



Rowen J. Kempf

January 5, 1930 - August 5, 2020

Shickley, Nebraska resident Rowen J. Kempf, age 90, passed away Wednesday August 5, 2020 in Deshler, Nebraska surrounded by his family.

Rowen was born on a farm near Shickley, Nebraska to Jay W. and Fauna M. (Young) Kempf on January 5, 1930. He had one sister, Marilyn, who is deceased. He married Lila Hendrickson on August 6, 1950 and would have celebrated 70 years of marriage the day after his passing. The loving couple had three children, Michael (deceased), Mark, and Jody. Rowen followed his passion and was a lifelong farmer. He lived his entire life on a farm in the Shickley area. His early school days were at "District 58" country school before coming to Shickley High School, where he graduated from in 1947. He was baptized, confirmed and spent the rest of his life as a member of the United Methodist Church in Shickley.

He loved the game of football and enjoyed an outstanding high school career. He was a lifelong follower of the Huskers and became a devout New England Patriots fan the last 20 years of his life. In the second half of his life, he took up golf and became completely hooked on the game. He spent many hours on the links with friends and family. Rowen and Lila enjoyed traveling and spent time each winter for 30 years in Port Aransas, Texas where they formed many lifelong friendships. They enjoyed fishing, golfing, and hosting family while there.

Rowen was preceded in death by his parents, sister, and son Michael.

Survivors include his wife Lila of Shickley, children and spouses Mark and Janet Kempf, and Jody and Steve Heinrichs of Shickley, 8 grandchildren, 21 great grandchildren, and 2 additional great grandchildren on the way.

Rowen was a devoted husband, father, grandfather, and great-grandfather and will be dearly missed. He was known for his loyalty to friends and family, his work ethic, and his infectious laugh that will be remembered by all who knew him.

A private family Funeral Service for Rowen was held on Tuesday, August 11, 2020 at 10:30 a.m. at the United Methodist Church in Shickley, Nebraska. Pastor Martin Leeper officiated the services. Marti Alfs provided the prelude and postlude music and she also accompanied Steph Thayer in the singing of "How Great Thou Art" and "Gift Of Love."

Pallbearers for the service included Mikaela Eitzmann, Danielle Kempf-Horwart, Haylee Williams, Mallory Elting, Greg Heinrichs, Jesse Kempf, Jered Kempf, and Cody Kempf. Interment was held in the Shickley Cemetery following the Funeral Service.

Farmer & Son Funeral Home was in care of the funeral arrangements and online condolences can be left at www.farmerandsonfuneralhome.com

Memorials are suggested to the United Methodist Church and the Shickley Cemetery.

Cemetery Details

Shickley Public Cemetery

Shickley, NE 68436

Tribute Wall



“ Farmer & Son Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Rowen J. Kempf

Facebook
Livestream
Link:
Click Here.

Farmer & Son Funeral Home - August 06, 2020 at 05:21 PM

EB

“ Enjoyed being a neighbor to Rowen and Lila in Shickley. Rest in peace.

Ed and Darlene Briscoe

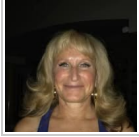
Ed Briscoe - August 11, 2020 at 05:18 PM



“ 72 files added to the album Flower Pictures



Farmer & Son Funeral Home - August 11, 2020 at 02:07 PM



“ I am so thankful for Rowen Kempf and his family for being such a special part of our family!!!! Rowen was such a funny and great person!!!! He also was a hard worker and always helped out other people in any situation! I feel that is a farmer thing!!!! Rowen & Lila were always at all Shickley sport events for their own children & for the town of Shickley!! Rowen wore his heart on his sleeve & cared about people!!!! Rowen will be greatly missed by everyone who knew the “real” Rowen Kempf!!! Again, thank you so much Rowen Kempf and family for letting our family be a part of you!!!!!! We love you all!!!!

Beth Brothers - August 10, 2020 at 11:54 PM

RB

“ Ron Brothers purchased the Delightful Dieffenbachia for the family of Rowen J. Kempf.



