

Jerald "Jerry" Sorensen, age 67, of Panora, Iowa, formerly of Storm Lake, Iowa, died Saturday, October 4, 2008 at his home, surrounded by his wife and children, following a courageous battle with cancer.

Jerald J. "Jerry" Sorensen was born at home on August 28, 1941 in Guthrie County, Iowa to Hans and Edith (Hansen) Madsen Sorensen. He was baptized and confirmed in the Lutheran Church. Jerry spent his childhood in the Guthrie Center area, first attending country school and later graduating from Guthrie Center High School in 1959.

On February 26, 1966, Jerry was united in marriage to Mary Beth Goodwin in the United Methodist Church in Storm Lake. The couple was blessed with three children: Angela Beth, Jerald Jerome II, and Janelle Marie. Jerry and Mary Beth made their home in Storm Lake for many years, where he was employed by Seiler Plumbing and Buena Vista Regional Medical Center before starting his own plumbing business. They moved to Panora in December 2004 and Jerry retired in April 2007.

Jerry was a true outdoorsman and loved to hunt and fish. He was a member of Pheasants Forever and Ducks Unlimited organizations. He liked to stay active by playing slow-pitch softball, bowling or golfing. He also enjoyed a game of darts or pool. Jerry was an avid sports fan and followed the Chicago Cubs and Bears, as well as the Iowa Hawkeyes. He was a member of the United Methodist Church in Storm Lake.

Jerry's family was very important to him and he was very involved in his children's activities as they were growing up in Storm Lake. He coached youth softball and baseball for many years. He and Mary Beth began camping in recent years and found it very relaxing and enjoyable. When Jerry's grandchildren came along, they found a special place in his heart and he loved to follow all their activities. A loving husband, devoted father, treasured Papa, caring brother and uncle, as well as a valued friend, Jerry will be deeply missed by all those who knew and loved him.

Left to cherish his memory are his wife of 42 years, Mary Beth of Panora, Iowa; his daughter, Angie (Mark) Kiefer of Lehigh, Iowa; his son, J. J. (Tera) Sorensen of Newton, Iowa; his daughter, Janelle (Jason) Van Vactor of Cherokee, Iowa; his grandchildren: Grace, Emma and Clayton Kiefer of Lehigh; Kaitlyn and Aren Sorensen of Newton, and Allison and Alea Van Vactor of Cherokee; brothers Dale (Wilma) Sorensen of Shirley, Arkansas and Arnold (Loretta) Sorensen of Manson, Iowa; sister Norma (Thomas) McMichael of Audubon, Iowa; mother-in-law Bea Goodwin of Storm Lake; brother-in-law Vernon "Bud" (Carolyn) Goodwin of Sioux City, Iowa; sisters-in-law: Barbara McGowan of Carroll, Iowa; Becky Harders of Fort Collins, Colorado; and Bobbie (Ron) Sargent of Storm Lake; many nieces and nephews, cousins, extended family and a host of friends.

Jerry was preceded in death by his parents; his stepfather, Gaillard Long; his father-in-law, Vernon Goodwin; his brother, Merlin Sorensen, his sister, Donna Parker; and his brothers-in-law, Dan Harders and James McGowan.

## Remembering A Special Life



**Jerald J. Sorensen**

**"Jerry"**

**1941 — 2008**



The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.  
He maketh me to lie down in green pastures;  
He leadeth me beside still waters. He restoreth my soul;

He leadeth me in the paths

of righteousness for His name's sake.

Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,  
I will fear no evil: for Thou art with me; Thy rod and Thy staff,  
they comfort me; Thou preparest a table before me  
in the presence of mine enemies; Thou anointest my head with  
oil, my cup runneth over. Surely goodness and mercy  
shall follow me all the days of my life;  
And I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

— Psalm 23



**W**e wish to express our sincere gratitude for the many kindnesses evidenced in thought and deed, and for your attendance at this service. Please join us for lunch and a time of fellowship at the church following the burial.

 **Jerry's Family**

# IN MEMORY OF

## Jerald J. "Jerry" Sorensen

August 28, 1941  October 4, 2008

### Funeral Service

Thursday, October 9, 2008 at 10:30 a.m.  
United Methodist Church — Storm Lake, Iowa

### Clergy

Reverend Jerry E. Oakland

### Organist

Deanna Larson

### Soloist

Barb Johnson  
"Amazing Grace"

### Congregational Singing

"In The Garden"  
"Old Rugged Cross"

### Casket Bearers

Phil Meyer, Bruce Carlson, Paul Hornor, Dan Russell  
David "Oscar" Meyer, Ray Wilson, Mike Gessner, Lenny McDonald

### Interment

Storm Lake Cemetery — Storm Lake, Iowa

  
Arrangements by

**FRATZKE & JENSEN FUNERAL HOMES**  
www.fratzkejensen.com — Newell • Storm Lake • Schaller