



Gilbert Alpers

August 16, 1936 - May 20, 2021

Gilbert R. Alpers, age 84, of Fonda, Iowa died Thursday, May 20, 2021 at his home in Fonda.

Funeral services will be 10 a.m. Thursday, May 27, 2021 at First Lutheran Church in Fonda, Iowa. Burial will follow in the Cedar Cemetery. Visitation will take place 5:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m. Wednesday, May 26, 2021 at the First Lutheran Church, Fonda. The Mahaney Funeral Home in Fonda will be in charge of the arrangements.

Gilbert Ralph Alpers, the son of Charlie and Dorothy Alpers, was born on August 16, 1936 in Fonda, Iowa.

Growing up, Gilbert attended grade school and later graduated from Fonda Public Schools in 1954.

Gilbert served his country in the Army Reserves from 1955 to 1960.

On June 25th, 1967, Gilbert was united in marriage to Janice Rose Siedler at St John's Lutheran in Pomeroy, Iowa.

Throughout his life, Gilbert was a proud Fonda community member. In his free time, Gilbert collected and restored antique cars and vintage items for the Fonda museum, in which Gilbert and Janice owned and ran for 26 years.

Those left to cherish his memory include his wife, Janice Rose Alpers of Fonda, Iowa; sisters: Irene Chase of Albert City and Ruthie Garton of Albert City, Iowa.

Gilbert was preceded in death by his parents, Charlie and Dorothy; brother, Jerry Alpers; and two brothers-in-law: Don Chase and Bud Garton.

Previous Events

Visitation

MAY **26**. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

First Lutheran Church
202 King Street
Fonda, IA 50540

Funeral Service

MAY **27**. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

First Lutheran Church
202 King Street
Fonda, IA 50540

Tribute Wall

GM

“ We so enjoyed Gib. We were very intrigued with the antique wood car he was re-building. Our boys were little at the time and were fascinated. It was so cool to see the display cabinets he had installed in his building that he had purchased from my parent's drugstore.

Gale (Garlock) McEvoy

Gale McEvoy - June 15, 2021 at 02:04 PM

KS

“ I am so very sorry for your loss, I knew Gib through Doug Linn and I wanted to send my heartfelt condolences. Gibs passion for cars and history was a rarity. Prayers to the family.

Kelly Short - May 27, 2021 at 01:37 PM

JH

“ So sorry to hear the news about Gib. He has quite a legacy in Fonda and may these memories forever reign in the community. The museum that he and Jan developed is a treasure. Our family thoughts are with you and your family.

Judy Hornor Hayes

Judy Hayes - May 27, 2021 at 12:09 PM

RS

“ Our continued prayers, Jan. What an artist Gib was. His creative work whether in restoration or creation remains amazing. I so enjoyed the calls to come try out the restored player piano, the pump organ, the jukebox. The list goes on. And searching for things for the museum was such a treat because you both beamed when something Fonda was added. I learned so much listening to both you Jan and Gib. You could spend hours listening and never become tired or bored at the Museum. It's contents and the way you both related history was simply mesmerizing. You both are treasures to our community and to your friends. God's peace and blessings.

Randy and Marilyn Schmitt - May 26, 2021 at 04:50 PM

SL

“ Have Lost a really great godfather who couldn't of been any better am going to miss him a lot. - Sue Linn

Sue Linn - May 26, 2021 at 04:14 PM

DL

“ Have lost a great friend and and a father figure spent many a day at auctions with him and Jan . Loved the smile he would get when got the winning bid on something he want to restore and save so others could see it and learn from it . He had so much to share with every one . Doug Linn

Douglas Linn - May 26, 2021 at 03:55 PM

CS

“ Such a big loss to our community, always smiling!! When Gib was our mailman he took several pictures for us of our animals, like when two of our dogs were taking turns digging out a ground squirrel and when we would be pulling a calf behind the training trailer for 4-H!! We lost a great man!!!😞

Connie Schachtner - May 26, 2021 at 01:38 PM

JR

“ Jan,
So sorry about the loss of your soul mate. As you know Gib and I graduated in 1954 together. Russ and I enjoyed going thru the Museum as Russ was in his 90's and you had things he remembered his parents having and he loved the barber's chair. He wouldn't go to his class reunions but always came to ours. You and Gib were a big part of that. Remember God loves you.
JoAnn (Downing) Root.

JoAnn Root - May 25, 2021 at 04:26 PM



“ Blue & White Sympathy Basket was purchased for the family of Gilbert Alpers.



May 25, 2021 at 02:41 PM

MS

“ Give was a lifetime friend of Bob Schossow and enjoyed many hours talking over school days Giib could make any part for his antique cars that he could not buy saying he was a genius,

Marlene Schossow - May 24, 2021 at 11:30 PM



“ *Healing Tears - Yellow and White was purchased for the family of Gilbert Alpers.*



May 24, 2021 at 09:54 PM

LM

“ *Just last week I was thinking of Gib, wondering if he had his painful limp fixed. The Menkes know Gib as a good man--from being neighbors, sharing stories, fixing things, his excellent workmanship and perseverance in every aspect of living and gentle and kind ways, not to mention the wonderful Museum. We celebrate his life and wish him peace.*

Jan, you two have been what the world needs. Count on our prayers for you as you adjust to Gib's death. We'll pray for other family members also.

