



Travis "Sonny" Morgan Jr.

June 18, 1934 - November 1, 2022

Travis "Sonny" Morgan, 88, of Arnolds Park, IA, formerly of Blue Earth, MN, passed away on Tuesday, November 1, 2022, at Avera McKennan Hospital in Sioux Falls, SD.

A funeral service will be held on Monday at 4:00 p.m. at the Immanuel Lutheran Church in Spirit Lake, IA. A visitation will be held on Monday from 3:00 p.m. till service time at the church. A private family burial will be held at a later date. Arrangements are under the direction of the Robinson Funeral Home, formerly the Schuchert-Lentz Funeral Home in Spirit Lake. Online condolences may be left at www.spiritlakefuneralhome.com

Travis Eugene Morgan, Jr. was born on June 18, 1934, the son of Travis and Mary (Bedgood) Morgan, Sr. in Beaumont, TX. Travis Sr. "Pops" Morgan owned and operated Dixie Service Station where he and Sonny worked together. Pops built several stock race cars and Sonny a go-cart along with a bicycle that had a motor on it. Sonny was introduced to racing cars when "Pops" driver Jack fell ill and Sonny had to step in and drive the race car. After one race he was hooked and began racing himself at age 16. By age 21, Sonny had collected 37 first place trophies. Along with racing cars, Pops Morgan also owned an airplane. Sonny and Pops would fly to the Gulf coast to get fresh shrimp for dinner. Always looking for speed, Sonny also began racing planes and received his pilot's license at age 14. At one point he held the record as the youngest pylon racer in the state of Texas. After graduating from high school, he attended Lamar University and earned his bachelor's

degree in mechanical engineering. He then was drafted into the US Army and served his country during the Korean War. After returning home he was stationed in El Paso, TX. Sonny enjoyed regular trips to his family's plantation in Pitkin, Louisiana. He continued to race cars, eventually making racing his full time career. He has won over 100 races in Texas, Louisiana, Mississippi, North and South Dakota, Nebraska, Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, Minnesota and Oklahoma. He raced the Daytona 500 when it was still held on the beach. During his quest to find car sponsorship, he met Fritz Kriewall, owner of Kriewall Oil. Fritz decided to give Sonny a chance and sponsored the car. On one of Sonny's visits with the Kriewalls, he was introduced to Fritz and Nina's daughter Cynthia. After a brief courtship they were united in marriage on September 15, 1971, at St. Paul Lutheran Church in Blue Earth, MN recently celebrated their 51st wedding anniversary. To this union, a daughter Suzanne was born.

The family then resided in Blue Earth, where Sonny owned and operated his car dealership, L&M Motors. He was active in their church as an Elder and served as President for the Chamber of Commerce. Sonny was always willing to lend a helping hand to the community.

On the weekends, the family enjoyed spending time at their Lake cabin in Okoboji Iowa, where Sonny and Cindy eventually retired and lived until Sonny passing. Sonny loved boating, attending and watching Nascar and Indy races, flying, traveling, and driving his Corvette to the Softail Saloon every Wednesday for lunch. All of his friends and family looked forward to his annual birthday bash which was always a big day for Sonny. At Spyglass condos where Sonny and Cindy retired to, he earned the nickname of "Sheriff" because he kept track of the daily details of all the other condo owners and enforced the rules around the complex.

Left to cherish his memory is his wife Cindy Morgan of Arnolds Park, IA; daughter Suzanne (Nick) Kern of Arnolds Park, IA; daughter Carleen (Randy) Stone of WI; son Wade Morgan of MN; grandchildren Evan, Tyler, Ryley and Bryant.

He was preceded in death by his parents.

Previous Events

Visitation

NOV 7. 3:00 PM - 4:00 PM (CT)

Immanuel Lutheran Church
2300 27th Street
Spirit Lake, IA 51360

Service

NOV 7. 4:00 PM - 5:00 PM (CT)

Immanuel Lutheran Church
2300 27th Street
Spirit Lake, IA 51360

Tribute Wall



“ *Robinson Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Travis "Sonny" Morgan Jr.*



Robinson Funeral Home - November 06, 2022 at 06:03 PM

TF

“ *So sorry to hear of the passing of "Sonny". I remember him of the old days of modified stock car racing at Jackson, Fairmont & the Clay County Fair to mention a few tracks. He always had a well prepared, neat looking car that performed extremely well. Terry L. Fredin of Windom, MN. In the old days I traveled with Wilmer Lundt of Greenville, Iowa.*

