



Ralph S. Tripp

April 24, 1936 - January 31, 2026

Ralph S. Tripp, age 89, of Schaller, Iowa died January 31, 2026 at UnityPoint Health -- St. Luke's in Sioux City, Iowa.

Funeral services will take place Friday, February 6, 2026 at 10:00 a.m. at United Methodist Church in Schaller. Burial will be in Cook Cemetery in Schaller. Visitation will be held Thursday, February 5, 2026 from 5-7:00 p.m. at Fratzke & Jensen Funeral Home in SCHALLER. The Fratzke & Jensen Funeral Home in Schaller is in charge of the arrangements.

Ralph Spencer Tripp was born on April 24, 1936, in Schaller, Iowa, the son of Randall and Mae (Eggleston) Tripp. He grew up in the Schaller area and attended Cook Center No. 8 country school before graduating from Schaller High School in 1954.

Following his graduation, Ralph was drafted in the United States Army, proudly serving his country until receiving an honorable discharge.

In August of 1996, Ralph was united in marriage to Lucille Rath Fitzsenry. Although they later divorced in 2000, they remained lifelong friends along with Lucille's two daughters, Sandi (Breck) Outland and Vicki (Rick) Montz.

Ralph had a deep love for travel. His favorite destinations included the

Wyoming ranch near Gillette, Wyoming, and the farm near Ridgeway, Missouri. He especially enjoyed trips to Orlando, Florida, where he visited his family. Ralph also traveled to Germany several times with the Cooks. He thoroughly loved traveling to any place that gave him the chance to tour factories where farm equipment was made.

A lifelong farmer and rancher, Ralph found great joy in his work. In 1961, he and his brothers, Urban and Gerald, founded Tripp Brothers, where they farmed together for the rest of their lives.

Left to cherish Ralph's memory are: sisters-in-law: Charlotte Tripp and Dolly Tripp; niece, Roxie Neumann (Paul Schultz) of Kiron, Iowa; great niece, Nathan and Angie Tremblay of Kiron, Iowa; great nephew, Justin and Katie Neumann of Lake View, Iowa; niece, Marie Peluso of Rockledge, Florida; great nieces-Marie's children, Kathryn Morris and Christina Peluso; nephew, Jeremy and Lucie Tripp; Jeremy's daughter, Emma Tripp of Czech Republic; great nephew, Shane and Nichole Neumann of Wall Lake, Iowa; Shane's kids, Aaron, Keagan and Tucker Neumann; great niece, Jackie Tripp of Denison, Iowa; Jackie's kids, Haylie, Payge, Nathyn and Lincoln of Stanton, Iowa; great nieces, Randi Tripp and Kristen Tripp of Stanton, Iowa; great-great nephews, Brody and Taylor Tremblay of Odebolt, Iowa; Brody's kids, Brianna and Elijah; great-great nephew, Ethan Tremblay of Kiron, Iowa; great-great nephews, Preston and Giselle Tremblay of Kiron, Iowa.

Preceded in death by parents, Randall and May Tripp; brothers, Urban Tripp and Gerald Tripp; nephew Nathan Tripp and his wife, Rousanne; and great-great nephew, Daltyn Tripp.

Cemetery Details

Cook Center Township Cemetery

Schaller, IA 51053

Previous Events

Visitation

FEB **5**. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Fratzke & Jensen Funeral Home - Schaller
306 S Main St
Schaller, IA 51053
(712) 275-4205
jensenfuneralhomes@gmail.com
<https://www.fratzkejensen.com>

Funeral Service

FEB **6**. 10:00 AM (CT)

United Methodist Church -- Schaller
209 W 3rd Street
Schaller, IA

Tribute Wall



“ *I did not personally know Ralph, but I will always be grateful that he allowed my family to enjoy his ranch in Wyoming. Brian and Dawn are so kind, and I can't say thank you enough to them and Ralph for the time spent and memories made there. My condolences to the family.*