Larry & Sue Menke, Colorado Springs

Larry & Sue Menke - May 24, 2021 at 09:16 PM

H(

“ *Jan - You have our deepest sympathies! Gib was such a great community member and Fonda will miss him dearly! Always loved seeing his smiling face around town! He will be missed! Many prayers for you in the days ahead!*

Hanna Kies (Reis) - May 24, 2021 at 03:35 PM

MV

“ *Jan,
I am saddened to hear of Gib's passing. Your Fonda Museum was outstanding. I enjoyed every time I visited it. May he RIP!*

Mary R Vollrath - May 23, 2021 at 02:51 PM

TF

“ *The Spooner Boys and Family purchased the Classic Fireside Sympathy Basket for the family of Gilbert Alpers.*



The Spooner Boys and Family - May 23, 2021 at 10:26 AM

JS

“ *The Spooner Family is heartbroken! All my life Gib has been a staple in our family. I spent many hours playing in the sawdust of Gib's shop while my Dad and he worked some complex fix it strategy for a Model A. And then there were all the SERPACI Tours.....I'm sure Gib enjoyed the cars breaking down, so he could fix them, as much as the touring! Such a talented man, he made things better than the original! All these great memories live on! Jan, sending you a long distance hug. We will be there on Thursday to celebrate our great friend! Jim Spooner and Family*

Jim Spooner - May 23, 2021 at 10:05 AM

CS

“ *Jan,
Our deepest sympathy to you. We have many warm and happy memories of Gib. Some of the best are the little Hallmark ornaments he left in the mailbox on his mail route. The kids still hang every one on their own Christmas trees now.. He must have purchased Tootsie pops by the bushel and the kids loved them and couldn't wait to go to the mailbox to see if Gib had left a treat for them. Gib was a kind and gentle soul. May memories be a blessing to you.
Craig and Renea Seagren Jackie, Janelle and Tim*

craig and Renea Seagren - May 23, 2021 at 09:10 AM

MV

“ *Jan,
I am so sorry over the loss of Gib. He was such an asset to the community of Fonda. The Fonda Museum you two created was out of this world! I really enjoyed visiting there when I was home for a visit.
Mary (Menke)Vollrath
Chula Vista, CA*

Mary R Vollrath - May 22, 2021 at 11:51 PM

PM

“ *Jan, please accept my condolences and sympathies. Bless you and your extended family.*

God got a very talented angel when he got Gilbert Alpers. I respect you both so much, your commitment to the town we call Fonda, your commitment to preserve and share your beautiful collections with anyone and everyone.

Most don't understand the effort, thought & sweat. time investment , financial investment to build a historic museum as you and Gib achieved. Truly a gem! He will be sorely missed, as the main curator and story teller.

It was fun to observe John and Gib put their heads together to come up with a solution.



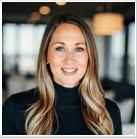
RIP Gib...

Phyllis Menke - May 22, 2021 at 11:30 PM

DE

“ *Gib was the heart and soul of Fonda Iowa*

Dennis - May 22, 2021 at 10:41 PM



“ *Bob, Jessica, Hayden & Hanna Stauter*



Jessica Stauter - May 22, 2021 at 10:10 PM

DB

“ *Jan,*

Peace to you. I loved visiting the Fonda Museum. Bless you and Gib for creating that piece of history for all who grew up there. RIP Gib.

Debora Blume

Debora Blume - May 22, 2021 at 07:24 PM

PG

“ OUR PRAYERS & SYMPATHY TO YOU JAN & FAMILY IN THE LOSS OF YOUR HUBBY GIB. HE WAS A SUPER MAN & I THINK THATS WHY MY BROTHERS ENJOYED HIS FRIENDSHIP. NOW HE JOINS FATHER ED. GOD BLESS YOU JAN.

PEACE, LARY & PATTY GUNVILLE
STORM LAKE, IOWA



PATTY GUNVILLE - May 22, 2021 at 06:04 PM



“ Springtime Wishes was purchased for the family of Gilbert Alpers.



May 22, 2021 at 05:04 PM

CF

“ Craig And Mary Farrell lit a candle in memory of Gilbert Alpers



Craig and Mary Farrell - May 22, 2021 at 03:57 PM

BR

“ Bev Reis lit a candle in memory of Gilbert Alpers



Bev Reis - May 22, 2021 at 02:28 PM

CS

“ My deepest Sympathy to Jan and all family members. I loved to visit the museum he made of Fonda history when I came for school reunions.
Carleen (Nieland) Schwieso



Carleen Schwieso - May 22, 2021 at 08:56 AM



“ *Dear Jan, My deepest sympathy to you. May God wrap His arms around you and give you peace. Gib will be mostly missed by his coffee clutch buddies. May he rest in peace.*



Mary Lange - May 21, 2021 at 06:13 PM

DH

“ *Jan,
We are so sorry for your loss! Gib was a good friend and will sure be missed!
May he RIP
Duane and Eldona*



Duane & Eldona Hornor - May 21, 2021 at 02:33 PM