



## Joe Rydstrom

April 9, 1944 - December 27, 2014

Joe Rydstrom, age 70, of Marathon, Iowa died Saturday, December 27, 2014 in Marathon.

Funeral services will be held Wednesday, December 31, 2014 at 10:30 a.m. at the United Methodist Church in Marathon. Burial will follow in the Poland Township Cemetery in Marathon. Visitation will take place Tuesday, December 30, 2014 from 4-7:00 p.m. with the family present from 5-7:00 p.m. at the United Methodist Church in Marathon. In lieu of flowers, a memorial fund in Joe's honor has been established. The Fratzke & Jensen Funeral Home in Storm Lake is in charge of the arrangements.

Leslie Joe Rydstrom was born April 9, 1944 in Sioux Rapids, Iowa, the son of Lester and Bessie (Foreman) Rydstrom.

Joe graduated from Marathon High School in 1962.

On August 14, 1965, Joe was united in marriage to Linda Olson in Marathon. Together they were blessed with two sons, Tony and Todd.

Throughout his lifetime, Joe worked as a truck driver for M&JR Hakes and hauled cattle for Burn's Trucking. He also drove the activity bus for the Laurens-Marathon School District.

Joe was active in the community, currently serving on the Marathon Library Board. He was a past member of the Marathon City Council and also was on the Marathon Fire Department, serving as Chief. Joe spent many years serving as a scout leader.

Joe was a member of the United Methodist Church in Marathon.

In his free time, Joe enjoyed traveling, especially if it involved cruising in his Cadillac. He loved midnight snacks, trains, playing cards, and gardening. Most of all, Joe loved his family and spending time with his grandchildren. He will be deeply missed by all who knew him.

Those left to cherish his memory include his wife, Linda Rydstrom of Marathon, Iowa; sons: Tony (Tina) Rydstrom of Marathon, Iowa; Todd (Mike Dickman) Rydstrom of Oakland, California; granddaughter, Brittany Rydstrom of Ankeny, Iowa; brothers: Bill (Doris) Rydstrom of Omaha, Nebraska; Dick Rydstrom of Gilmore City, Iowa; sisters: Marjibeth (Gary) Hopkins of Laurens, Iowa; Patricia Redetzke of Great Bend, Kansas; numerous brothers and sisters in-law, nieces, nephews, extended family and many friends.

Joe was preceded in death by his grandparents; parents, Lester and Bessie Rydstrom; and granddaughter, Lexi Rydstrom.

# Cemetery Details

## Poland Township Cemetery

Marathon, IA 50565

# Previous Events

## Visitation

DEC **30**. 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

United Methodist Church -- Marathon  
301 West Attica Street  
Marathon, IA 50565

## Service

DEC **31**. 10:30 AM (CT)

United Methodist Church -- Marathon  
301 West Attica Street  
Marathon, IA 50565

## Interment

DEC **31** (CT)

Poland Township Cemetery  
Marathon, IA 50565

# Tribute Wall



“ *Fratzke & Jensen Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Joe Rydstrom*



**Fratzke & Jensen Funeral Home** - December 30, 2014 at 11:46 AM

BB

*Wonderful video of Joe & Lindas family & travels, just awesome!!*

**Bob & Vicki Baker** - December 31, 2014 at 03:42 PM



*It looks like your dad enjoyed a good life with your Mom and family and friends! Lots of nice memories for all. Condolences for all as you miss his good company and presence. Sharon Gradischnig*

**Sharon Gradischnig** - January 01, 2015 at 01:44 AM

PK

*What a lovely tribute a great memory. May he rest in peace with The Lord at his side.*

**Pat Kennedy** - January 01, 2015 at 07:57 AM

DR

*how very awesome!*

**Darcy Reese** - January 01, 2015 at 09:48 PM

KR

*So sorry for the loss of your dad. I didn't know him but he looks like a great man. He's up there with Lexi taking care of each other. I'd love to get to know you and your family. My thoughts and prayers are with you and your family. Karen Rydstrom*

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**Karen Rydstrom** - January 02, 2015 at 09:36 PM

DO

*What beautiful memories of life, loved ones and beautiful places. It touched my heart.  
So grateful to spend some time with a such a kind, sincere man. Thank you for sharing.  
Love and hugs to your family!  
Love Donna and Michael Garey*