*God bless,
Colton Meyer*

Colton Meyer - March 26 at 01:02 PM

JM

“ Hello everyone. We are so sorry for everyone’s loss. I am so thankful that I got to know Ralph and Gerald and Charlotte. I really didn’t get to know Urban Ralph would come out during caving and he would help feed, while Brian and Dawn and the girls would be tagging, putting cows and calves in jugs and cleaning the jugs, hauling out pairs . Ralph would go to one or two bull sales with Brian and tell stories on the way there and back. we enjoyed Ralph’s company and his red Dodge that he would drive out to Wyoming . His brother, Gerald and Gerald’s wife Charlotte would come out during haying. Gerald would run the rake, and Charlotte would bring food and goodies and cold water to everyone throughout the day . Charlotte Would take people and drop them off at their tractor or help. Move the tractors and equipment. They would always come out and help Brian and Dawn on the ranch. I know that Brian and Dawn really appreciated it. They always tried to help any of the Morgan’s that needed it, or any one in need. they all three had a very big heart. I can’t thank them enough for always loving and helping people like they do. We miss Gerald and his cigar and now we’ll miss Ralph and his red Dodge. It says in first John chapter 4 verse 15 whoever confesses that Jesus is the son of God, God abides in him, and he in God. And in first John chapter 4, verse 18 there is no fear in love, but perfect love cast out fear. We know all the trip brothers and their wives had no fear because they loved and helped whoever that was in need, and they believe in Christ and what he did on the cross. They have such big hearts that they would always help no matter what it was or who it was. We will miss all the joy that they would bring with them from Iowa. We just cannot thank the trip brothers and their families for all they’ve done for everybody in Wyoming. We want you all to know there’s always a place for you at our campfire and we will be sure that there is a Spare Bible for you. In Ephesians, it says to put on the full armor of God, which is his word .we love you guys. please keep Joy and love in your hearts like they had. always remember if you forgive others, God takes it from you and you’re not troubled with it anymore. we love you guys, Jeff and Becky.

jeff morgan - February 05 at 10:14 PM

JT

“ Janet T. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Ralph S. Tripp.

Janet T. - February 05 at 09:07 PM

KB

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



K Boisen - February 05 at 09:00 PM

JA

This photo of Ralph shows how much he liked genealogy. Ralph took the Family Tree Y-DNA test and proved that we descend from the immigrant, John Tripp 1611 - 1678, from Portsmouth, RI. His DNA lives on in the project that is developing a male Y-DNA tree from the beginning of time to the present day. Thank you, Ralph!! I love and miss you!! Your cousin, Janet Tripp Andrews

Janet Tripp Andrews - February 06 at 03:22 PM

PM

“ Growing up on the Tripp Brothers Ranch near Gillette, Wyoming some of my fondest memories of Ralph are when he came to Wyoming to help calve in the spring every year, I remember when we had to feed big square bales a couple of years, he would put eight bales on the trailer behind the tractor and he would get on the trailer and just let the tractor drive while he flaked off the hay, he usually fed the old cows while we fed the young cows or tagged the new calves from the night before. There were a lot of long days and nights during calving, one time it was blizzarding so bad me and my dad stayed in the bunk house with Ralph, and I remember him enjoying popcorn and baked potatoes. You could always count on the bunk/ranch house, smelling like popcorn when Ralph was here.

In the summer of 2007 we put up our house and Ralph spent a lot of time using the big Cat to dig out the basement and foundation for our house. Ralph enjoyed driving the Cat and working on tractors. Ralph always kept track of how many calves we had each day during calving, at the end of each day he would always ask me and my dad: how many calves are we up to now.

It was truly a blessing growing up on the Tripp Brothers Ranch and working there many years after I graduated. I enjoyed working with both Ralph & Gerald and listening to my Dad share memories of the time he spent with Urban. We have missed Urban & Gerald and we will miss Ralph now too.

