



John Elmer Owen

March 8, 1941 - August 31, 2020

John E. Owen, age 79, of Storm Lake, Iowa died Monday, August 31, 2020 at the Good Samaritan Society of Newell.

A Time of Gathering will take place Saturday, September 5, 2020 from 10 a.m. -- noon at the Buena Vista University Golf Course at Lake Creek. Burial will be in the Storm Lake Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, a memorial fund has been established. The Fratzke & Jensen Funeral Home in Storm Lake is in charge of the arrangements.

John Elmer Owen was born March 8, 1941 in Storm Lake, Iowa the son of Elmer "Buck" and Jayn (Mittelstadt) Owen.

Growing up, John attended West Elementary School and graduated from Storm Lake High School. Following high school graduation, John attended Buena Vista College where he earned a degree in Business.

On May 2, 1964, John was united in marriage to Jean Merten in Odebolt, Iowa. Together, they were blessed with three children: Beth, John and Amy.

John was a member of Lake Creek Country Club. In his spare time, he enjoyed golfing, fishing, hunting and going to coffee club. John loved watching sports, especially the Iowa Hawkeyes and New York Yankees. He was known as a jokester and enjoyed pulling pranks on others. John treasured spending time with family and friends and attending his children and grandchildren's sporting events. He will be deeply missed by all who knew and loved him.

Those left to cherish his memory include his wife, Jean Owen of Storm Lake, Iowa; children: Beth (Tom) Manthe of Chaska, Minnesota; John (Jody) Owen of Brookings, South Dakota; Amy (Darren) Jesse of Storm Lake, Iowa; grandchildren: Owen and Claire Manthe; Lauryn and Luke Jesse; brother, Tom (Maria) Owen of New Mexico; sister, Sandra Owen Campell of North Carolina; numerous family members; sisters-in-law; brothers-in-law; nieces; nephews; and many friends.

John was preceded in death by his parents, Buck and Jayn Owen; parents-in-law, Clela Merten Miller and Herman Merten; and extended family members.

Cemetery Details

Storm Lake Cemetery

Storm Lake, IA 50588

Previous Events

Time of Gathering

SEP 5. 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM (CT)

Buena Vista University Golf Course at Lake Creek
1 Clubhouse Drive
Storm Lake, IA 50588

Tribute Wall



“ *Fratzke & Jensen Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of John Elmer Owen*



Fratzke & Jensen Funeral Home - September 04, 2020 at 03:08 PM

JF

“ *Late to this party but my Uncle John was one of the funniest people I've known. Like his father he put on a front of gruffness and "all bark but no bite." He loved his children and grandchildren fiercely and his marriage to my beautiful Aunt Jean was one of the greatest loves of all time. The two of them raised amazing children. He was so warm and welcoming and would do most anything for people. He had a million friends. Our politics differed but that was ok. What a loss for the world.*

Jennifer Fahey - December 08, 2025 at 09:53 AM



“ *Floor Plant for Sympathy was purchased for the family of John Elmer Owen.*



September 08, 2020 at 09:14 AM

BE

“ *Very sorry to hear about John's passing. I to love John's humor. I remember him has good husband and father. He also loved his dogs. John was also one of the best golfers in the area and a fierce competitor. We miss you John.*

Bill Ericksen - September 07, 2020 at 02:30 PM

TO

“ 1 file added to the album LifeTributes



Tom Owen - September 06, 2020 at 08:08 PM

DF

“ I have known John for many years. We golfed, bowled, and played softball together. We had so many laughs that it's impossible to count. Our family will deeply miss him. My condolences to all his family on their loss. Darrell Eddie family

Darrell Eddie family - September 06, 2020 at 02:18 PM

PO

“ John was a great guy always joking around and asking how you'd been, he will be missed.



Pat O'Leary - September 05, 2020 at 07:21 PM

CT

“ Chad And Becky Triplett lit a candle in memory of John Elmer Owen



Chad and Becky Triplett - September 05, 2020 at 03:40 PM

WT

“ Wilbur/Karen Triplett lit a candle in memory of John Elmer Owen



Wilbur/Karen Triplett - September 05, 2020 at 09:52 AM



“ 183 files added to the album LifeTributes



Fratzke & Jensen Funeral Home - September 04, 2020 at 02:58 PM

DH

“ I have many school day memories of John.
My sincere prayers are with his family.
Dick Hout

Dick Hout - September 04, 2020 at 12:38 PM

JF

“ Jeff/Jen Fulcher lit a candle in memory of John Elmer Owen



Jeff/Jen Fulcher - September 04, 2020 at 12:08 PM

DH

“ Duane And Eldona Hornor lit a candle in memory of John Elmer Owen



Duane and Eldona Hornor - September 04, 2020 at 11:21 AM

RP

“ Sorry to hear about John's passing. So many great memories on the golf course.
Tie your shoes John, you just birdied heaven.

