



Jon Kruse

August 5, 1949 - March 4, 2024

Jon F. Kruse, age 74, of Storm Lake, Iowa died March 4, 2024 at Methodist Manor Retirement Community in Storm Lake after a battle with cancer.

Funeral Mass will take place Saturday, March 9, 2024 at 10:30 a.m. at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Storm Lake. Burial will be in the church cemetery. Visitation will take place Friday, March 8, 2024 from 6-8:00 p.m. at the Fratzke & Jensen Funeral Home in Storm Lake with a vigil service at 7:30 p.m. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be directed to the local Buena Vista County Ducks Unlimited c/o Travis Bethune: 1868 600th St. Newell, Iowa 50568. The Fratzke & Jensen Funeral Home in Storm Lake is in charge of the arrangements.

Jon Freddy Kruse was born August 5, 1949 at Spencer Municipal Hospital to John and Fredricka (Shepard) Kruse of Marathon, Iowa. Throughout his school years, Jon was active in sports and music. He graduated from Marathon High School then went on to attend Buena Vista University in Storm Lake, Iowa. He graduated with a double major in Math and Physics, an Iowa teaching certification, and a minor in accounting.

Jon was united in marriage to Colleen Reis on September 11, 1969 at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Storm Lake, Iowa. They were blessed with three children: Lance, Kimberly, and Gregory.

From 1975 to 2000, Jon worked at Bil Mar Foods in Storm Lake where he started as Supervisor then Plant Engineer. In 2000, Jon began his career with Walling Water Management of Sioux Falls, South Dakota. He retired in 2012. In 2014, Jon began his next venture as owner and operator of Lake Inspection Service, LLC. He also acquired his Iowa Substitute Teacher License and enjoyed teaching all ages.

Jon will be remembered for his leadership roles and contributions to the city of Storm Lake. He served as a Storm Lake City Council member for ten years and Storm Lake Mayor for 18 years, with his last term ending on December 31, 2017. Jon served as President of Northwest Iowa League of Cities, member of Northwest Iowa Planning and Development Commission, Chairman of the Buena Vista County Emergency Management Commission, and Chairman of Buena Vista County Trails Advisory Council. He also served as president of Rotary International.

Jon was an outdoor enthusiast. He enjoyed all types of hunting and fishing, trapping, camping, boating and wildlife viewing. Jon also enjoyed volunteering for various organizations, including the Buena Vista Swan Restoration Committee and Ducks Unlimited. He played an integral part in the startup of the Walleye egg gathering in Storm Lake with Iowa DNR Fisheries Biologist, Lannie Miller. He continued to help with netting and egg harvest for over thirty years. Jon's service to his community will never be forgotten.

Left to cherish Jon's memory include his beloved wife: Colleen Kruse; children: Lance (Stacey) Kruse; Kimberly (Joe) Gaubatz; Gregory (Crystal) Kruse; grandchildren: Damon (Shelby) Kruse; Garrett (Skylar) Kruse; Wyatt Kruse; Gabby Gaubatz; Grady Gaubatz; great grandchildren: Emery, Ava, Ivy, and Leo Kruse; brother: Barry Kruse; sister: Cindy (Eric) Parrish; numerous nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents: John and Fredricka (Shepard) Kruse.

Cemetery Details

St. Mary's Catholic Cemetery

1238 600th St.
Storm Lake, IA 50588

Previous Events

Visitation

MAR 8. 6:00 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>

Vigil Service

MAR 8. 7:30 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 Mass

MAR 9. 10:30 AM (CT)

St. Mary's Catholic Church -- Storm Lake
320 Seneca Street
Storm Lake, IA

Tribute Wall

BE

“ Colleen, I am so sorry about Jon's passing. I was really praying that Jon was going to beat cancer. Hugs to you and your family. Jon was so much fun to visit with. He was a very interesting and intelligent man. Rest well Jon.



Barbara June Evans - March 10, 2024 at 04:19 PM

NB

“ We always enjoyed time spent visiting at our Christmas tree farm with Jon and Colleen. They always came on a day not too busy so we had time for a chat. Rest in peace, Jon! Neal and Marie Bork

Neal and Marie Bork - March 09, 2024 at 09:32 AM

FM

“ I am sorry to learn of Jon's passing. I enjoyed working with him during his time in city government. I extend my deepest sympathy to his family.,

Fred Moore - March 09, 2024 at 06:22 AM

KH

“ So many memories shared with an amazing friend!

Keith Helland - March 08, 2024 at 09:10 PM



“ *Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Jon Kruse.*



March 08, 2024 at 01:40 PM



“ *Wayne & Nicki Martin planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Jon Kruse.*

Wayne & Nicki Martin - March 08, 2024 at 01:40 PM



“ *Colleen, Lance, Kim & Greg,*

I was deeply saddened to hear about Jon's passing. Please accept my heartfelt condolences during this difficult time. My thoughts and prayers are with you and your family. Jon was a vibrant and influential man whose dedication and passion were truly inspiring. He was not just a husband and father but a pillar of the community and a leader in every sense of the word. I remember how he worked tirelessly to make a positive impact on Ducks Unlimited and the environment. His legacy will undoubtedly live on through the countless lives he touched and the memories created. May you find comfort in those memories.

With Heartfelt Sympathy,

Tammy Spooner

Tammy Spooner McKeever - March 08, 2024 at 09:27 AM

DH

“ I want Jon.Kruse...to rest with,JESUS..are lord....see you in heaven,,,,jesusus,love..... YOU,jon rest easy,,,,,,love

David Hibbs - March 06, 2024 at 09:03 PM

SF

“ Such memories of our times with DU. Such fun going to national conventions. But, the best have been our times at the lake. Jon, you will be missed but never forgotten.

Sue and Frank - March 06, 2024 at 06:09 PM

TF

“ The CarMax Family purchased the Loving Lilies and Roses Bouquet for the family of Jon Kruse.



The CarMax Family - March 06, 2024 at 06:06 PM

TF

“ From: The CarMax Family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Jon Kruse.

The CarMax Family - March 06, 2024 at 06:06 PM



“ Medium Dish Garden was purchased for the family of Jon Kruse.



March 06, 2024 at 05:02 PM



“ *Crystal Cross Bouquet was purchased for the family of Jon Kruse.*



March 06, 2024 at 04:52 PM



“ *Christine Thomas and Ducks Unlimited CPC purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Jon Kruse.*



Christine Thomas and Ducks Unlimited CPC - March 06, 2024 at 03:49 PM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Jon Kruse.*



March 06, 2024 at 01:14 PM



“ *Iowa Ducks Unlimited planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Jon Kruse.*

Iowa Ducks Unlimited - March 06, 2024 at 01:14 PM

BT

“ *Bill and Teresa Townsend purchased the Medium Dish Garden for the family of Jon Kruse.*



Bill and Teresa Townsend - March 06, 2024 at 08:40 AM

BT

“ *Bill and Teresa Townsend planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Jon Kruse.*

Bill and Teresa Townsend - March 06, 2024 at 08:40 AM

SM

“ *R.I.P my friend. There are lots of ducks in heaven.*



Steph/Sharon Mickelson - March 06, 2024 at 08:10 AM