



## Rod Wells

October 10, 1956 - August 19, 2015

Rod Wells, age 58, of Fonda, Iowa died Wednesday, August 19, 2015 at Mercy Medical Center in Des Moines, Iowa.

Funeral Mass will be held Tuesday, August 25, 2015 at 10:30 a.m. at Our Lady of Good Counsel Catholic Church in Fonda. Burial will follow in the Mt. Zion Catholic Cemetery in Fonda. Visitation will take place Monday, August 24, 2015 from 4-8:00 p.m. with a vigil service at 6:30 p.m. followed by a KC Rosary all at Our Lady of Good Counsel Catholic Church in Fonda. The Fratzke & Jensen Funeral Home in Storm Lake is in charge of the arrangements.

Rodney John Wells was born October 10, 1956 in Storm Lake, Iowa, the son of Orville and Elizabeth "Betty" (Kirby) Wells.

Rod was baptized at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Storm Lake and confirmed at Our Lady of Good Counsel Catholic Church in Fonda.

Rod attended Our Lady of Good Counsel Catholic School, where he graduated with the class of 1975.

On November 3, 1978, Rod was united in marriage to Bonnie Mullen at Our Lady of Good Counsel Catholic Church. Together, they were blessed with two

children, Shanda and Chance.

Rod was a big man in many ways. He had a big smile and a bigger heart. He worked passionately as a farmer for forty years and as a truck driver for over twenty years. He was active in his community as a volunteer EMS driver, a member of the Knights of Columbus, and a City Council member. He would help out in any way he could, shoveling snow or riding the garbage truck. He was a pious man, never missing a day of church or his "Bible Study" at Casey's every morning.

Rod loved driving his boat and flying his airplane. He was always quick with a joke or a funny story. He knew how to have a good time, either playing the guitar in his band growing up or playing a drunk in the community theatre.

Rod was a family man, a doting Thurston to his Lovey. He was a supportive father and a wonderful grandfather. He will always be remembered for his wit and his "dadisms".

Rod was a giving man, which proved true to the end when he gave three people another chance at life as an organ donor.

Those left to cherish his memory include his wife, Bonnie Wells of Fonda, Iowa; children: Shanda (Brad) Schweiger of Monona, Wisconsin; Chance (Lori) Wells and their children, Jackson and Claire Wells of Fonda, Iowa; brothers: Mike (Kellie) Wells of Fonda, Iowa; Bob (Lona) Wells of Fonda, Iowa; Gary (Jennifer) Wells of Fonda, Iowa; many sisters and brothers-in-law, nieces, nephews, cousins, and extended family and friends.

Rod was preceded in death by his parents, and infant brother, Larry.

# Cemetery Details

## Mt. Zion Catholic Cemetery

Fonda, IA 50540

# Previous Events

## Visitation

AUG **24**. 4:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

Our Lady of Good Counsel Catholic Church -- Fonda  
513 North Main Street  
Fonda, IA 50540

## Vigil Service

AUG **24**. 6:30 PM (CT)

Our Lady of Good Counsel Catholic Church -- Fonda  
513 North Main Street  
Fonda, IA 50540

## Rosary

AUG **24**. 7:30 PM (CT)

Our Lady of Good Counsel Catholic Church -- Fonda  
513 North Main Street  
Fonda, IA 50540

## Service

AUG 25. 10:30 AM (CT)

Our Lady of Good Counsel Catholic Church -- Fonda  
513 North Main Street  
Fonda, IA 50540

## Interment

AUG 25 (CT)

Mt. Zion Catholic Cemetery  
Fonda, IA 50540

# Tribute Wall



“ *Fratzke & Jensen Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Rod Wells*



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**Fratzke & Jensen Funeral Home** - August 24, 2015 at 11:15 AM

NF

“ *Our prayers are with the family. We were very good friends & classmates of Orville & Betty. So many great memories with them. They were awesome people as I am sure Rod was also. We are so sorry*

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**Norma Fitzgerald** - August 26, 2015 at 06:36 PM

NL

“ *Your in my thoughts and prayers. Nancy Lynch*



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**Nancy Lynch** - August 25, 2015 at 06:55 PM

CK

“ *My thoughts and prayers are with you today. God Bless and my deepest sympathy. Carol Karr.*



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**carol karr** - August 25, 2015 at 09:20 AM

CK

“ *My Deepest Sympathy to All the Wells Family.*



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**carol karr** - August 25, 2015 at 09:12 AM

RJ

“ *I just watched the video. What a beautiful tribute to a great fun loving family man. Cherish the memories they are priceless.*

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**Reba (Imming) Jimenez** - August 24, 2015 at 11:55 PM

CK

“ *Sympathy to all the Wells family*



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**carol karr** - August 24, 2015 at 07:17 PM

FH

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Funeral Home - August 24, 2015 at 04:34 PM

EW

“ He still had THE best Father-of-the-Bride speech I have ever heard. So touching and heart-felt. There wasn't a dry eye. He was so proud of his kids!

