Jean Jurgena - June 03, 2015 at 11:41 AM

AK

“ *Randall Ricklefs*

Angela Klein-Cattanach - June 03, 2015 at 11:12 AM

LB

“ *I will always remember Randy coming into Hey Good Cookies, telling us all his joke of the day, and then laughing with us! God will have a smile on His face every day with Randy at His side! Blessings and prayers for your family!*

Lori & Chuck Birkland - June 03, 2015 at 10:04 AM

KK

“ *Julie, My sympathy is extended to all of you. I inserted Kellie's name in place of yours. Guess, it's hard to forget a good student !! Randy was a great, talented guy who lived life to the fullest.*

karen kriegler - June 03, 2015 at 09:59 AM

KK

“ *My thoughts and prayers are with you, Kellie , and your family.*

karen kriegler - June 03, 2015 at 09:46 AM

DM

“ *Randall Ricklefs*

Don and Mary Matuska - June 03, 2015 at 09:00 AM

DO

“ *Randall Ricklefs*

don - June 03, 2015 at 08:57 AM

JL

“ *Randall Ricklefs*

Josh Leinbaugh - June 03, 2015 at 08:00 AM

CL

“ *Randall Ricklefs*

Cheryl Lawson - June 03, 2015 at 01:31 AM

CL

“ *Randall Ricklefs*

Cheryl Lawson - June 03, 2015 at 01:31 AM

RM

“ *Randall Ricklefs*

Ron and Karen Moss - June 02, 2015 at 10:57 PM

MI

“ *Always in awe of Randy's enthusiasm, faith, passion and willingness to share all with the kids of our parish. God's blessings as you navigate through his celebration. We will keep you all close in thought and prayer. Randy was a class act for sure. Misty & Paul Katzfey*

Misty - June 02, 2015 at 10:33 PM

MI

“ *Randall Ricklefs*

Misty - June 02, 2015 at 10:28 PM

AH

“ *Randall Ricklefs*

Ann Hokel - June 02, 2015 at 10:01 PM

AH

“ *Randall Ricklefs*

Ann hi - June 02, 2015 at 10:00 PM

AH

“ *Randall Ricklefs*

Ann hi - June 02, 2015 at 10:00 PM

AW

“ *Randall Ricklefs*

Autumn Wirtz - June 02, 2015 at 09:36 PM

JI

“ *Randall Ricklefs*

Jeremy Irlbeck - June 02, 2015 at 09:36 PM

DL

“ *Randall Ricklefs*

Dennis and Dori Lippon - June 02, 2015 at 08:44 PM

TY

“ *Randall Ricklefs*

Terry & Janice Yarns - June 02, 2015 at 08:28 PM

SL

““ *Randall Ricklefs*

Sue Laue - June 02, 2015 at 08:14 PM

LS

““ *Randall Ricklefs*

Linda Seemann - June 02, 2015 at 07:19 PM

BW

““ *Randall Ricklefs*

Bev Wittler - June 02, 2015 at 07:13 PM

LJ

““ *Randall Ricklefs*

Larry and Judy Johnson - June 02, 2015 at 06:42 PM

SS

““ *Randall Ricklefs*

Skip & Brenda Seemann - June 02, 2015 at 06:06 PM

RN

““ *Randall Ricklefs*

Rob and Jean Newman - June 02, 2015 at 05:51 PM

BS

““ *Randall Ricklefs*

Bonny Swart - June 02, 2015 at 05:21 PM

RF

“ *Randall Ricklefs*

Roger,Carmen Vigdal and family - June 02, 2015 at 04:50 PM

EP

“ *Randall Ricklefs*

Eileen Perra - June 02, 2015 at 02:54 PM

BM

“ *You have my deepest sympathy Lark,T J, Vicki and families. Barb Schlievert Mack God Bless*

Barb Sclievert Mack - June 02, 2015 at 01:30 PM

GL

“ *Randall Ricklefs*

George and Debra Letscher - June 02, 2015 at 01:04 PM

RA

“ *if we could pick a word to describe Randy it would be love. His love for God and his love for Julie were special bonds along with his love for everyone else that kind of love never dies it lives on in the lives of the people that were touched with that love. We pray for peace and comfort as you prepare to celebrate Randy's life on earth and his heavenly homecoming.*

Respite Angels - June 02, 2015 at 11:56 AM

KT

“ *Randall Ricklefs*

Karla Oleson Tritle - June 02, 2015 at 11:46 AM

PA

“ I was 16 years old and saw a 'Help Wanted' sign in front of this new pizza joint coming to town on main street. I walked in and had my first guy crush instantly! I got that job and found out Randy was engaged to the prettiest blond Catholic girl! (Love you)The gang at Jakes Pizza knew he loved her alot cause he went to alot of classes just to marry her! It was the beginning of a friendship that led to so many crazy, exciting and fun memories. Our lives continued to cross paths at many monumental times in our lives! I will always cherished our friendship and no matter how much time would pass we just took off from there...You will always be in my heart! Julie and kids thank you for sharing your husband and father! My heart goes out to all of you...p.s. Mark drives a Subaru! We think of Randy alot!

