



Richard C. Anderson

October 22, 1932 - March 30, 2025

Richard (Dick) Charles Anderson, age 92, of Alta passed away peacefully on March 30, 2025 at Accura Care Center in Aurelia, Iowa.

Memorial services will take place Saturday, April 5, 2025 at 1:30 p.m. at Our Saviors Lutheran Church in Rembrandt, Iowa. Burial will be in the Elk Township Cemetery in rural Alta. Visitation will be held on Friday, April 4, 2025 from 4-6:00 p.m. at Fratzke & Jensen Funeral Home in ALTA. The Fratzke & Jensen Funeral Home in Alta is in charge of the arrangements.

Dick was born on October 22, 1932 in the Alta Hospital in Alta, Iowa to Clifton Anderson and Sylvia (Handegaard) Anderson. He grew up on the century farm rural Alta helping his dad farm. He spent many hours riding his beloved horse "Flash". During his teen years he tragically lost his mother, Sylvia. He attended and graduated from Fairview High School. During high school he played basketball and baseball often talking about the games he played against other small-town teams. After graduation in 1950 a friend, Lynn Faust, introduced him to Ardyce Garton. It didn't take Dick long to figure out that she was going to be his only love. One that lasted over 72 years.

Dick and Ardyce were married on September 30, 1951 at Immanuel Lutheran Church rural Alta. They made their first home on the edge of Alta on the property of his grandfather Merritt Anderson. They welcomed their first

daughter, Cindy, to this home. The threesome soon moved to the family farm where they welcomed two more daughters, Leigh and Shelley.

Dick had a great understanding of the importance of community. He was a member of the school board when the elementary school was built. He was a member of the Alta Community Club that supported the school and town. He was a member of Kiwanis even attending meetings while a resident of WellLife. If you attended the homecoming parade in Alta, you would see Dick's boat full of PIE students. Or maybe at the lake giving all day boat rides. Or maybe he was at the school flipping pancakes for the students. He was a member of Immanuel Lutheran church serving in various capacities.

Dick farmed the family farm until his retirement. He said that you get up every day and do what you love for you and your family. During this time, he also sold seed corn for Cargill and Mello-Dent. As a reward for his salesmanship, he earned many trips. But work didn't stop him from having fun and taking hunting, fishing and snowmobile trips. Every summer as soon as the corn was cultivated, the family would head to Lake of the Woods for the annual fishing trip. Many families would accompany the Andersons on these fishing trips. Dick bought the other love of his life, his boat. That boat made many trips to Lake of the Woods, Storm Lake, Saylorville Lake, Lake Michigan, Pierre, SD. Lake Minnetonka, MN. The only fishing trip he didn't take his boat along was when he went to Alaska. He led 18 trips to Alaska for fishing and sightseeing. Ardyce often accompanied him but not fishing. He was most excited that he could take three of his grandsons to Alaska. Jon went fishing and flying with "grandpa" Dick and his uncle Kenny. Tyler and Chris went fishing and 4-wheeling in the mountains.

Dick and Ardyce took bridge lessons with three other couples and since that day a deck of cards was never far from his hands. Or sitting at a table with friends playing cards. He sat at his iPad where he played over 1300 games of

bridge, yes he had a notebook to keep track.

Dick had a love for his family, daughters and husbands and traveling the state of Iowa watching his grandkids and great grandkids playing sports. If he couldn't attend, he was there in spirit. In addition Dick and Ardyce were avid Alta-Aurelia school supporters.

He is especially proud of his skiing adventures—pulling 12 skiers at one time in Storm Lake and Lake View. Then at 66 years old he water skied in Storm Lake on his birthday in October.

He entered Acura in January after he had lived at WellLife for 2 ½ years. While there he made many friends. He enjoyed sharing his videos of Alaska fishing and water skiing. He was an avid Iowa Hawkeye fan and hosted many parties to watch the games.

