

## James L. Grienke

December 23, 1928 - December 31, 2020

James L. Grienke, age 92, of Alta, Iowa died Thursday, December 31, 2020 at MercyOne in Sioux City, Iowa as the result of a power outage.

Funeral services will take place Tuesday, January 5, 2021 at 11:00 a.m. at Trinity Lutheran Church in Alta where masks will be required. We encourage you to watch the live stream of the service, please click the link: <https://us02w eb.zoom.us/j/82763684025?pwd=TzZPcE9xUIRjc3ZROG1XMjFYQWN4UT09> and enter the password: funeral. Burial will be in the Woodlawn Cemetery in Alta. Visitation will take place Monday, January 4, 2021 from 4-8:00 p.m. at the Fratzke & Jensen Funeral Home in STORM LAKE. The Fratzke & Jensen Funeral Home in Storm Lake is in charge of the arrangements.

James L. Grienke was born December 23, 1928 in Alta, Iowa the son of Fred and Helen (Duckworth) Grienke.

Growing up, James received his education in the Alta and Storm Lake School systems. He earned a certificate in watch making and electronics. He also was a ham radio operator.

He began his working career with the DNR, dredging several lakes in Iowa. He then went to work for Midwest Energy as a welder and gas service man. After retirement, he ran CC's Coffee Shop in Alta until Covid hit. He could

make some good cookies and coffee.

James met the love of his life, Blondina Bunney, at the Roller Rink Cobblestone in Storm Lake. They were united in marriage on November 30, 1947 in Cherokee. Together, they were blessed with eight children: Jean, Ellen, Claudina, Julie, Christine, Becky, Nancy, and Debbie. As a family they made their home in Alta in 1952.

James was a member of Trinity Lutheran Church in Alta. He was a volunteer for the Alta Fire Department for 50 years. James enjoyed helping in the community and was a part of building the Racetrack in Alta. He also was a member of the Fair board.

James was a jack of all trades and could make or fix anything. In his spare time, he enjoyed wood carving, mostly visiting and telling stories. James treasured his family and spending time with them. He will be remembered as a loving husband, father, grandfather and friend to all.

Those left to cherish his memory include daughters: Jean Sticken of Omaha, Nebraska; Ellen Wood of Alta, Iowa; Claudina Grienke of Alta, Iowa; Julie Fahr of Fremont, Nebraska; Chris (Clem) Ledoux of Alta, Iowa; Nancy (Scott) Teegardin of Alta, Iowa; Debbie Gilmer of Friend, Nebraska; 13 grandchildren; 14 great grandchildren; brother, Bob Grienke; sister, Susan Rupp; sister-in-law, Kathy Grienke; brother-in-law, Bud Dilocker; a special niece, Linda Lee and cousin, Nancy Peters; and a lifelong friend, Art Dahl; extended family and many friends.

James was preceded in death by his parents, Fred and Helen Grienke; wife, Blondina Grienke; daughter, Becky Grienke; son-in-law, Duane Fahr; two brothers and three sisters.



# Cemetery Details

## Woodlawn

Alta, IA

# Previous Events

## Visitation

JAN 4. 4:00 PM - 8:00 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>

## Funeral Service

JAN 5. 11:00 AM (CT)

Trinity Lutheran Church -- Alta  
401 West 2nd Street  
Alta, IA 51002

# Tribute Wall



“ *Fratzke & Jensen Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of James L. Grienke*



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**Fratzke & Jensen Funeral Home** - January 04, 2021 at 03:40 PM

JM

“ *Jerry Matthews lit a candle in memory of James L. Grienke*



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**Jerry Matthews** - January 18, 2021 at 08:22 AM

MM

“ *James I don't have any memories of you but I do have friendship with one of your daughters and just by knowing your daughter Debbie I know what a great man that you are you raised a positive uplifting woman that has done nothing but bring friendship and joy into my life thank you so much for what you did which I don't know what you did but I do know you raised a pack of daughters that have made the world a better place rest in peace and enjoy the eternal life that Jesus Christ has promised us*

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**Michael Moore** - January 06, 2021 at 06:43 PM



“ 1 file added to the album Service Recording



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**Fratzke & Jensen Funeral Home** - January 06, 2021 at 02:20 PM

SS

“ Steven & Colleen Swanson lit a candle in memory of James L. Grienke



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**Steven & Colleen Swanson** - January 05, 2021 at 03:05 PM

BW

“ Bill Walters lit a candle in memory of James L. Grienke



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**Bill Walters** - January 05, 2021 at 11:41 AM

RL

“ Uncle Jim was my favorite Uncle and I was always amazed with his ideas and knowledge of almost everything he touched. He was able fix many things that were broke and had many skills to build anything he desired or needed. I always admired Uncle Jim and will miss him often and very much.



