



Emery "Jeff" Emerson Jr.

November 13, 2016

Emery "Jeff" Emerson, Jr., age 89, of Sioux City, Iowa formerly of Storm Lake, Iowa died Sunday, November 13, 2016 at St. Luke's Regional Medical Center in Sioux City.

Funeral services will be held Friday, November 18, 2016 at 11:00 a.m. at the Fratzke & Jensen Funeral Home in Storm Lake. Burial will follow in the Storm Lake Cemetery. Visitation will take place Thursday, November 17, 2016 from 5-7:00 p.m. at the Fratzke & Jensen Funeral Home in Storm Lake. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to the Storm Lake Education Foundation, PO Box 638, Storm Lake, Iowa 50588 or to Friends of the Storm Lake Public Library. The Fratzke & Jensen Funeral Home in Storm Lake is in charge of the arrangements.

Emery Harold Emerson Jr., was born in South Dakota, the son of Florence and Emery H. Emerson, Sr.

He was known as "Jr." in his hometown of Bryant, South Dakota, where he graduated from high school in 1945. He joined the United States Army, where he got his nickname "Jeff", as he served his country for a year at the end of World War II.

After his military service Jeff returned to South Dakota and received both his

Bachelor and Law degrees from the University of South Dakota. He began his career in Lake Preston, South Dakota in private practice. He then worked for Federated Mutual and later for United Fire and Casualty Company.

In 1960, Jeff was united in marriage to Patricia Ann Ptak at St. Leo's Catholic Church in Tyndall, South Dakota. Together, they moved to Storm Lake, where they were blessed with three children: Paula, Robert, and Eric.

In Storm Lake, Jeff practiced law at Edson and Emerson until Wendell Edson's retirement, after which he had a solo practice, Emerson Law Office. While practicing law, Jeff also served two terms as Buena Vista county attorney and then in 1973, he was appointed as a juvenile court judge for Buena Vista, Clay and Dickinson counties.

Jeff was a long time member and past president of Hy-Noon Kiwanis, where he was very proud of his many years of perfect attendance. He was a 50 year member of the Iowa State Bar Association.

Jeff enjoyed many camping vacations with his family and later by himself. He enjoyed wood working, golf and playing cribbage or bridge with good friends.

In 2009, Jeff came to Sioux City where he was a resident of Bickford Cottage Assisted Living.

Those left to cherish his memory include his children: Paula Emerson of Sioux City; Bob and Jodi Emerson and their daughters, Laura and Julia of LeMars, Iowa; Eric and Cindy Emerson and their son, Barret of West Friendship, Maryland; extended family and friends.

Jeff was preceded in death by his wife, Pat, in 1990; and his brother, William.

Cemetery Details

Storm Lake Cemetery

Storm Lake, IA 50588

Previous Events

Visitation

NOV 17. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Fratzke & Jensen Funeral Home - Storm Lake
1615 W Milwaukee Ave,
Storm Lake, IA 50588
(712) 732-1911
jensenfuneralhomes@gmail.com
<https://www.fratzkejensen.com>

Service

NOV 18. 11:00 AM (CT)

Fratzke & Jensen Funeral Home - Storm Lake
1615 W Milwaukee Ave,
Storm Lake, IA 50588
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Interment

NOV 18. 12:00 PM (CT)

Storm Lake Cemetery
Storm Lake, IA 50588

Tribute Wall

“ Although I live in St. Louis, I still receive the Storm Lake newspaper a few days late and yesterday was saddened to learn of Jeff's passing. My father, Wendell Edson, and Jeff Emerson were kind, ethical, gentlemen of great character. They upheld the legal profession in the highest possible way. We can look to them as good examples for all of us and our families.

Jeff was wonderful to me when my parents passed away in 2001 and 2002. He was helpful, kind and supportive. At one point, when my husband and I met with Jeff and Dave Dvergston around the conference table at the bank, my husband was profoundly impressed with what it is like to do business in a small town with good people.

I am so glad I happened to run into Jeff when I was last in Storm Lake for my 40th reunion in 2008. He was having coffee with the father of one of my classmates at the coffee shop owned by Firyal Damanhoury, who had been an aide at Methodist Manor, and who was so good to my parents there. A lot of things came full circle that weekend.

I have a little carved horse and I don't know where it came from - but I like to think Jeff made it. I also still have a duck marionette that I know he made, possibly for one of our kids. I have always wanted to copy that for gifts for other children. I know Jeff enjoyed that hobby, and that he enjoyed nature and being out in it - something that I hold dear and restorative as well. I know how deeply sad he was at the passing of Pat, far too soon in their lives. I hope that they are somehow together now.

So, as you see, I looked up to Jeff (literally and figuratively!) for many years. Please accept the deep sympathy of our family. I feel we owe him a great deal.

Sincerely, Wendy Edson Cooke

wendy edson cooke - November 30, 2016 at 08:54 AM

JP

“ *He was a great man. He will be surely missed by people who knew him and also his family.*

jayme pott - November 21, 2016 at 10:55 AM

KQ

“ *So many family memories... from picnics to post-Christmas eve drop-bys, Sunday coffees on the porch and the annual cribbage tallies. Love to all, Katrinka (Emery, to only person who calls me this--happy memories)*



Karin Quick - November 18, 2016 at 04:49 PM

AJ

“ *Paula and family: thinking of you in your time of sorrow. God Bless You. Arden Jasper.*



Arden Jasper - November 18, 2016 at 03:23 PM

FH

“ *2 files added to the tribute wall*



Funeral Home - November 17, 2016 at 03:58 PM



“ *Peace, Prayers, & Blessings- All White was purchased for the family of Emery "Jeff" Emerson Jr..*



November 17, 2016 at 12:17 AM



“ *Blue & White Sympathy Floor Basket was purchased for the family of Emery "Jeff" Emerson Jr..*



November 16, 2016 at 10:39 PM



“ *Paula and Family-Sending thoughts and prayers as you gather to mourn the loss of your dad. Praying for comfort for each of you as you walk though this time together. Take care and God Bless, Michelle (Burmeister) and Gary Schaefer*



Michelle Schaefer - November 15, 2016 at 12:27 PM