



## Orlando Henry Leimer

September 6, 1932 - April 1, 2024

Orlando Henry Leimer, 91, of Albert City, Iowa, went to be with his Savior on April 1, 2024.

Funeral services will take place Monday, April 8, 2024 at 10:30 a.m. at Zion Lutheran Church in rural Storm Lake, Iowa. Burial will follow in the Zion Lutheran Cemetery. Visitation will be held on Sunday, April 7, 2024 from 3-6:00 p.m. at the Fratzke & Jensen Funeral Home in STORM LAKE. In lieu of flowers, memorial gifts may be directed to the family, who will distribute financial gifts to their chosen charities. The Fratzke & Jensen Funeral Home in Storm Lake is in charge of the arrangements.

Orlando Henry Leimer, son of Henry and Golda (Wascher) Leimer, was born on September 6, 1932 in The Grove, Texas. Orlando was baptized at St. Paul Lutheran Church in The Grove, where his father served as a Lutheran school teacher and organist. In 1938, his father accepted a call to teach at a Lutheran school in Hanover, Kansas, where Orlando started school. The family moved to rural Storm Lake, Iowa in 1946, where his father was the principal at Zion Lutheran School. Orlando was confirmed at Zion Lutheran Church that spring.

As he grew, Orlando enjoyed music. He started playing scales and chords on the piano at the age of three, and could be heard humming throughout the day. As a teenager, he was also interested in agriculture. He attended high

school at nearby Albert City High School, and graduated in 1950. After graduation, Olie, as his family and friends called him, worked as a hired hand for a number of area farmers. He also held several construction jobs, the most notable being to help build Zion's new church building where congregants still worship today.

On November 4, 1952, Olie enlisted in the United States Army. After basic training at Camp Roberts, California, Olie attended a secret school on POW camp survival and escape at the Naval Air Station in Alameda, California. There, he was trained to be captured and then communicate his location by way of a secret code contained in letters he wrote to a fictitious young woman back in Iowa. After a three-week boat ride across the Pacific, he arrived in Pusan, Korea in June 1953. By the grace of God, Olie was never captured. After the Armistice was signed, he continued serving in Korea as a Supply Sergeant. He was honorably discharged with the rank of Sergeant First Class on September 18, 1954 and considered his service to his country as a soldier in the Korean War among his most important accomplishments. In 2015, Olie was thrilled to experience the Honor Flight to Washington, D.C.

On November 4, 1956, Olie was united in marriage to Lois Marie Rathke at Zion Lutheran Church. Olie and Lois lived a life of service to others, dedicating themselves to their Lord, their family, and their work on the farm. They were blessed with 67 wonderful years together and raised four loving children: Michael, Joni, Julie, and Jeffrey.

Olie was a life-long farmer, and studied agronomy in the early 1970s through The University of Missouri. He was an avid conservationist, and he worked diligently to preserve the precious soil and water in Buena Vista County. He was recognized with many awards for his efforts including the 2015 Iowa Farm Environmental Leader Award, which was presented to him at the Iowa State Fair.

Olie was a devoted member of Zion Lutheran Church and served in many roles including chairman, treasurer, trustee, choir director, and Synodical delegate. The role he is most likely to be remembered for, though, is his 56-year run as church organist. He served in that capacity from July 1967 to October 2023 and delighted in offering beautiful pipe organ music in praise of his Heavenly Father. Olie also served locally on the Farm Bureau board, the Truesdale Co-op board, and the Albert City-Truesdale School Board. He enjoyed playing the tuba for many years in the community bands in both Storm Lake and Albert City, and was a member of the Choraliers.

Olie enjoyed traveling and marveled at the beauty of God's creation in the United States and abroad. He enjoyed playing games and cards with his family, and was a particularly tough opponent when playing his favorite, Sheephead (Schafkopf). He loved to tease, was quick to laugh, never turned down a bowl of ice cream, and often had a twinkle in his eye. He loved spending time with his family. Olie will be missed and remembered as a loving and devoted husband, father, grandfather, brother, uncle, and friend.

Left to cherish his memory are his wife, Lois of Albert City; children Michael (Sharon) Leimer of Lee's Summit, Missouri; Joni (Keith) Boese) of Storm Lake; Julie (Douglas) Pals of Waukee, Iowa; and Jeffrey (Mary) Leimer of Sheldahl, Iowa; grandchildren David Leimer, Stephen Leimer (Madison Courtney), Joshua (Hannah) Boese, Jeremy Boese (Carlina Quintero), Madeleine (Peter) Lashier, Elizabeth Pals (Jericho Baker), Violet Leimer, and Gabrielle Leimer; great-grandchildren Clara, Alice, and Jacqueline Boese; and many other relatives and friends.

Olie was preceded in death by his parents, Henry and Golda Leimer, father-in-law and mother-in-law, Paul and Irene Rathke, his brother, Eugene Leimer, sisters-in-law Lavon Richardson and Linda Leimer, brothers-in-law Marvin

Richardson and Bill Chambers, and nephews Dennis Leimer, Randy Leimer, and Mark Leimer.