*Richard Lewis*

Richard Lewis - January 05, 2021 at 11:38 AM

NH

“ Nicki Harrington lit a candle in memory of James L. Grienke



Nicki Harrington - January 04, 2021 at 08:43 PM

JH

“ 2 files added to the tribute wall



Jensen Funeral Homes - January 04, 2021 at 04:00 PM



“ 69 files added to the album Life Tributes



Fratzke & Jensen Funeral Home - January 04, 2021 at 03:33 PM



“ European Sympathy Dish Garden was purchased for the family of James L. Grienke.



January 04, 2021 at 10:07 AM



“ Amy Olivas lit a candle in memory of James L. Grienke



Amy Olivas - January 04, 2021 at 03:21 AM

TH

“ *Trisha Hansen lit a candle in memory of James L. Grienke*



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**Trisha hansen** - January 04, 2021 at 12:22 AM

CR

“ *Connie Roche lit a candle in memory of James L. Grienke*



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**connie roche** - January 03, 2021 at 08:13 PM

SS

“ *Jim was my first cousin and we spent many family events together over the years. I have always admired him that he was so smart and could figure out almost everything. Always a smile and special greeting when you would see him. He is the last of his generation in our family and will be missed by all of us.*

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**Steve Strom** - January 02, 2021 at 10:49 PM

CK

“ *Carolyn Kruse..kordell Kruse lit a candle in memory of James L. Grienke*



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**Carolyn kruse..kordell kruse** - January 02, 2021 at 06:38 PM

RB

“ *Renee Buddenhagen lit a candle in memory of James L. Grienke*



**Renee Buddenhagen** - January 02, 2021 at 01:10 PM



“ *Classic Sympathy Dish Garden was purchased for the family of James L. Grienke.*



January 02, 2021 at 12:35 PM

TA

“ *THE TEEGARDIN FAMILY FLOWERS TO NANCY AFTE purchased the Healing Tears - Blue and White for the family of James L. Grienke.*



**THE TEEGARDIN FAMILY FLOWERS TO NANCY AFTE** -  
January 02, 2021 at 10:55 AM

AC

“ *Ann Grienke Christiansen lit a candle in memory of James L. Grienke*



**Ann Grienke Christiansen** - January 02, 2021 at 10:21 AM

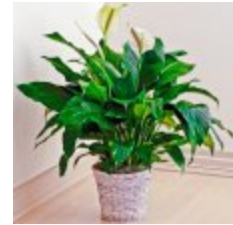
RM

“ I spent many hours talking with Jim about Fire Department things. He was the Chief and I was Sec. Treasurer for many years. We had many good times and he kept lots of fun in the Fire Department. He was such a cleaver guy and had such smart ideas. He really was smart beyond his years. I hope the girls find peace in knowing what a great Father they had. I once asked him is there anything you cannot build? His answer ya a boy.

Rick Meyer - January 02, 2021 at 09:49 AM



“ Floor Plant for Sympathy was purchased for the family of James L. Grienke.



January 02, 2021 at 01:57 AM

PH

“ So very, very sorry for the loss of a wonderful, amazing man! May God hold all of you in the palm of His hand and give you love, comfort and peace!

John and Pam Henderson

Pam Henderson - January 01, 2021 at 08:17 PM

CK

So sorry Nancy. Ellen..for the loss of your dad..Nancy my thoughts and prayers are with you and your family..Be strong my friend.

Carolyn kruse..kordell kruse - January 02, 2021 at 06:41 PM

PH

“ Pam Henderson lit a candle in memory of James L. Grienke



Pam Henderson - January 01, 2021 at 08:14 PM



“ Red & White Sympathy Floor Basket was purchased for the family of James L. Grienke.



January 01, 2021 at 07:08 PM

CN

“ One of my favorite uncle's. Always happy and he made you laugh. Hugs to all his family. Luv u guys.

Candy Neagle - January 01, 2021 at 06:09 PM

TC

“ Greatest 92 year old man I will ever meet in my life. Wish I had the rest of my life to whittle wood with him. God Bless the girls through this most difficult time. Be very proud ladies, he was a special man! I was blessed with two very short visits and we both talked non-stop. The first visit I raced along the car as they drove away....the second the girls baked in the 100 degree heat that Jim and I barely noticed. A true joy .... Cut short by the greatest joy!



The Carpenter - January 01, 2021 at 05:39 PM

SP

“ We just drove by his house and commented that we hadn't seen Jim in a while. Our thoughts and prayers are with his entire family. We will miss Jim and his infectious laugh. May you find peace knowing he is with his wife and his heavenly father.

*Kim and Susan Piercy*

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**Susan Marie Piercy** - January 01, 2021 at 04:41 PM

MP

*Jim was a good man everybody in alcohol always love that guy*

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**Michael peterson** - January 01, 2021 at 07:36 PM