Love & God Bless,
Patricia Morgan

Patricia C Morgan - February 04 at 05:44 PM

“ We enjoyed and appreciated Ralph as a boss and he became a friend. He will be greatly missed. I've always enjoyed working for the Tripp Brothers. When they were at the ranch, they weren't just people we worked for, they were family that we did life with. I was always able to have one of the Tripp Brothers to go to, now I feel at a loss without being able to ask questions or talk to them, I just always expected them to be there, I guess I took them for granted. I truly appreciated them giving me a chance as a young person, I started working for them part-time when I was around 20 years old, and became manager at 23. When they offered me the position I told them I didn't know if I was smart enough but if they were willing to give me a chance I will try my hardest I can to do the best job I could. Oftentimes Ralph would irritate me so bad that I wanted to quit, and I would irritate him so bad that he wanted to fire me; not because he was a bad boss, but I was immature, and had to learn a lot along the way. Ralph, Gerald and Urban probably had to turn their head to more than they should have. When I went to build my house the contractor that was supposed to dig out my basement was dragging his feet and Ralph stayed an extra week in Wyoming to dig it out for us, and the guys that poured the cement couldn't believe what a professional job my boss did. Gerald came up for haying and would be up until midnight helping me solder my copper lines for my water and plumbing. I didn't thank them near enough for the opportunity they gave me, and the patience they had with me. I'm so thankful that I had the opportunity to get to know all three of them. Ralph was always talking about things that him and his brothers did together, or going on a trip with Lucille. I was going to a bull sale with Ralph and he looked at me and he said, "I finally found someone tighter than I am!" I looked at him and chuckled to myself, "You did?" He said, "Yep, this guy changes his oil filter one time and the oil the next time. Boy that's being really tight!" We had a good laugh over that together. I have many more stories of Ralph, but I can't give him or the other brothers justice with words. I just know that I missed the other two, and now I miss Ralph. He was not only a great boss, but a great friend. All three of them were. I didn't feel close to Ralph until I had to deal with him more personally, after

Gerald retired, then I grew to understand and relate to him more, as we got to know him more. I put a big red cross at our new house to remind us that Jesus is the one we live for, He died for us and we will one day have to answer to Him. Ralph thanked me for doing that and said he hoped that people get the message. In the garage at the ranch there is no cell phone service, last winter we were in the garage during the day cutting up meat, on the last day of working on this, we didn't realize that Ralph had been trying to reach us, and when we were finished and got to our house, the police arrived. Ralph had decided to have the police do a welfare check to make sure we were okay because He hadn't been able to reach us. That is how much he cared that he sent the police out to check on us. It touched our heart that he was worried and cared that much.

*In loving memory,
Brian and Dawn Morgan*

Brian and Dawn Morgan - February 04 at 05:41 PM

VM

“ Victoria M. purchased the *Crystal Cross Bouquet* for the family of Ralph S. Tripp.



Victoria M. - February 04 at 04:36 PM

VM

“ Victoria M. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Ralph S. Tripp.

Victoria M. - February 04 at 04:36 PM

BE

“ Linda Mathis-Tienter and Steve and Bertha Mathis, have planted a Memorial Tree in memory of Ralph. Linda and Ralph were close cousins in the past and would go to dances together. May the perpetual light of the Lord shine upon him.

Bertha - February 04 at 02:20 PM

BM

“ Bertha M. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Ralph S. Tripp.

Bertha M. - February 04 at 02:15 PM

GM

“ Greg and Wanda McClintock lit a candle in memory of Ralph Tripp



Greg and Wanda McClintock - February 03 at 06:42 PM

DM

“ Dave Merten lit a candle in memory of Ralph Tripp



Dave Merten - February 03 at 03:13 PM

NS

“ *Nelsons Premix & Vet Supply lit a candle in memory of Ralph Tripp*



Nelsons Premix & Vet Supply - February 03 at 03:12 PM

PD

“ *Paul, Roxie, and Dolly purchased the Strength & Solace Spray for the family of Ralph S. Tripp.*



Paul, Roxie, and Dolly - February 03 at 01:49 PM

FH

“ *2 files added to the tribute wall*



Fratzke & Jensen Funeral Home - February 03 at 12:26 PM



“ *Medium Dish Garden was purchased for the family of Ralph S. Tripp.*



February 03 at 09:31 AM

JH

“ Jen and Todd Hoaglund planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Ralph S. Tripp.

Jen and Todd Hoaglund - February 03 at 09:31 AM



“ Enchanted Cottage was purchased for the family of Ralph S. Tripp.



February 02 at 05:07 PM

SS

“ State Bank of Schaller planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Ralph S. Tripp.

State Bank of Schaller - February 02 at 05:07 PM