



Robert J. Nelsen

September 11, 1924 - September 4, 2020

Robert J. Nelsen, age 95, of Newell, Iowa died Friday, September 4, 2020 at the Good Samaritan Society of Newell.

Funeral services will take place Wednesday, September 9, 2020 at 10:00 a.m. at the First Congregational United Church of Christ in Newell. To watch the recording of the service, please click the link https://us02web.zoom.us/rec/share/zaJkPIbK3Wa2XVEj0twMS0vys05BfMow_cpR7KByhd1ichch-Qfjat4bKg4_KLdF.MOO9YSOwyPyiZmZ1 and enter in the password: 87h\$N+Kh. Burial will be in the Newell Cemetery. Visitation will take place Tuesday, September 8, 2020 from 5-8:00 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.

Robert John Nelsen was born in a small house on the west side of Newell to Drs. Hart F. and Minnie M. (Frydenborg) Nelsen on September 11, 1924. His brother Hart J Nelsen welcomed him to his new home. In his younger years he enjoyed hunting ducks along the Raccoon river. He told the story about he and his dad getting caught in the Armistice Day blizzard while hunting ducks. He and his dad could hardly make the mile walk back to the car in the howling snow. He attended and graduated from the Newell School in 1942. After graduating from high school he attended Buena Vista College for one semester but sitting in a classroom wasn't for him so he left college and found

work as a laborer doing jobs that ranged from mixing the mortar for the chimney on the new Newell school gymnasium in the early forties to working in a California ship yard and finally coming back home to be a hired man for several farmers in the Newell area. Never one to let the grass grow under his feet Bob was always active. Bob had a love for sports. He was competitive in baseball and basketball in high school and after high school he continued to play basketball on the 'town team' until he was in his thirties. And then there is the game of golf. Bob was not only the ultimate golfer, but he had a love for the golf course itself.

Many of the trees on the Newell golf course were planted and nourished by Bob through the years.

He started farming on his own by Albert City in 1948. On February 15, 1948 he married Pearl Jensen in the Nain Lutheran Church in Newell. After living a few weeks with Bob's parents in Newell the newlyweds moved to the farm and into a house with no plumbing and one wood burning stove for heat. It just happened that March was the coldest on record and the house was cold, so cold a pail of water froze one night. Bob thought this was no place to bring his new bride, so they moved back to Newell into his parent's house for a few weeks until the weather warmed. Bob and Pearl went on to raise their family in that house, after some remodeling to make it more livable. In September of 1949 a little girl, Marie was born into their world followed by the arrival of Jim in February of 1951. In August of 1971, Pearl sadly passed away of cancer at the age of 46. In January of 1973 Bob married Marvel Pearson. In 1978 Bob and Marvel moved off the farm to Newell where they lived until 2016 when they moved into the Good Samaritan home in Newell. They had enjoyed 44 years of marriage when Marvel passed away in 2017.

Bob is survived by his daughter, Marie (John) Lowe of Davenport, Iowa; his son, Jim (Marilyn) Nelsen of Albert City, Iowa; his grandchildren: Sally Lowe of Peoria, Illinois; Heather (Rich) Howard of Viera, Florida and Alan (Karna)

Nelsen of Albert City, Iowa; great grandchildren: Ryleigh Sauter, Bailee Sauter, Mackenzie Sauter, Olivia Nelsen, Lindsey Nelsen, Dane Nelsen, Isabelle Howard, Brayden Howard, and Weston Howard.

Preceding Bob in death are his parents: Drs Hart and Minnie Nelsen; brother, Hart J. Nelsen; Bob's first wife Pearl; second wife Marvel and granddaughter Lisa Sauter.

Cemetery Details

Newell Cemetery

Previous Events

Visitation

SEP 8. 5:00 PM - 8:00 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>

Service

SEP 9. 10:00 AM (CT)

First Congregational United Church of Christ
310 E. 3rd St.
Newell, IA 50588

Tribute Wall



“ *Fratzke & Jensen Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Robert J. Nelsen*



Fratzke & Jensen Funeral Home - September 08, 2020 at 11:59 AM

JC

“ *James/Corrine Cremers-McKnight lit a candle in memory of Robert J. Nelsen*



James/Corrine Cremers-McKnight - September 09, 2020 at 01:52 PM

EM

“ *Bob Nelsen is another of many in his generation that left this world better than he found it. A very fine man, calm, well mannered, hard working, Christian. May he find peace in the Lord's hands now that he is done with his worn out and well used earthly vessel. May the Lord give you His peace that passes all understanding.*

Erik "Hondo"and Mariellen Mosbo - September 08, 2020 at 11:50 AM



“ 118 files added to the album *Life Tributes*



Fratzke & Jensen Funeral Home - September 08, 2020 at 11:48 AM



“ 2 files added to the tribute wall



Fratzke & Jensen Funeral Homes - September 08, 2020 at 11:26 AM



“ *Multicolor Bright Sympathy Basket was purchased for the family of Robert J. Nelsen.*



September 07, 2020 at 09:51 PM



“ *Dennis Anderson lit a candle in memory of Robert J. Nelsen*



Dennis Anderson - September 07, 2020 at 09:27 PM



“ *Bill And Danis Thompson lit a candle in memory of Robert J. Nelsen*



Bill and Danis Thompson - September 07, 2020 at 07:12 PM



“ *Peace, Prayers & Blessings - Blue and White was purchased for the family of Robert J. Nelsen.*



September 07, 2020 at 06:35 PM

MH

“ I was sorry to learn of Bob's death, but he lived a long and satisfying life despite some sadness along the way. He was a good friend of my parents, and supported them through tragedies such as the loss of my sister many years ago. I'm sure you don't remember, Jim and Marie, but my first job was helping your mother Pearl when you were small. I learned a great deal from her which I have always appreciated. I am so glad I had a chance to see Bob at a farm sale a few years ago. He was the "last" of the neighborhood I knew growing up...a good and kind man! Maryanna Siekmann Hubbard

Maryanna Hubbard - September 07, 2020 at 03:52 PM

AR

“ Jim and Marie, sorry to hear of your dad's passing. It's been a long time since the Congregational Church and the Newell Golf Course but those are some happy memories for all of us. My mom and dad always enjoyed visiting with your dad. We are thinking of you! Ann (Edwards) Russell and Beatta Edwards

Ann Russell - September 07, 2020 at 11:46 AM

JN

“ Jan Nehring lit a candle in memory of Robert J. Nelsen



Jan Nehring - September 07, 2020 at 11:29 AM

SW

“ *Suana Wessendorf lit a candle in memory of Robert J. Nelsen*



suana wessendorf - September 06, 2020 at 11:57 AM