He left behind a legacy of love, fun and friendship. He is survived by his daughters, Cindy (Pete) Nielsen, Alta, Iowa, Leigh (Mike) Madsen, Alta, Iowa, Shelley (Rick) Glienke, Alta, Iowa. Grandchildren: Adam (Kara) Nielsen, Alta, Jon (Katherine) Nielsen, Savage, Minn, Melissa (Mesh) Sambu, Des Moines, Iowa, Ashley (Josh) Waukee, Iowa Tyler (Melissa Snyder) Storm Lake, Iowa Chris (Allyson Pagel) Eldora, Iowa. Great Grandkids: Tenley and Kace Nielsen, Brynn Nielsen, Isiah, Jordan and Kyleigh Sambu, Ava and Elijah Lund, Keegan (Leah McConnaughey), Kaeden, and Kielee Larson, Benjamin Glienke. Great Great grandchildren: RJ and Rustyn Larson. Brother Kenneth Anderson, Anchorage, Alaska, Niece Dawn (Dave) Fagerlee, Nephews Todd Cradit and Jeff Cradit and countless extended family and friends.

He was preceded in death by his wife Ardyce, his parents Clifton and Sylvia Anderson, step mother-in-law, Evelyn Anderson, his parents-in-law, and sister-in-law Janet Cradit.

Cemetery Details

Elk Township Cemetery -- Alta

Alta, IA

Previous Events

Visitation

APR 4. 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM (CT)

Fratzke & Jensen Funeral Home - Alta
301 Alta Vista Street
Alta, IA 51002
(712) 284-2141
jensenfuneralhomes@gmail.com
<https://www.fratzkejensen.com>

Funeral Service

APR 5. 1:30 PM (CT)

Our Savior's Lutheran Church - Rembrandt
107 N Broadway Ave
Rembrandt, IA 50576

Tribute Wall

FH

“ 2 files added to the tribute wall



Fratzke & Jensen Funeral Home - April 08, 2025 at 05:11 PM

TS

“ Taylor Staff purchased the Country Basket Blooms for the family of Richard C. Anderson.



Taylor Staff - April 04, 2025 at 02:16 PM

SJ

“ Shirley A. Johnston lit a candle in memory of Richard Anderson



Shirley A. Johnston - April 04, 2025 at 12:40 PM

SE

“ My sympathy to the family.



Sandy Endreson - April 04, 2025 at 12:56 AM

KW

“ I just read the “ full obituary “ of Dick’s wonderful life. “
This is 100% the man I knew. He was a great guy, gave the boat rides with Don Binder to my sons. Told me all about his fishing trips to Alaska. And told me all about the fun times with his kids and grandkids. I saw many times all the roses he gave to his wonderful wife, Ardyce. I loved these years on Facebook watching the many times they were both at grandkids events.... Right up until some of his last ballgames. His family was so lucky, and I know how fortunate he felt to have all of you. What a great man ❤️❤️

Kim Walsh - April 03, 2025 at 11:20 PM

JC

“ *Jeff and Jean Chindlund lit a candle in memory of Richard Anderson*



Jeff and Jean Chindlund - April 02, 2025 at 12:15 PM

SM

“ *There is lots of fish in heaven and I am sure you will get your share. R.I.P. Dick*



Stephan Mickelson - April 01, 2025 at 10:51 AM

PH

“ Leigh and Family,

I am so very sorry for the loss of this great man. I am so happy I got to know him through Alta Kiwanis. He was an inspiration to me personally. He loved Kiwanis and he was a great leader in our community. I always looked up to him and learned a lot from him. He enjoyed so much of life and people. He will be missed but never forgotten by me. My thoughts and prayers go out to you all.

*Pam Henderson
Alta Class of 1974
Alta Kiwanis Member*

Pam Henderson - March 31, 2025 at 02:27 PM

PH

“ Pam Henderson lit a candle in memory of
Richard Anderson



Pam Henderson - March 31, 2025 at 02:21 PM

DC

*My thoughts and prayers to the family of Richard (Dick). R. I. P. Dick.
Don Crouch*

Don Crouch - April 01, 2025 at 04:39 PM