

Edward Van Veldhuizen, age 80, of Storm Lake, Iowa, died Tuesday, October 31, 2006 at the Buena Vista Regional Medical Center in Storm Lake.

Ed was born on a farm near Matlock, Iowa, the son of Evert and Susie Van Veldhuizen. He grew up in Hospers, Iowa where he attended the Christian Schools. At the age of eighteen, he—together with his brother—enlisted in the United States Navy. Eventually he was stationed on the USS Philadelphia and served in the Mediterranean Theatre of War.

Upon his honorable discharge from the Navy, he enrolled the second semester at Morningside College in Sioux City, Iowa, where he met his future wife, Helen Witter. They were married August 27, 1947 in the Storm Lake Methodist Church.

The couple continued to live in Sioux City while Ed finished his college degree. In 1948 they set up housekeeping in Sheldon, Iowa, where Ed was affiliated with Northwestern Mutual Life Insurance Company. Their four wonderful children were born in Sheldon: Carol, Thomas, Curtis and Judy.

After eleven years, the family moved to Mason City, Iowa, where they lived for four years. In 1963 they built a new home in Storm Lake and have lived there ever since.

Many years ago, Ed was on the boards of Methodist Manor and the Harker House in Storm Lake. He also delivered Meals on Wheels for many years.

Ed was a true nature lover. There was nothing he enjoyed more than working in his yard and in his flower gardens. He called his back yard his little sanctuary and would sit and watch the hummingbirds, wrens and butterflies.

Over the years, Ed volunteered many hours of work on the gardens at Lake Creek Country Club and Clara Griffels Garden. He was a devoted member of the United Methodist Church in Storm Lake.

Ed loved to travel, especially to Door County in Wisconsin, with good friends. He and his wife enjoyed a Flower and Garden Tour of Europe and a family cruise with their adult children. When his health permitted, he enjoyed a good game of golf.

Ed cherished his good friends and the morning coffee group at the Pantry Café in downtown Storm Lake. When he could no longer get out, he spent many hours working sudoku and crossword puzzles.

Ed was a generous and loving husband, father, grandfather and great-grandfather. He will be missed beyond words.

Ed and Helen were the honored recipients of the 2006 Wendell Halverson Outstanding Friend Award given by the Buena Vista University Alumni Association.

Survivors include his wife of 59 years, Helen of Storm Lake; four children: Carol (Bob) Payton of Liberty, Missouri; Tom (Jill) Van Veldhuizen of Cedar Falls, Iowa; Curtis Van Veldhuizen of West Des Moines, Iowa; and Judy (David) Ploeger of Storm Lake; seven grandchildren: Susan (Ernie) Pither; Jill and Jeff Payton; Bryan and Kristen Van Veldhuizen; Tony (Robyn) Ploeger; and Peggy Ploeger; one great-grandchild, Weston Ploeger; one brother, Gilbert; two sisters: Cornelia Van Leeuwen and Bertha Van Gorp; several nieces and nephews and many wonderful friends.

Ed was preceded in death by his parents; a brother, Cornelius; and a sister, Nellie Den Hartog.



Remembering *A Special Life*



Edward Van Veldhuizen

1926 — 2006



God's Garden

God looked around His garden and
He found an empty place.
He then looked down upon the earth
and saw your tired face.
He put His arms around you,
and lifted you to rest.
God's garden must be beautiful;
He always takes the best.
He knew that you were suffering.
He knew you were in pain.
He knew that you would
never get well on earth again.
He saw the road was getting rough and
the hills were hard to climb.
So He closed your weary eyelids and
whispered, "Peace be thine."
It broke our hearts to lose you,
but you didn't go alone,
for part of us went with you
the day God called you home.

-author unknown

We wish to express our gratitude for your kindnesses, as evidenced in thought and deed, and for your attendance at this service. Please join us for lunch and a time of fellowship and sharing at the church, following the committal service at the cemetery.

The Van Veldhuizen Family

IN MEMORY OF *Edward Van Veldhuizen*

January 10, 1926 — October 31, 2006

FUNERAL SERVICE

Friday, November 3, 2006 at 11:00 a.m.
United Methodist Church — Storm Lake Iowa

CLERGY

Reverend Jamie Cutler

ORGANIST

Linda Baier

SOLOISTS

Larry Hecht
"In The Garden"
Bryan Van Veldhuizen
"How Great Thou Art"

CONGREGATIONAL HYMN

"Softly and Tenderly Jesus Is Calling"

HONORARY CASKETBEARERS

Jim Eaton, Harold Carstens, Dave Anderson, Jim Reese, Lester Vohs
Palmer Olson, Art Sutton, Ron Hinners, Jack Kaufman, Jim Mittlestadt
Dale Wetzel, Stan Covey, Virgil Jones, Bill Smith, Lowell Fields
Norm Den Hartog, Roy Clough, Bob Thompson, Melvin Samuelson

CASKETBEARERS

Tony Ploeger, Jeff Payton, Bryan Van Veldhuizen, Larry Den Hartog
Ron Van Veldhuizen, Eric Wiese, Ben Strait, Duane Gerlach

INTERMENT

Presentation of the Flag by AMVETS Post #66
Storm Lake Cemetery — Storm Lake, Iowa

Arrangements by

FRATZKE & JENSEN FUNERAL HOMES

www.fratzkejensen.com

Newell • Storm Lake • Schaller