Ron Brothers - August 10, 2020 at 11:24 PM

BB

“ I grew up with Rowen Kempf and his family. They are one fantastic family!!!! They were always there to help out in any situation. Then to be able to grow up with the children and watch them in whatever they did and to be close friends with them all was the greatest!!!! Rowen always could make a person laugh, that was Rowen!!!! He also had a very deep heart which he wore on his sleeve!!!! Rowen was one heck of a person, farmer, hard worker, husband and a heck of a dad!!!!!! Many blessings go out to Rowen’s family!!!! I thank you, Rowen Kempf’s family, for being GREAT PEOPLE AND WONDERFUL FRIENDS!!!!!! Love to all of you!!!!!!

Beth Biegert Brothers

Beth Biegert Brothers - August 10, 2020 at 11:09 PM

SY

“ Every summer dad, mom and I would spend a week in Shickley at and stay at Uncle Jay’s house. I remember how hard Jay and Rowen worked - they would come in for lunch at noon (enough food to “feed threshers” according to Fauna) and then they would collapse on the living room floor for a nap. I always wondered how people could work that hard!!

Anyway, great memories of cousin Rowen - one of a kind - he will be missed by many. Thoughts and prayers coming your way Lila and family - so very sorry for your loss. I’ll be attending the online service.

*Sincerely, Cousin - Susan Young
Sioux City, Iowa.*

Susan Young - August 10, 2020 at 08:12 PM

BO

“ *Bambi Ogren purchased the Dreams From the Heart Bouquet for the family of Rowen J. Kempf.*



Bambi Ogren - August 10, 2020 at 10:46 AM

LE

“ *When I was growing up, we were neighbors to Rowen and his parents and then to he and Lila. He liked to visit and always had something to laugh about.*

Our sincere sympathy to you Lila, Mark, Jody and all your families. He was a good guy and I know you have fond memories that will be yours forever. May peace comfort you in the days ahead as you adjust to another of life's changes.

Larry and Barbara Eichelberger

Larry Eichelberger - August 10, 2020 at 09:09 AM

LK

“ *Love, Mom Mike Jaimee Jordan Molly Kirstyn Kellen purchased the Large Basket Garden for the family of Rowen J. Kempf.*



Love, Mom Mike Jaimee Jordan Molly Kirstyn Kellen - August 09, 2020 at 10:45 PM

JD

“ My heart goes out to you, Lila, and all the family. Rowen was a jolly good fellow. Keep the memories alive and share them freely. He was an admirable family man.

Judy Dondlinger - August 08, 2020 at 09:06 PM

CR

“ Caleb Rippe lit a candle in memory of Rowen J. Kempf



Caleb Rippe - August 08, 2020 at 08:26 AM

MM

“ Have nothing but fond memories of Rowen. He was always kind and cheerful to me in my limited but young days at the Kempf farm 'visits' in the early/mid 70s when I was in high school. Rowen was always a class act as was Lila and the entire Kempf family. Thank you. May you in rest in peace Rowen and appreciate your humanity and humor whenever I met you. One never ought not to take such souls for granted. Special condolences to Jody and Mark (a/ka/ Grease & Bucket!) Funny how we all still have marvelous memories 50 years later. I'm grateful I did. Thanks again.

Mike McCarthy, Omaha/Geneva

Mike McCarthy - August 07, 2020 at 10:04 PM

VJ

“ *Such a kind man! Thoughts and prayers!* ”



Virginia Johnson - August 07, 2020 at 08:32 AM

HF

“ *Holly Rippe & Doug Fischer lit a candle in memory of Rowen J. Kempf* ”



Holly Rippe & Doug Fischer - August 07, 2020 at 08:12 AM



“ *Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Rowen J. Kempf.* ”



August 07, 2020 at 08:07 AM

BB

“ *Bob & Marge Bedlan lit a candle in memory of Rowen J. Kempf* ”



Bob & Marge Bedlan - August 06, 2020 at 10:51 PM

KT

“ *Kent & Rose Theobald lit a candle in memory of Rowen J. Kempf*



Kent & Rose Theobald - August 06, 2020 at 08:43 PM