



Mark E. Sorbe

October 13, 1951 - December 1, 2022

Mark “Sorb” Sorbe of Lakeside passed away Thursday, December 1st at Sanford Medical Center in Sioux Falls, SD.

Funeral services will take place Wednesday, December 7, 2022 at 2:00 p.m. at St. Paul Lutheran Church in Alta, Iowa. Burial will be in the Elk Township Cemetery in rural Alta. Visitation will take place Tuesday, December 6, 2022 from 5-7:00 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.

Mark Eldon Sorbe was born October 13, 1951, to Eldon and Shirley (Deppe) Sorbe in Storm Lake. He graduated from Alta High School before attending Mankato State and Buena Vista College.

Mark’s name was synonymous with farming, and he was deeply involved with agriculture from when he climbed on his first tractor as a boy – where he learned the value of hard work and commitment to family – until his last season in the field. A steward of the land and a competitor to beat at a tractor pull, Sorb had a connection to the land and a passion for the farming life that is a rare find today.

A man of many talents and interests, he could – and would – strike up a

conversation with literally anyone, leaving his audience a little wiser and probably with a new friend in his wake. Through his quiet way, Sorb made many friends throughout his life and valued each of them.

Sorb firmly believed his greatest achievement was his family. In his final days, he was surrounded by a constant presence of his family, all of whom had a special and cherished relationship with him.

Nothing made him prouder than watching and sharing the athletic exploits of his sons, probably the only athletes that he paid more attention to than his beloved Iowa Hawkeyes. Some of his fondest memories were taking his grandchildren on their maiden boat ride around the lake, while some of his most challenging were also on the lake as he patiently and graciously played cruise director for The Elements crew. By land or water, Mark could be spotted from a distance, with the Hawkeye flag on the boat and, usually, a strawberry blond riding shotgun in the truck – one of the many golden retrievers who were loyal companions and copilots through the years.

Mark was an unfailing cheerleader of his wife, Kathy, and a strong supporter of her store's expansion into Ankeny. His tireless work, sharp insight and encouragement was integral to The Elements' success today and in the future.

Mark was preceded in death by his parents and aunts Faye Gates and Florence Preston.

Left to cherish his memory are his wife, Kathy, children Nick Sorbe, his wife Cali and their children Tyson, Chase, Sydni, Sierra and Hudson; son Adam, his wife Katie and daughter Brooke; stepsons Tim Limbert, his wife Kari and sons Peter and Jon, and Mike Koth and wife Tammy, as well as his sister Tracy Norman, her husband Ross, and brother-in-law Mike Pace and his wife

Gail.

A favorite movie of Sorb's, Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid, contains the line "Well, the way I figure it, we can fight or give up." After receiving a diagnosis of glioblastoma, Sorb chose to fight, defying expectations and embracing time with his family that included trips, houseboats and other adventures.

Mark was known for his sharp sense of humor and was always funny, poignant and knew that life's serious moments always require a laugh, and maybe, a stop at Puffs. His memory will live on in the hearts of his children, grandchildren and all those who knew him well.

Cemetery Details

Elk Township Cemetery -- Alta

Alta, IA

Previous Events

Visitation

DEC 6. 5:00 PM - 7:00 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

DEC 7. 2:00 PM (CT)

St. Paul Lutheran Church -- Alta
405 Division Street
Alta, IA 51002

Tribute Wall



“ *Fratzke & Jensen Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Mark E. Sorbe*



Fratzke & Jensen Funeral Home - December 06, 2022 at 10:48 AM

CP

“ *We are so sorry to hear of Mark’s battle with his health and his passing! It seemed we always lived too far away from Mark and Kathy to get really well acquainted with Mark. We know from communicating with Mike Pace, that Mark was a wonderful man! Our thoughts and prayers are with Kathy (our niece) her sons and stepsons during these times of pain and grief. May God Comfort Them! Uncle Cecil and Aunt Donna Pace*

Cecil & Donna Pace - December 07, 2022 at 11:18 AM

AK

“ *Adam Angie Kutz lit a candle in memory of Mark Sorbe*



Adam and Angie Kutz - December 06, 2022 at 05:23 PM



“ *Be My Love Bouquet with Red Roses was purchased for the family of Mark E. Sorbe.*



December 06, 2022 at 10:06 AM



“ *We met Mark when our son, Tyler and his, Nick played AAU basketball together. He was just so nice all the time and we very much enjoyed spending time with him, Kathy and the boys. Sending hugs and prayers to you all. He will be missed!*

Glenn and Shelly Reichle - December 05, 2022 at 10:10 PM



“ *Dreams From the Heart Bouquet was purchased for the family of Mark E. Sorbe.*



December 05, 2022 at 04:43 PM



“ *Small Garden Dish was purchased for the family of Mark E. Sorbe.*



December 05, 2022 at 04:19 PM

RI

“ Rod's Fertilizer & Sales, Inc. purchased the Delightful Dieffenbachia for the family of Mark E. Sorbe.