Pam - June 02, 2015 at 11:45 AM

DS

“ Julie
So sorry for your loss. My prayers are with you and your family during this difficult time. Hugs to you!

Deb Pospisil Stensrud - June 02, 2015 at 11:39 AM

JZ

“ Julie and Family, My deepest sympathy to you and your family. What a special person Randy was I am so blessed to have known him and he zest for life to the fullest; his smile was priceless.....Blessings to you all.

Jane Zelinsky - June 02, 2015 at 11:15 AM

CS

“ Randall Ricklefs

Christina Syharath - June 02, 2015 at 11:11 AM

CR

“ *Randall Ricklefs*

Curt and Diane Rottunda - June 02, 2015 at 10:25 AM

MB

“ *Randall Ricklefs*

Mark And Pam Bailey - June 02, 2015 at 10:24 AM

SC

“ *Julie and family*
So sorry to hear the news of Randy's passing.
Our thoughts and prayers are with you at this difficult time.
Hugs

Scott & Mary Chambers - June 02, 2015 at 10:16 AM



“ *Randall Ricklefs*

June 02, 2015 at 10:05 AM



“ *Randall Ricklefs*

June 02, 2015 at 10:05 AM

KE

“ *We give our sympathies to you and you family,*
Karen and Bob Eichner

Karen and Bob Eichner - June 02, 2015 at 09:57 AM

NS

“ *Randall Ricklefs*

Nancy & Bill Sanderson - June 02, 2015 at 09:57 AM

DD

“ *Randall Ricklefs*

Don & Roxi Dreeszen - June 02, 2015 at 09:06 AM

CW

“ *Randy always made me smile. That is a rare quality. Our hearts go out to our very special neighbors.
Charlie and Rhonda Wedeking*

Charlie & Rhonda Wedeking - June 02, 2015 at 08:23 AM

CW

“ *Julie, Kellie, Kyle, Kami and family,
Our friend Randy will be greatly missed by all. We worked together at Wymer Insurance for 15 years and great friendships were had by all. He had a way of brightening up even the worst of days! We are thinking of you all in sympathy.
RIP our friend.*

Connie & Bill Wymer - June 02, 2015 at 07:34 AM

JC

“ *Randall Ricklefs*

jeni clipperton - June 02, 2015 at 06:41 AM

DB

“ *Randall Ricklefs*

Dayle Broocks - June 02, 2015 at 06:33 AM

JW

“ Our thoughts and prayers to you Julie and family. Randy was such a fun guy..the gang at 316 will miss him! May he dance in heaven now!

Jan & Merle Wiese - June 02, 2015 at 06:08 AM

JF

“ With over forty years of memories of Randy and his transformation as a person, one thing remains steady...he was passionate about everything in his life. He loved each of his dogs- Flirt, Snuffy, and JJ. He was crazy about ducks and geese. He poured himself into various business ventures looking for the next great thing. He was a fanatic for fun whether launching balloons or fireworks. His passion for hacky sack brought me a great partner that never tired. Randy proclaimed his passion for the Lord and was dedicated to his ministry for the youth. He loved his trips to Steubenville and other mission trips. But, most of all, Randy was passionate about his love of my sister Julie and their family. For that I am grateful. We will miss Randy's humor and kindness. Rest in Peace Brother.

John Heyer and family - June 02, 2015 at 02:30 AM

LN

“ *Randall Ricklefs*

Lon & Cheryl Noble - June 02, 2015 at 12:07 AM

DW

“ *Julie, Thinking of you and your family in the loss of Randy! You are in our thoughts and prayers!*
Deb & Larry Vander Weide

Deb Vander Weide - June 01, 2015 at 10:34 PM

WK

“ *Randall Ricklefs*

Wayne and Arlene Krogman - June 01, 2015 at 10:17 PM

WK

“ *Randall Ricklefs*

Wayne and Arlene Krogman - June 01, 2015 at 10:17 PM

DH

“ *Randall Ricklefs*

David and Cheryl Heyer - June 01, 2015 at 08:12 PM

LB

“ *Julie and family, I am so sorry for your loss. You have my condolences. Prayers for peace and strength at this difficult time.*

Leann Busch - June 01, 2015 at 07:42 PM

RS

“ *Sorry this had to happen.*

Rod Sheldon - June 01, 2015 at 05:18 PM

JP

“ *I am so sorry for your loss. I loved Randy! He was such a fun-loving, personable all-around nice guy. And such a heart for the Lord! One of my favorite cousins! I know he will be sorely missed. Our prayers go out to all of you.*

