



Charles Rasch

January 20, 1935 - December 24, 2023

Charles Edmund Rasch, 88, of Newell, Iowa passed away peacefully on Sunday, December 24th, 2023 at his home after a short battle with melanoma cancer. Charlie is now reunited with his loving wife of 62 years, JoAnn, which he has dearly missed since her death in 2020.

Funeral services will take place Thursday, January 4, 2024 at 10:30 a.m. at St. Peter Lutheran Church in Newell. Burial will follow in the Newell Cemetery. Visitation will be held Wednesday, January 3, 2024 from 4-8:00 p.m. at the CHURCH. In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations be made to the Newell Fire Department or the Newell Swimming Pool Fund. The Fratzke and Jensen Funeral Home in Newell is in charge of the arrangements.

Charlie was born January 20th, 1935 on a farm north of Newell to Edmund and Augusta (Nelson) Rasch. He was baptized and later confirmed at St. Peter Lutheran Church in Newell, Iowa where he would remain a lifetime member. Charlie attended Newell-Providence School where he graduated in 1952. After high school, Charlie proudly served his country in the United States Army from 1957 to 1961.

On December 14th, 1957, Charlie was united in marriage to JoAnn Maxine Griffel at Our Redeemer Lutheran Church of Jackson, Minnesota. They were blessed with four children, Debora Kay (Frog), Cherilyn Renee (Boop), Karla Kristine (Kog) and Corwin Charles (CC7). Charlie had a nickname for everyone he knew.

Following his discharge, he worked for a farmer in rural Newell until he started working for Bryant Produce (George and Dick Bryant) in Sulphur Springs from 1953 to 1965. Later in 1965, Charlie went to work for the City of Newell for eight and a half years. He was then employed by the Buena Vista County Secondary Road Department until his retirement in 2000. After retirement, JoAnn and Charlie would winter in McAllen, Texas for 19 years. Charlie was also the owner/operator of Charlie's Chicken Coop for 52 years which was the smallest state inspected processing plant in Iowa. Chicken Charlie, as he would be

known, frequently welcomed customers and friends alike with a “Howdy”. His entire family helped with the operation along with several other employees who remained life-long friends.

Staying active in his community, Charlie was a member of the Newell Fire Department for 45 years and also served on the Newell-Fonda school board. He enjoyed playing dartball for many years with St. Peter Lutheran Church. Charlie loved putting puzzles together, maintaining a large garden, playing card games (with “31” being his game of choice), raising a multitude of livestock on the farm (with chickens and turkeys being his favorite). After JoAnn’s passing, Charlie would pass his time by collecting antiques, where he would meet many friends. In August of 2023, he and his best friend, Ralph Hamand, who talked twice a day, traveled together to Oregon to visit Charlie’s nieces and nephews.

Charlie is survived by his children: Deb (Kaj) Overgaard and their children Christian (Kelley) Overgaard, Nels (Courtney) Overgaard, Karina Overgaard, Marianna Overgaard; Cheri McLain and children Tyler (Michelle) Krout and Leslie (Scott) Patten; Karla (Gary) Pickhinke and their children Michelle Schreck, Michael McKenna (Marisa Wurth), Andy (Paige) Pickhinke, Kelsey Pickhinke (Chris Seylar); Corey (Amy) Rasch and their children Karissa Rasch, Caleb Rasch, and Colin Rasch; 18 great-grandchildren: Josie Joy, Reid, Anna, Axel, Henrik, Sophia, Hudson, Thomas, Hunter, Brayden, Bella, Lincoln, Gunnar, Brynlee, Braxton, Mikayla, Kori, and Mason.

He was preceded in death by his wife, JoAnn; parents: Edmund and Augusta Rasch; sisters; Ruth (John) Barlow and Joyce Blaske; brother: Robert (Evelyn) Rasch; parents-in-law; son-in-law: Thomas Krout; and beloved Weiner dogs, Frank and Oscar.

Cemetery Details

Newell Cemetery

E. Jensen St.
Newell, IA 50568

Previous Events

Visitation

JAN 3. 4:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

St. Peter Lutheran Church -- Newell
314 South Clark
Newell, IA 50568

Funeral Service

JAN 4. 10:30 AM (CT)

St. Peter Lutheran Church -- Newell
314 South Clark
Newell, IA 50568

Tribute Wall



“ *Fratzke & Jensen Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Charles Rasch*



Fratzke & Jensen Funeral Home - January 03, 2024 at 12:51 PM

TB

“ *I'm sure going to miss you Charlie. I so enjoyed your world view. You saw the humor and had a good chuckle for most situations in life. You were a rare bird and the world is a lesser place without you. Farewell friend.*

Tim Baak - January 03, 2024 at 06:04 PM

FH

“ *2 files added to the tribute wall*



Fratzke & Jensen Funeral Home - January 03, 2024 at 12:45 PM



“ *Medium Dish Garden was purchased for the family of Charles Rasch.*



January 03, 2024 at 09:45 AM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Charles Rasch.*



January 02, 2024 at 03:00 PM

NI

“ North Iowa Mechanical, Algona, IA purchased the Serene Retreat for the family of Charles Rasch.