# Cemetery Details

## Zion Lutheran Cemetery

1725 555th St.  
Storm Lake, IA 50588

# Previous Events

## Visitation

APR 7. 3:00 PM - 6:00 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

APR 8. 10:30 AM (CT)

Zion Lutheran Church  
1725 555th St  
Storm Lake, IA 50588

# Tribute Wall



“ *Fratzke & Jensen Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Orlando Henry Leimer*



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**Fratzke & Jensen Funeral Home** - April 05, 2024 at 12:45 PM

GM

“ *I remember being ring-bearer and Lois and Olie's wedding - ran wailing from the church during rehearsal because the grownups were teasing me by telling me to stand on a dollar coin that wasn't there. Olie's sense of humor, I think, though I'm not sure he was involved. He was a kind and helpful man and a good speaker. So very sorry to hear of his passing.*

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**Glenn Meyer** - April 11, 2024 at 09:11 PM

VS

“ *Vicki Sorbe lit a candle in memory of Orlando Leimer*



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**Vicki (Grote) Sorbe** - April 09, 2024 at 11:41 AM

IR

“ A life well lived. I cherish the times our families spent together, especially on the 4th of July. My thoughts are with you Lois at the loss after 67 years as well as your family (especially Mike and Joni). May God grant peace to Olie’s memory, comfort to his family and grace to us all as we seek to live our lives to God’s glory. Amen - Iris Boettcher

Iris - April 07, 2024 at 07:11 PM

FH

“ 2 files added to the tribute wall



Fratzke & Jensen Funeral Home - April 06, 2024 at 03:48 PM

LB

“ Best of friends since '46 when Olie and his parents came to Zion. we did not go to same school but lived just a mile apart. Had good times in our teen yrs., went to the army the same yr., double dated and married the same yr. and met with family on the 4th for yrs. after. Great friend, will miss him. Lloyd boettcher

Lloyd Boettcher - April 06, 2024 at 12:37 AM

TF

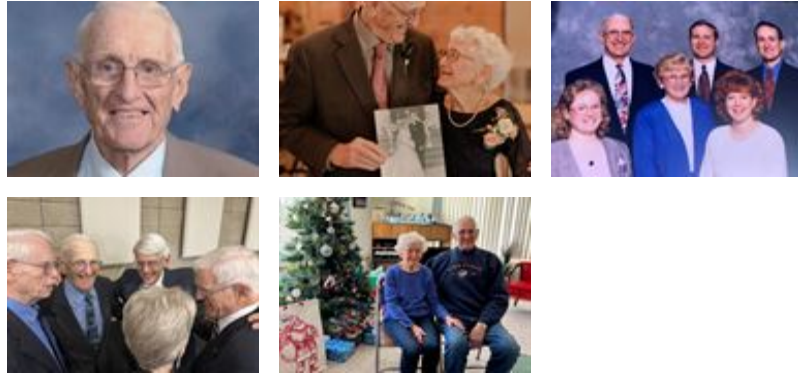
“ The Real Life Church family purchased the Arrive in Style for the family of Orlando Henry Leimer.



The Real Life Church family - April 05, 2024 at 01:47 PM



“ 250 files added to the album LifeTributes



Fratzke & Jensen Funeral Home - April 05, 2024 at 12:37 PM

WT

“ Deepest sympathy to the family of Orlando Leimer. May he rest in peace.



Wilbur/Karen Triplett - April 05, 2024 at 09:43 AM

CD

“ Cheryl DeMan lit a candle in memory of Orlando Leimer



Cheryl DeMan - April 04, 2024 at 08:16 AM

KC

“ I have so much respect for your husband, Dad, Grandfather, “Olie” as I grew up calling him. My Dad was the pastor at Zion for years - Ed Lichtsinn, and I know he referred to Olie as his friend. He loved working with Olie as the music director for church services, and so appreciated how he could make that pipe organ sing! Olie allowed me to get my start as a church organist, he taught me a lot. He first had me play so he could go down to take communion, and then I gradually was able to take over when he wanted a Sunday off. He was a very talented organist. I continued playing for many years, often doing weddings and funerals at Zion as well. I remember having to share practice time on Zion church organ - making sure I wasn't there when he needed to be. Because of Olie's influence (and my Dad), I went on to take organ lessons at Seward College during a summer workshop, then later at UNI in Cedar Falls IA. I was church organist there many years, and then in Council Bluffs where I lived after graduating from college. I also played for churches in Ft Dodge, then Cedar Rapids when we moved there - so Olie was a huge influence in my life. I last visited with him when he came to the funeral for both my Dad (2012) in Storm Lake, and then my Mom a year later. I'm sure he and Dad are both singing in a beautiful heavenly choir now, perhaps Olie has a pipe organ to play there as well.

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**Karen Clark** - April 03, 2024 at 12:27 PM

LL

*Thank you Karen for sharing this! I would never have known this. I am thankful that he had a part in your life to make you enjoy playing and praising God. Lois Leimer*

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**Lois Leimer** - April 04, 2024 at 09:31 PM

CR

“ *connie roche lit a candle in memory of Orlando Leimer*



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**connie roche** - April 02, 2024 at 05:26 PM

DJ

“ *Deb Kevin Jesse lit a candle in memory of Orlando Leimer*



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**Deb and Kevin Jesse** - April 02, 2024 at 04:12 PM