Julie Prihoda - June 01, 2015 at 03:49 PM

EL

“ *Deepest Sympathy to the family. Randy will be sorely missed.
Eileen and Mike Lamer Family*

Eileen Lamer - June 01, 2015 at 03:16 PM

ML

“ *Rest in peace Randy. You will truly be missed.*

Marilyn & Delbert Lambert - June 01, 2015 at 12:57 PM

JG

“ *My heart goes out to Randy's family...he was such a kind man. He was such an inspiration to my daughter Melissa as she was growing up. I remember him from a long time ago when I waited on him at work...such a nice man. He enjoyed life and I am so sure he is now enjoying life in the presence of God. May God give you comfort in your time of grief.*

Jan Gilbert - June 01, 2015 at 12:02 PM

DD

“ *I am so sorry for your loss. Randy was one of the most amazing individuals that I have ever met. He impacted my life in so many positive ways and was truly a blessing. He helped me overcome so many obstacles, and I know he did that for so many others as well. The world was a better place with him in it. God bless, you are all in my thoughts and prayers.*

Danielle Durbala - June 01, 2015 at 10:56 AM

DB

“ *Eternal rest grant unto him o Lord.... Randy Ricklefs you will be greatly missed. You were my friend, role model, youth minister and much more. I remember having coffee with you, getting advice from you, steubie trips, or when you called me pretending to be an old person! You did trick me a few times with those calls! You are the reason I am on fire for the Catholic faith. If it wasn't for you telling my parents about Steubenville I never would of experienced the faith like that. Thank you! You inspired and made a huge impact on many lives.*

Danika Boever - June 01, 2015 at 10:53 AM

AB

“ *I can think of not one, but hundreds of fond memories. Randi (long I at the end :) always saw the best in everyone, even when they didn't see it in themselves. He will be well and truly missed. Thinking of you all...*

Amanda Boothby - June 01, 2015 at 10:35 AM

LN

“ *Julie and family
Thinking of you at this time, and praying for your peace.
We have so many fond memories of Randy during those Jaycee days when we first met and the many years after. He loved life and I have no doubt he will have Heaven in an uproar. He will now be able to remember every little thing. Love to you all
Lon and Cheryl Noble*

Lon and Cheryl Noble - June 01, 2015 at 09:37 AM

TS

“ Julie, I am so sorry for your loss. You are in my thoughts and prayers.

Terri Fitzpatrick Sponder - June 01, 2015 at 09:32 AM

TW

“ I enjoyed growing-up with the Ricklefs family. It was always a special treat when Randy would come home and be the monster and chase all of the daycare kids around the yard. Randy's will be greatly missed. Love to you all.

Terry, Jessica, and Kyla Williams - June 01, 2015 at 08:21 AM

MS

“ Julie and family I am so sorry for your loss. Please know that you are in my thoughts and prayers.

Mollie Beck Sander - June 01, 2015 at 08:18 AM

SD

“ Julie and family, I am so sorry to hear of Randy's passing. He was so full of life. He always had a smile on his face and something to say that made you laugh. He made the world a better place. My thoughts and prayers are with you. Hugs to you all.

Sally Christensen DeLoss - June 01, 2015 at 07:35 AM

BF

“ Randy was a boss of mine at Remingtons a long time ago but what I remembered about Randy was how he treated people like they were worth something and I am proud to call him a brother in Christ, Julie and family please know he will be missed greatly!

Brian & Carol Woods & family - May 31, 2015 at 08:32 PM

PR

“ Julie and family,
So many memories of Randy. I remember how Sara so enjoyed babysitting for your kids and the stories she told. And the love that Randy had for the youth of our community. I remember so well last year dancing up a storm with him at 316. He loved to dance and I was honored to be his partner. Thanks for sharing him with us. My heart aches for you and the family. Stay strong. Peg

Peg Rick - May 31, 2015 at 07:10 PM

TR

“ RIP, my friend!

Tim Roberts - May 31, 2015 at 05:49 PM



“ Randall Ricklefs

May 31, 2015 at 05:26 PM

BS

“ Randall Ricklefs

Bob and Kate Shaw - May 31, 2015 at 05:26 PM

CR

“ Our sympathy and prayers go out to you, Julie, and your family at this time. We rejoice with you that Randy is walking with Jesus! His trials are over, and what a blessing that is! He always shared his faith with us whenever he came by to update our insurance papers. :) I remember how excited he was when he told us about working with the youth at church, and left no doubt that he loved the Lord and loved sharing Him with others. May God's presence be with you and be a source of healing in the days to come as you relive special memories of Randy as husband and father!

Charlene & Jim Radcliffe - May 31, 2015 at 01:19 PM