North Iowa Mechanical, Algona, IA - January 02, 2024 at 01:32 PM

CC

“ Dear Family. I will never forget spilling a malt all over Charles on a maybe church trip we were on. He was so nice about it. I seen him at the voting place and he was his jolly old self. I know you all loved him so well and he knew he was loved. Will miss his jolly laugh and that mischiefs' smile. in Christ love Crystal

Crystal Cook - January 02, 2024 at 01:30 PM



“ Florist Choice Bouquet was purchased for the family of Charles Rasch.



January 02, 2024 at 05:27 AM



“ Basket of Memories was purchased for the family of Charles Rasch.



January 01, 2024 at 11:04 PM

JK

“ Jeff Lory (Preston) Krummen lit a candle in memory of Charles Rasch



Jeff & Lory (Preston) Krummen - January 01, 2024 at 10:54 PM

KA

“ I have some great memories of Charlie,one is he had us 3 Rasch girls gut chickens with his 3 daughters.We were scared and he just jumped in and showed us how.You could hear him laughing and always smiling.Love you Uncle Charlie!

Kathryn - January 01, 2024 at 10:26 PM



“ Crystal Cross Bouquet was purchased for the family of Charles Rasch.



January 01, 2024 at 07:06 PM

GB

“ Gary F Blaske planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Charles Rasch.

Gary F Blaske - January 01, 2024 at 07:06 PM

SJ

“ Will miss you Godfather. I know you are now at peace.



Sharon Jones - January 01, 2024 at 03:01 PM

BR

“ Bev Bill Rice lit a candle in memory of Charles Rasch



Bev Bill Rice - December 31, 2023 at 01:47 PM

BR

“ Our condolences to each of you 🙏😊😊😊😊 as you cherish those happy moments and memories with your family. Kindly Bev and Bill Rice

Bev Rice - December 31, 2023 at 01:46 PM

MB

“ Marilyn Bauer lit a candle in memory of Charles Rasch



Marilyn Bauer - December 30, 2023 at 11:12 AM

MS

“ Mike Julie Sexton lit a candle in memory of Charles Rasch



Mike & Julie Sexton - December 30, 2023 at 10:33 AM

RS

“ Our prayers to Charlie's family as he is called Home. Always enjoyed visiting with Charlie. Such a friendly man who always shared your interests. God's Peace to you all.

Randy & Marilyn Schmitt - December 30, 2023 at 08:19 AM

JH

“ JASON&SHAWN HOLTGREWE lit a candle in memory of Charles Rasch



JASON&SHAWN HOLTGREWE - December 29, 2023 at 11:05 AM

KM

“ So many great memories of Charlie - from chickens to grading our road! What a guy!! Sympathy to the whole family
Kay Snyder Marvin



Kay Marvin - December 29, 2023 at 02:51 AM

LN

“ *What a guy! To many great memories to count, from doing chickens to Charlie just pulling in the drive way to chat. He was bigger than life with a laugh that could be heard for miles. Heaven sure gained a heck of a guy, he will be missed.*

Larry & Candi Nielsen - December 28, 2023 at 05:34 PM

DW

“ *Darvin Will lit a candle in memory of Charles Rasch*



Darvin Will - December 28, 2023 at 01:23 PM

DF

“ *Doug Heather Fassler lit a candle in memory of Charles Rasch*



Doug and Heather Fassler - December 27, 2023 at 09:16 PM

DS

“ *So sorry for your loss, many thoughts and prayers to the family! His contagious laugh will be missed!!! Such a great guy!*



Dana & Butch Seivert - December 27, 2023 at 07:52 PM



“ *So very sorry for your loss. Will miss seeing Charlie at the Bank and the chats we had. My husband worked for Charlie during his teenage years and will always remember his good sense of humor. Doug and Cathy Lange*



Cathy Lange - December 27, 2023 at 07:23 PM

MJ

“ He surely will be missed. Always a joke and a smile. Our thoughts and prayers are with you all. Rest well Charlie.
Mike & Shelly Jensen



Mike and Shelly Jensen - December 27, 2023 at 05:41 PM

BN

“ Barry & Doreen Putney, Jacksonville NC purchased the Blue Caribbean Bouquet for the family of Charles Rasch.