Terry Fredin - November 17, 2022 at 12:12 PM

HW

“ *Cindy, I was saddened to see you lost Sonny. My thoughts & prayers are with you & your family. Fond memories of working with you at the Blue Earth Medical Center & remembering when you & Sonny took us out boating on West Okoboji. Sincerely, Heidi Wicks*

Heidi L. Wicks - November 15, 2022 at 05:55 AM



“ *Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Travis "Sonny" Morgan Jr..*



November 07, 2022 at 11:46 AM



“ *Larry & Pam Woodall, Daniel, and Kristi purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Travis "Sonny" Morgan Jr..*



Larry & Pam Woodall, Daniel, and Kristi - November 07, 2022 at 11:21 AM



“ *Suzanne and Family, Aaron and I are thinking of you and sending prayers. Your dad is still remembered here as a legend in the local racing community, as we have heard a lot of people talking about remembering him and getting to see him race. We are sorry for your loss and want you to know how much we are thinking of you. ~Sara & Aaron Gudahl*

Sara Gudahl - November 06, 2022 at 08:50 AM



“ *Small Garden Dish was purchased for the family of Travis "Sonny" Morgan Jr..*



November 04, 2022 at 10:49 AM

CH

“ We have known Sonny and Cindy since the first days of Spyglass. Too many wonderful memories. The last boat ride in October...Boji Boat Bash. Some years in bathing suits, others in winter parkas. He will be missed. Our thoughts are with his family. Cindy and Lynne

Cindy Hansen - November 04, 2022 at 10:04 AM

PW

“ Sonny was a dear friend to our family. He was definitely a bright light, and he will always be remembered. Many happy memories with the Morgan family! The Woodalls

Pamela Woodall - November 03, 2022 at 03:34 PM

DR

“ Sorry for your loss. Jim & Glenda Roberts



Dr. James J. Roberts - November 03, 2022 at 02:30 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Travis "Sonny" Morgan Jr..



November 03, 2022 at 01:15 PM



“ *Lovely One Spathiphyllum Plant was purchased for the family of Travis "Sonny" Morgan Jr..*



November 03, 2022 at 11:52 AM



“ *Getting yo know Sonny and Cindy was a memorable experience for me through their beautiful daughter, Susanne and her husband, Nick. I was so blessed to have him in my life and their friendship. I loved seeing him at the post office and he always had to come in and check up on me. He holds a special place in my heart along with Cindy, Susanne, Nick and Evan. My heart broke with the news of Sonny's passing but I know how strong the family's faith is and know he's watching over all of us from heaven. Hugs and prayers to all of you for the days ahead. Keep your memories close in your hearts. Love you so very much.*



Regina Johnson

Regina Johnson - November 03, 2022 at 12:24 AM



“ *Sonny was a friend to everyone at Spyglass. He always had a big smile when he stopped to visit with us. He will be greatly missed. Rest In Peace Sonny. Jim and Pat Compton*



Jimand Pat Compton - November 02, 2022 at 10:35 PM

AM

“ Carleen and family, I'm so very sorry for the loss of your Dad and Grandpa. I have enjoyed hearing stories about Grandpa Sonny's incredible adventures over his lifetime. May you find peace and comfort in his memory ❤️

Amanda - November 02, 2022 at 09:15 PM

JC

“ Julie Christenson lit a candle in memory of Travis "Sonny" Morgan Jr.



Julie Christenson - November 02, 2022 at 08:42 PM

CF

“ Colleen Frederick lit a candle in memory of Travis "Sonny" Morgan Jr.



Colleen Frederick - November 02, 2022 at 04:26 PM

CF

Sure sorry to hear about Sonny.....He was 1 of my Dad's favorite drivers. What a guy!

Colleen Frederick - November 02, 2022 at 04:27 PM

ST

“ I'm so very sorry to hear about Sonny. He was one of my favorite people to work with. My deepest sympathies.

Sarah Tunland - November 02, 2022 at 03:48 PM

GS

I have many fond memories of the good old race days with Sonny at Fairmont Speedways. I watched Him running the #48 at Jackson and he helped run the track at Fairmont in the late '60s when I raced there. In the 1970 S, he returned with a winning late model He was always a true gentleman and a good friend Rest in peace Sonney Sincerely Garry Sill

Garry and Linda Sill - November 04, 2022 at 12:59 PM

RP

Memories of the good old days at Okoboji yacht club.

Ruth Peters - November 06, 2022 at 12:10 PM

RM

Sorry to see Sonny pass he will be missed by all. Thanks to Sonny my wife and had a chance 30+ yrs. ago to stay at his place in Okoboji. We enjoyed it so much that we bought a place and still enjoy the area to this day.

Rest in peace Sonny - Ron & Gaye McCann

Ron McCann - November 07, 2022 at 02:07 PM