



## Melvin Suhr

December 24, 1928 - October 22, 2018

Melvin Suhr, age 89, of Storm Lake, Iowa died October 22, 2018 in Sioux City, Iowa.

Memorial services will be held Friday, October 26, 2018 at 10:00 a.m. at St. Mark Lutheran Church in Storm Lake. Burial service will be held on Friday, October 26, 2018 at Fremont Lutheran Church in rural Essex, Iowa at 4:00 p.m. with inurnment in Mount Hope Cemetery in rural Essex, Iowa. Visitation will take place Thursday, October 25, 2018 from 5-7:00 p.m. at the Fratzke & Jensen Funeral Home in STORM LAKE. In lieu of flowers, the family requests memorials be given to Lutheran Lakeside Camp, 2491 170th St. Spirit Lake, Iowa 51360 or Companion Synod c/o Western Iowa Synod, 318 E 5th St. Storm Lake, Iowa 50588. The Fratzke & Jensen Funeral Home in Storm Lake is in charge of the arrangements.

Melvin Carl Suhr, the son of Carl and Lillie (Eck) Suhr, was born on December 24, 1928 in Wausa, Nebraska. Melvin was baptized, confirmed, and raised in the Lutheran faith.

Mel attended grade school in Wausa and graduated from Bloomfield High School in 1946 in Bloomfield, Nebraska.

He furthered his education after high school at Luther College and Dana

College, both in Nebraska. Melvin graduated with his degree in Theology in 1958 from Augustana Seminary in Rock Island, Illinois.

On June 22, 1963, Mel was united in marriage to Carole Quitno in Rockford, Illinois. The couple was blessed with two children, Phillip and Martha.

Mel served as pastor of First Lutheran Church in Centerville, Iowa for 14 years and 28 years at Fremont Lutheran in Red Oak, Iowa. During that time, he also served Tabor Lutheran in Stanton, Iowa for 16 years. He was a member of a Synod board, President of the Lutheran Lakeside Bible Camp Board, President of the Iowa Luther League, and volunteered with 4-H, Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts. He had a special love for St. Mark's Companion Congregation, Lupembe Lutheran Parish in Tanzania.

In his free time, Mel loved travelling, camping, hiking and photography. He travelled to all 50 states, Tanzania, and Switzerland. He developed a strong love for nature through photography. Some of his photos even won awards and he would show his photographs at nursing homes.

Those left to cherish his memory include his wife of 55 years, Carole of Storm Lake, Iowa; his children, Phillip Suhr and Martha (Robert) Miller both of Naples, Florida; brothers: Ken (Dee) Suhr of Cottonwood, Arizona; Vernon (Mardell) Suhr of Miltona, Minnesota; Robert (Sue) Suhr of Lockhaven, Pennsylvania; grandchild, Chelsey (Chris) Weech of Chicago, Illinois; AFS son, Martino (Ilir) Stierli of New York City, New York; and his nieces and nephews who held a special place in his heart.

Mel was preceded in death by his parents and step-mother, Isa Holst Suhr

# Previous Events

## Visitation

OCT **25**. 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>

## Memorial Service

OCT **26**. 10:00 AM (CT)

St. Mark's Lutheran Church -- Storm Lake  
1614 West 5th Street  
Storm Lake, IA 50588  
<http://www.stmarkstormlake.com/>

## Graveside Service

OCT **26**. 4:00 PM (CT)

Fremont Lutheran Church  
1147 Ironwood Ave  
Essex, IA 51638

# Tribute Wall



“ *Fratzke & Jensen Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Melvin Suhr*



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**Fratzke & Jensen Funeral Home** - October 25, 2018 at 10:53 AM

SK

“ *Pastor Suhr was a guiding influence in my life as well as in the lives of a number of young people in our community. I recently found letters that he had written to my sister who was estranged from our family at the time. Pipe maintained contact with her and provided her comfort and refuge, all in his quiet but very effective way.*