Rod's Fertilizer & Sales, Inc. - December 05, 2022 at 02:55 PM



“ Dreams From the Heart Bouquet was purchased for the family of Mark E. Sorbe.



December 05, 2022 at 02:00 PM

MW

“ I'm sorry to hear about the passing of Mark. I got to know him years ago when Andy and Nick were playing either baseball or basketball. Over the years whenever we would run into each other the first thing he wanted to know was how was Andy doing. He was just so easy to talk to and laugh at one of his jokes. Sadly, the same disease that got Mark, also took Jean. My sincere condolences to Kathy, the boys, and everyone connected to his extended family.

Michael D Whitlatch - December 05, 2022 at 01:17 PM

MP

“ Sorb and I didn't have a lot in common, on the surface. But, nobody could have asked for a better brother-in-law. Although I know nothing about farming, he and I had a great laugh, when I pulled up the number of a new model John Deere tractor that I had read about on a voice-over project. He got the biggest kick out of it. We shared a love of sports and he had an impressive grasp of the basketball and football games we both enjoyed.

He was such a great husband to Kathy...unconditional love and it showed. And to say he was a proud dad and grandfather would be a huge understatement. We were always 3 hours away and never spent as much time together as I wished, but I was proud to know him and be part of his family.

Mike Pace - West Des Moines, Iowa

Mike Pace - December 05, 2022 at 10:48 AM

TS

“ Thinking of you..Tammy & Dave Schwartz purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of Mark E. Sorbe.



Thinking of you..Tammy & Dave Schwartz - December 05, 2022 at 10:27 AM

CD

“ Cheryl David DeMan lit a candle in memory of Mark Sorbe



Cheryl & David DeMan - December 05, 2022 at 07:46 AM

DS

“ Dave/Donna Stanton lit a candle in memory of Mark Sorbe



Dave/Donna Stanton - December 04, 2022 at 05:37 PM



“ Florist Choice Bouquet was purchased for the family of Mark E. Sorbe.



December 04, 2022 at 05:17 PM

MG

“ Mark Candy Galbraith lit a candle in memory of Mark Sorbe



Mark & Candy Galbraith - December 03, 2022 at 06:03 PM

PF

“ Peg Flynn lit a candle in memory of Mark Sorbe



Peg Flynn - December 03, 2022 at 03:03 PM

DL

“ We have been so lucky to have had our wonderful friendship with Sorb over the years!

He was the best dad that Nick and Adam could have ever had on the planet. I know that because I taught them and Mark was there for his sons whenever they needed anything. I also remember him taking them out of school in the fall to go to a Hawkeye football game! He's also been there for his stepsons, Tim and Mike plus the Grandkids.

I love thinking of all of our enjoyable times that we had together on the lake with Kathy and Sorb! Especially when you'd pick Al and I up at the Marina and we'd just ride around on the lake and enjoy our evening together in his Cobalt.

He was proud to tell us that he had to buy a bigger boat for his growing family!

He was planning to bring it to Lake Havasu here in Arizona this winter.

He was always giving me a bad time and one of his favorite stories was the time he let me ride in his new John Deere planter. He tells how straight all the rows were except for when he let me steer the planter. (Hahaha, it drove him crazy to see those crooked rows). He said it was a good thing it wasn't close to the road because he didn't want everyone to think he did that. I loved it!

You have a beautiful family complete with wonderful grandkids! They have so many of your excellent traits. I know you have had trials and tribulations the last couple of years, but you've handled it beautifully with help from Kathy, your family, and friends. You've been a pillar of strength to us all and for that we thank you!

We will all miss Sorb but will remember you in so many ways. May you be at peace, until we meet again!

*Love,
Dee, Brad, and Blake Lewis*

Dee Lewis - December 03, 2022 at 03:02 PM



“ *Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Mark E. Sorbe.*



December 03, 2022 at 09:41 AM



“ *John Connie Demers lit a candle in memory of Mark Sorbe*



John and Connie Demers - December 03, 2022 at 08:13 AM



“ *Wilbur Karen Triplett lit a candle in memory of Mark Sorbe*



Wilbur and Karen Triplett - December 03, 2022 at 06:24 AM



“ *Enchanted Cottage was purchased for the family of Mark E. Sorbe.*



December 03, 2022 at 12:20 AM



“ *Blue Caribbean Bouquet was purchased for the family of Mark E. Sorbe.*



December 02, 2022 at 10:21 PM



“ *So sorry Kathy for your loss.*

janice molgaard - December 02, 2022 at 08:28 PM



“ *Condolences to the entire Mark Sorbe family. Prayers for healing at this difficult time from Charlie, Angie and Cody Grienke*

ANGELA GRIENKE - December 02, 2022 at 08:08 PM

RS

“ *Mark was truly one the good guys. Such a caring soul for his family and friends. We were so fortunate to meet Mark and Kathy when they began to plan their Ankeny store. Watching them complete that dream was a privilege. His courageous battle these many months was admirable. Rest In Peace Mark.*
Luann and Ron Sampson

Ron and Luann Sampson - December 02, 2022 at 07:42 PM