



Russell Dean Arms

January 17, 1941 - March 26, 2026

Russell Arms, 85, of Milford, IA, passed away on Thursday, March 26, 2026, at the Good Samaritan Society in Estherville, IA.

A memorial service will be held at 11:00 AM on Friday, April 3, 2026, at the Robinson Funeral Home in Spirit Lake. Arrangements are under the direction of the Robinson Funeral Home in Spirit Lake, IA. Online condolences may be left at www.spiritlakefuneralhome.com

Russell Dean Arms was born on January 17, 1941, in Spencer, IA, to Herbert and Florence (Tjaden) Arms. He graduated from Milford High School in 1958 and attended college at Augustana University and Orange Coast College. He served his country in the Army National Guard from 1964 to 1970. He was united in marriage to Mary Lucille Steffe on June 17, 1964. To this union 3 daughters were born, Becky, Amy and Jenny. Russell was a lifelong farmer and claimed to retire at the age of 64 but still tinkered on the farm and drove his old Allis Chalmers until moving into town a few years ago.

He was a member of First Lutheran Church as well as a 40 plus year friend of Bill W., where he met many more friends and became a mentor to countless people who valued his advice. He was also a member of Kiwanis. In his free time, he enjoyed going to the Milford Library, gathering at the local Co-Op to have coffee, and collecting rocks; his favorites are still on the farm. Besides

farming, he was a true steward of the land, you would find Russell planting trees and doing what he could to make the outdoors and nature a better place for future generations. He loved going for walks and watching for birds. He enjoyed traveling and had the privilege to visit all 50 states and even a few foreign countries. His passing has left a void on the dance floor where he loved to show off his moves and will be greatly missed by the ladies he spun around dance floor!

He is survived by his daughters Becky (Scott) Leckband of Milford; Amy (Rick) Osler of Milford; and Jenny (Jon) Siemers of Milford; grandchildren Andrew (Megan) Dyhrkopp, Ethan Osler, Evan Osler, Gracen Arms (Doug Maben), Gavin Siemers, step grandchildren Jodi (Nick) Schipp, Jamie Leckband, Melisa Fales, great grandchildren Georgia Dyhrkopp, Aubrey Dyhrkopp, Sutton Maben, step great grandchildren Colin Schipp, Paige Schipp, and Nolan Leckband.

He was preceded in death by his parents, sister Janet, brother Ron and his sister-in-law Jeanette.

In lieu of flowers, the family encourages you to plant a tree in Russell's memory.

Previous Events

Memorial Service

APR 3. 11:00 AM (CT)

Robinson Funeral Home

2317 32nd St.

P.O. Box 272

Spirit Lake, IA 51360

(712) 336-8471

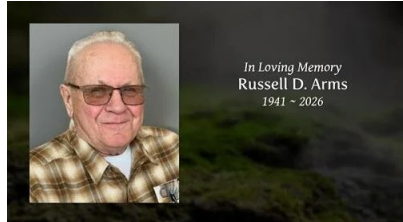
robinson@spiritlekefuneralhome.com

<https://www.spiritlekefuneralhome.com/>

Tribute Wall



“ *Robinson Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Russell Dean Arms*



Robinson Funeral Home - April 02 at 03:03 PM

MS

“ *Russell was my cousin. I have many memories of him from the family gatherings. Sorry to hear of his passing. My condolences to his family.*

Mary Storley - April 06 at 06:29 PM

JS

“ *Jon Sorenson lit a candle in memory of Russell Dean Arms*



Jon Sorenson - April 04 at 12:21 AM

EL

“ *Eileen Lamer lit a candle in memory of Russell Dean Arms*



Eileen Lamer - April 03 at 03:14 PM

GS

“ Gary And Kay Swenson lit a candle in memory of Russell Dean Arms



Gary and Kay Swenson - April 03 at 09:49 AM

GS

Always enjoyed seeing Russ at the dances. You have our sympathy

Gary and Kay Swenson - April 03 at 09:50 AM

The Security Pages

There are many things that we can do to control change, but we cannot control the things that change us. We must learn to accept change, and we must learn to embrace it. Living some days of a time, accepting the control of the other, according to what is in the picture to present, being, as the old, the old world will be, and we must learn to accept it. If I remember the way that I may be responsible today, I will remember the way that I will remember today with the future in the past.

“ Always enjoyed seeing Russell. His smile shined bright. R.I.P.