Barry & Doreen Putney, Jacksonville NC - December 27, 2023 at 01:52 PM

BN

“ Charlie will be truly missed. I have many awesome memories working with him dressing chickens. Our thoughts and prayers are with you and your family.

Barry and Doreen Putney, Jacksonville NC - December 27, 2023 at 01:40 PM

BW

“ Becky White lit a candle in memory of Charles Rasch



Becky White - December 27, 2023 at 11:14 AM

CD

“ Cheryl DeMan lit a candle in memory of Charles Rasch



Cheryl DeMan - December 27, 2023 at 08:18 AM

BR

“ Charlie will be greatly missed..He always had time to visit
💜💕💕



Bev Reis - December 26, 2023 at 10:36 PM

DK

“ Charlie was such a kind, generous man. We loved visiting with him.
Sending hugs and prayers for strength during this difficult time.

Dale and Judy Kraft - December 26, 2023 at 08:25 PM

RW

“ Chicken Charlie will be missed by many. He always had a smile on his face and
was welcoming to all! Our thoughts and prayers are with you all! Rick and Patti

Rick and Patti Wolff - December 26, 2023 at 08:06 PM

TB

“ Spent a lot of time with my uncle Charlie in Iowa and in
Oregon this summer and had lots of laughs and good
times. Hope you took lots of quarters with you. You will be
deeply missed.



Terry Suanne Blaske - December 26, 2023 at 06:42 PM

PF

“ Peg Flynn lit a candle in memory of Charles Rasch



Peg Flynn - December 26, 2023 at 03:10 PM

EM

“ So sorry to hear of all of us losing Charlie. He taught everyone of us to love life,
laugh and stay curious. May God's peace that passes ALL understanding be with
you and all of us. May we keep a bit of Charlie's good nature in our hearts and
spread it to our family and friends.

Erik "Hondo" and Mariellen Mosbo - December 26, 2023 at 11:17 AM

BB

“ *My deepest sympathies to all of Charlies family , you are in my thoughts and prayers Bob Buelt Breda*

Bob Buelt - December 26, 2023 at 09:52 AM

MH

“ *Mylynn Hanson lit a candle in memory of Charles Rasch*



Mylynn Hanson - December 25, 2023 at 05:49 PM

MH

“ *We are so sorry for your loss. I will always remember Charlie for his jovial laugh and how he liked joking around. I have fond memories of working with him and the girls cleaning chickens one summer. He will be missed. Mylynn and Wade Hanson*

Mylynn Hanson - December 25, 2023 at 05:48 PM

DH

“ *Am so sad to hear of Charlie's passing. Just saw him a few weeks ago at The Bakery in Varina! Always a smile on his face. Our prayers are with his family!*



Duane & Eldona Hornor - December 25, 2023 at 11:01 AM

SM

“ *R.I.P Charlie going to miss you laugh😭*



Steph/sharon Mickelson - December 25, 2023 at 10:24 AM

RW

“ *Ruth Westergaard lit a candle in memory of Charles Rasch*



Ruth Westergaard - December 25, 2023 at 06:33 AM

JF

“ *Jo Fulks lit a candle in memory of Charles Rasch*



Jo Fulks - December 24, 2023 at 11:09 PM

PO

“ *Ironically My Dad passed away last Thurs, and his good friend and Coffee club buddy Charlie passed away on the 24th, I bet heaven is having a ball with the two newest members in attendance!! Merry Christmas to them both, Great people who will be missed every, single, day!*

Pat O'Leary - December 24, 2023 at 10:38 PM

BW

“ *bobbie wise lit a candle in memory of Charles Rasch*



bobbie wise - December 24, 2023 at 09:06 PM

JC

“ *Jeff/Jean Chindlund lit a candle in memory of Charles Rasch*



Jeff/Jean Chindlund - December 24, 2023 at 08:20 PM

JC

Charlie was a great guy, always enjoyed visiting with him! RIP

Jean M Chindlund - December 26, 2023 at 12:53 PM

TB

Spent a lot time with my uncle Charlie in Iowa and in Oregon this last summer and made a lot of good memories. Hope you took some quarters with you. You will be deeply missed.

Terry Blaske Suanne Blaske - December 26, 2023 at 06:15 PM

PO

RiP Charley, you and dad can drink coffee together upstairs now!!!!

Pat O'Leary - December 30, 2023 at 09:38 PM