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**Donna** - March 17, 2015 at 08:02 AM

MM

“ *So sorry to hear of Joe's death, I would like to share a couple of stories of Joe concerning myself (Mike McGowan). When I was around 4-6 years old at Christmas time in Marathon, Santa would visit some Saturday afternoon and we little ones would sit on his lap and tell him what we wanted for Christmas. Yes you guessed it Joe was Santa and he played the part beautifully, it wasn't until I was 7 that I figured it out that Santa was Joe but he denied it until I pulled his beard down and saw for sure. Another time on Christmas eve Larry, Judy, and myself were upstairs around 9:30 10:00 when we heard some noise down stairs we all ran down stairs and Santa was leaving through the back door and of course Santa was Joe, how happy he made 3 little children that night wow what joy he spread. Another time when I was probably around ten Joe came to our house and hugged my mom and said something sweet to her and I could tell by the look in her eyes that she was very flattered. Joe was such a kind person. RIP Joe.  
Mike McGowan 1-9-15*

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**Mike McGowan** - January 09, 2015 at 08:22 PM

DA

“ We have such wonderful memories of Joe and what a kind man he was. Whenever we had a chance to meet him at Todd and Michael's home in Oakland or at their cabin, we always enjoyed our visits and enjoyed his welcoming and loving spirit. Our thoughts and prayers are with our friends Linda "Betty Bingo", Todd, and Michael.  
Love, Darrell and John

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**Darrell** - January 01, 2015 at 11:02 AM



“ *European Sympathy Dish Garden was purchased for the family of Joe Rydstrom.*



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January 01, 2015 at 10:55 AM

RH

“ *1 file added to the album New Album Name*



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**Ron HOWard** - December 31, 2014 at 08:49 PM

RH

“ I was so sorry to about your loss of Joe. He was a special person in my life. Joe was one of my best friends growing up (we lived across the street from each other). I remember playing together in our gravel pile with trucks, graders and making roads, in their playhouse, then football and baseball. I remember when my Dad passed away, Joe was the first one to greet me, other than family. He drove into the yard, told me he had been waiting for me and, with tears in his eyes gave me a big hug. Then after the services he drove my kids back to Omaha to catch a plane home. A lot of good times, some special times. The video tribute, especially the younger pictures of him and Linda and the kids brought back memories of when I knew him. I stopped by on a visit to Mom several years ago and saw Joe and Linda and enjoyed a nice visit. I've stopped by most of my trips back but never could catch them at home. After watching the video I understood, looked like they spent a lot of time away from home. On a lighter note, noticed his selection of hats/caps in the video, loved them. Linda, having lost a spouse I know the loss you feel, although I know they are different because we knew Paula's cancer was terminal. My heart goes out to you and I hope you and the family can find solace in the memories, joys and love you shared together. My thoughts and prayers are with you and your family.

Ron Howard

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**Ron HOward** - December 31, 2014 at 08:47 PM

BB

“ Our hearts go out to Joe's family, we're all really going to miss the good times sharing with Joe!! What a great person he was! I was always glad to see Joe & Bob talking & sharing about old times of working together!! We all loved the picnics & get togethers with Pauline & Iva. Heaven received another Angel !! We miss you already Joe, til we meet again, we all loved Joe!!

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**Bob & Vicki Baker** - December 31, 2014 at 03:27 PM



“ *White Sympathy Baskets was purchased for the family of Joe Rydstrom.*



December 30, 2014 at 11:30 AM



“ *2 files added to the tribute wall*



**Fratzke & Jensen Funeral Homes** - December 30, 2014 at 10:52 AM



“ *I remember Joe delivering groceries when he worked for Hakes. He was the best delivery driver they had. I loved unloading the truck and talking with him as he placed our order-box by box-on the old roller extensions. He always had a nice way about him. I feel lucky to have known him. My deepest sympathies to his family! I have some old photos of Joe crawling around on top of the boxes in his truck. I will try and find them and send them to you if you would like.*

*Paul Benson*

**Paul Benson** - December 30, 2014 at 08:02 AM

DI

“ 1 file added to the album *Memories Album*



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**Dee Ingalls** - December 29, 2014 at 06:41 PM