Eric Anderson - April 02 at 10:55 PM

IS

“ Iowa State Seed Science Ctr Staff purchased the Florist Choice Bouquet for the family of Russell Dean Arms.



Iowa State Seed Science Ctr Staff - April 01 at 08:30 PM

LA

“ Thank you for your service to our country and for sharing your experience, strength and hope with our mutual Bill W. friends.

Laura - April 01 at 03:40 PM

JM

“ *My condolences. Jerome Millsap and Faye Johnson*



Jerome Millsap - April 01 at 10:17 AM

JE

“ *Jack And Cheri Eichman lit a candle in memory of Russell Dean Arms*



Jack and Cheri Eichman - April 01 at 09:57 AM

JE

Such a wonderful smile and attitude. A special long-tine friend!

Jack and Cheri Eichman - April 01 at 09:59 AM

JE

“ *Russ was a ray of sunshine!*

I will never forget my first day at Milford Family Care and him showing up with flowers for my first day there.

He was a steadfast father and grandfather and lit up when talking about his family!



Jessica - April 01 at 09:41 AM

JK

“ Jessica K. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Russell Dean Arms.

Jessica K. - April 01 at 09:34 AM

TR

“ *Gone too soon Russell. Will miss your insight.*

Tim R - March 31 at 10:30 PM

DM

“ *My deep condolences to the family of my special friend Russ. ❤️*



DuAnn Moreau - March 31 at 08:47 PM

TL

“ Tami L. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Russell Dean Arms.

Tami L. - March 31 at 04:15 PM

JK

“ *I was sorry to hear of Russell's passing. Many years ago i exercised at the YMCA in Spencer with Russell, Jim Manzer, Mitch Brandt, Gary Grave, Kay, Carol, Sharon, Roger Simpson and many other friends. We had so many laughs and such good times. RIP dear friend. Joan Kallsen*

Joan Kallsen - March 31 at 02:12 PM

JW

“ *John Woods lit a candle in memory of Russell Dean Arms*



john woods - March 30 at 03:51 PM

MS

“ *Russell, Thank you for your military service for our country. Very honorable of you! God Bless Russell and his family!*



Myra Snyder - March 30 at 10:11 AM

JG

“ *Deepest Sympathy to you all. Thinking of you during this time. Love Janine and family*



Janine Gapinski - March 29 at 10:48 PM

CT

“ *Always enjoyed serving him at the breakfast barn when I worked there! He knew my dad when he was working for Rohlin Construction at the wash plant out by his house. He will be missed!!*



Carmen (Thornburg) Thoreson - March 29 at 07:24 PM

AH

“ Amy Jo Hoyt lit a candle in memory of Russell Dean Arms



Amy Jo Hoyt - March 29 at 05:19 PM

MD

“ Michele Dyhrkopp-Shortley lit a candle in memory of Russell Dean Arms



Michele Dyhrkopp-Shortley - March 28 at 06:40 PM

KB

“ Kris Berning lit a candle in memory of Russell Dean Arms



Kris Berning - March 28 at 01:14 PM

GW

“ Gary And Katie Weiskircher lit a candle in memory of Russell Dean Arms



Gary and Katie Weiskircher - March 28 at 12:38 PM

FK

“ Fred Kaminska lit a candle in memory of
Russell Dean Arms



Fred Kaminska - March 28 at 12:00 PM

KW

“ What a nice person Russ was! I was so sorry to see that he passed
away. GODs blessings to his family☐

Kay Wilson - March 28 at 11:54 AM

JM

“ James Mumm lit a candle in memory of
Russell Dean Arms



James Mumm - March 28 at 11:10 AM

BC

“ Russ was one of the "good guys", whether he was out on the dance
floor showing his moves or just conversing with you. You always
knew Russ cared and had a great heart. He will definitely be
missed. Dance on, Russ! Bill & Jackie

Bill Carpenter - March 27 at 10:23 PM

MU

“ *Mick And Bonnie Umscheid lit a candle in memory of Russell Dean Arms*



Mick and Bonnie Umscheid - March 27 at 08:25 PM

AM

“ *Rich and I lived out on Alice Johnson's farm by Ol' Russ. He was a good neighbor and would do anything for you. I remember when I slid off the pavement by his farm he got me out of the ditch and the news made it to town before I did. I think Jerry helped him broadcast that! I still made him a pan of homemade cinnamon rolls! Will miss his wise words. Alice Mulder*

Alice Mulder - March 27 at 06:49 PM