*I offer my deepest thoughts to Carole and family. Pastor Suhr touched us in a way that will always be remembered.*

*Sam Knowles  
Goodyear, AZ*

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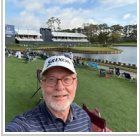
**Sam Knowles** - November 05, 2018 at 12:34 PM

SN

“ *Mel was a very giving, talented and interesting gentleman. He will be missed by so many whose lives he touched in such a positive way.*

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**Sheila Neuroth** - October 27, 2018 at 10:16 AM

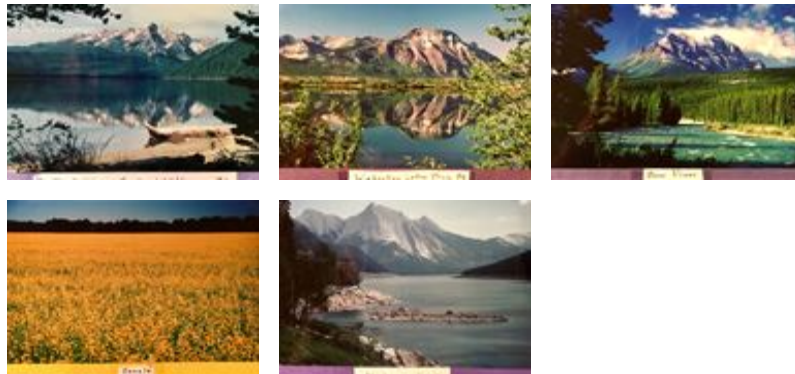


“ I much enjoyed Mel's video, which is a great photo display of the places he loved and which he and Carole visited. His intense interest in nature and beauty and photography are inspiring, and the images remind me how important it is to pay attention to the world around you no matter your age. Mel was intensely interested in the world and delighted in its beauty. He will be missed.

Bruce Ellingson - October 25, 2018 at 12:51 PM



“ 154 files added to the album LifeTributes



Fratzke & Jensen Funeral Home - October 25, 2018 at 09:47 AM



“ 2 files added to the album Memories Album



Fratzke & Jensen Funeral Home - October 25, 2018 at 09:27 AM

NL

“ God will wrap His arms around Mel on his way home. Prayers of comfort for Carole and family. I will miss our Sunday morning "chats".  
Nancy Ledoux

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**Nancy Ledoux** - October 23, 2018 at 05:41 PM

JD

“ John And Connie Demers lit a candle in memory of Melvin Suhr



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**John and Connie Demers** - October 23, 2018 at 02:25 PM

JD

*Our thoughts and prayers go out to Carole and the family. I enjoyed folding bulletins with him at St. Mark. May the special memories you have help you through this difficult time. RIP Mel*

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**John and Connie Demers** - October 25, 2018 at 03:04 PM

 Kris  
Koestner

“ *Pastor "Pipe" took us kids on his and Carole's honeymoon ...it was something he did for each of his confirmation classes. We were happy he got married...went to wedding but were immediately concerned we would miss out on the annual trip...he assured us we could go and we took 2 cars ...his Rambler and I'm sure Carole car....he was like a big brother and dad all rolled into one with us...I remember well the talk he caused wearing Bermuda shorts back in the day...he was a Preacher...loved taking pictures and loved singing in choir with him...He was the first to bring a young black Simon Estes to sing in our church and how I remember the midnight service telling us about NO Santa Claus...wow...he presided over my Uncle Wally and my grandma's funeral. He was really close to them...I hope he has a good reunion with all of the Saint's at First Lutheran church Centerville...where he started his path to the Promise Land*

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**Kris Koestner** - October 23, 2018 at 01:48 PM

SS

“ *We send our deepest sympathy to you, Carole and family! Thoughts and prayers coming your way!*  
*Mike & Sharon*

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**sharon shull** - October 23, 2018 at 09:07 AM