Rick Petzoldt - September 03, 2020 at 08:52 PM

KM

“ *Kraig & Jamie Kessler, Dick & Patti Moore purchased the Healing Tears - All White for the family of John Elmer Owen.*



Kraig & Jamie Kessler, Dick & Patti Moore - September 03, 2020 at 06:47 PM

KT

“ *So sorry to here of John's passing. I had many an enjoyable pheasant hunt with John and Phil. Kim Triggs*

Kim Triggs - September 03, 2020 at 05:22 PM

RW

“ *So sorry to hear of John's passing . Can remember bowling against him many times at the Storm Lake Bowl, and also when he worked for my Dad and Uncle as well. Rest in peace, John !*

Robert Wetherell - September 03, 2020 at 03:10 PM

DK

“ *Diane Kenny lit a candle in memory of John Elmer Owen*



Diane Kenny - September 03, 2020 at 12:45 PM

DI

“ *Doug And Coleen Imming lit a candle in memory of John Elmer Owen*



Doug and Coleen Imming - September 03, 2020 at 08:59 AM

RL

“ *Please accept my sympathy, many memories at the Owen house!*

Rona Foster Loss - September 02, 2020 at 10:01 PM

BS

“ We are sorry for your last but also happy for John’s gain by being with the Lord. Tony shares many memories of fun times they shared. Tony and barb schons

Barb Schons - September 02, 2020 at 09:19 PM

MK

“ Mike & Connie Kahnke lit a candle in memory of John Elmer Owen



Mike & Connie Kahnke - September 02, 2020 at 03:00 PM

SV

“ So sorry to here of John's passing. It was fun working with him at City Hall. Had a lot of laughs and memories. Hope you find comfort knowing he will be missed by all.

Sue Vossberg - September 02, 2020 at 02:13 PM

PG

“ SO SORRY TO HEAR OF JOHN'S PASSING. WE HAVE BEEN AT OUR KIDS AND HAD NOT HEARD. HE WENT TO SOON, EVEN IN HIS SUFFERING. OUR THOUGHTS & PRAYERS ARE WITH YOU JEAN & ALL THE FAMILY. PEACE TO ALL.



LOVE, LARY & PATTY GUNVILLE

PATTY GUNVILLE - September 02, 2020 at 12:37 PM

AK

“ Adam/Angie Kutz lit a candle in memory of John Elmer Owen



Adam/Angie Kutz - September 02, 2020 at 11:33 AM

TC

“ I will really miss his humor.....followed by his great,"quick smile"....so sorry your hearts are brokenbut heaven is already laughing with him. God Bless John

Tim/Pegi Cavanaugh - September 02, 2020 at 11:11 AM

PA

“ Peg Anderson lit a candle in memory of John Elmer Owen



Peg Anderson - September 02, 2020 at 10:57 AM

DB

“ Sorry to hear of John’s passing. Our families had many laughs and good memories together. John was a wonderful friend and will be missed.

Dean and Linda Boettcher - September 02, 2020 at 10:25 AM

MM

“ So sorry to hear of John’s passing. We had a lot of good times and laughs at City Hall when he read meters for me. May he Rest In Peace and hoping all of you find comfort in all the wonderful memories of a John.

Marlys Martin

Marlys Martin - September 01, 2020 at 10:04 PM



SM

“ Steph/Sharon Mickelson lit a candle in memory of John Elmer Owen



Steph/Sharon Mickelson - September 01, 2020 at 07:48 PM

JD

“ John/Connie Demers lit a candle in memory of John Elmer Owen



John/Connie Demers - September 01, 2020 at 06:19 PM

DJ

“ *Deb And Kevin Jesse lit a candle in memory of John Elmer Owen*



Deb and Kevin Jesse - September 01, 2020 at 05:47 PM

CR

“ *Connie Roche lit a candle in memory of John Elmer Owen*



Connie Roche - September 01, 2020 at 05:02 PM

DM

“ *Dave, Deb, Logan & Jenna Merten lit a candle in memory of John Elmer Owen*



Dave, Deb, Logan & Jenna Merten - September 01, 2020 at 03:53 PM

PS

So many remembered conversations and hilarious times with John starting with his bowling at the legendary Melody Lanes in the early 70's. Always a smile along with some humorous comment. Hadn't seen him in many years but will always cherish his friendship. On we go big John. Blessings to your family and loved ones. Phil

Phil Stough - September 05, 2020 at 02:50 PM