Emily Whitis - August 24, 2015 at 02:43 PM

FH

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Funeral Home - August 24, 2015 at 01:30 PM

TF

“ The Tischer Family purchased the Florist Choice Bouquet for the family of Rod Wells.



The Tischer Family - August 24, 2015 at 01:23 PM

ST

“ *SupplyWorks National Account Team purchased the Floor Plant for Sympathy for the family of Rod Wells.*



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**SupplyWorks National Account Team** - August 24, 2015 at 11:52 AM

BT

“ *Braunschweig Trucking purchased the Classic Sympathy Dish Garden for the family of Rod Wells.*



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**Braunschweig Trucking** - August 24, 2015 at 11:15 AM



“ *Simply Lily was purchased for the family of Rod Wells.*



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August 24, 2015 at 10:12 AM

DS

“ *I truly enjoyed Rod coming in to Caseys for his coffee and visiting with everyone in the mornings. Dennis and Chris Schultz*



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**Dennis and Chris Schultz** - August 24, 2015 at 10:12 AM



“ *Florist Choice Bouquet was purchased for the family of Rod Wells.*



August 24, 2015 at 09:46 AM



“ *Simply Lily was purchased for the family of Rod Wells.*



August 24, 2015 at 09:32 AM



“ *Peace, Prayers & Blessings - Blue and White was purchased for the family of Rod Wells.*



August 24, 2015 at 08:13 AM



“ *So sad to learn of Rod's passing. What a loss for his family, his friends, his neighbors and the whole town of Fonda. Rod was a good man. He will be missed.*

*Deb (Imming) Peterson  
OLGC Class of 1975*

**Debra Peterson** - August 23, 2015 at 10:41 PM

TJ

“ *Debi and I were so sad and shocked with Rod's passing. He was a terrific neighbor and a great friend. He was such a good person. Our deepest sympathy to Bonnie, Chance and Shanda.*

*Tom & Debi Johnson  
Wichita, Kansas*

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**Tom Johnson** - August 23, 2015 at 07:27 PM

SH

“ *Dear Wells family,  
We are shocked and saddened by the death of Rod. We are thinking and praying for you from Pelican Ridge this weekend.*

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**Steve and Laura Heitritter** - August 23, 2015 at 04:54 PM



“ *Plants-A-Plenty was purchased for the family of Rod Wells.*



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August 23, 2015 at 03:54 PM



“ *Love's Embrace Roses – Red was purchased for the family of Rod Wells.*



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August 23, 2015 at 01:41 PM



“ *Healing Tears - All White* was purchased for the family of Rod Wells.



August 23, 2015 at 12:23 PM



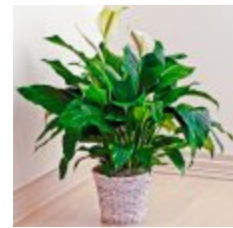
“ *Fields of Europe* was purchased for the family of Rod Wells.



August 23, 2015 at 10:13 AM



“ *Pat and Elaine (Gradisek) McGuinn* purchased the *Floor Plant for Sympathy* for the family of Rod Wells.



**Pat and Elaine (Gradisek) McGuinn** - August 23, 2015 at 10:04 AM



“ *Joan F Mohr* purchased the *Red & White Sympathy Floor Basket* for the family of Rod Wells.



**Joan F Mohr** - August 23, 2015 at 09:55 AM

RM

“ Our thoughts and prayers remain with you, Bonnie, Shanda, Chance and families. It was special this morning sharing with you some memories of Rod and a chance to smile a little. We will continue to pray with you in music at Rod's Mass Tuesday. God bless you. Randy and Marilyn Schmitt

Randy and Marilyn - August 22, 2015 at 04:46 PM

JM

“ Rod was a great dad to his kids and he always enjoyed mustang football.

Jayme mohr - August 22, 2015 at 01:42 PM

KK

“ Kristin, Emily, Rachel, Melissa, Molly, Kaitlin purchased the Dish Garden with Fresh Cut Flowers for the family of Rod Wells.



Kristin, Emily, Rachel, Melissa, Molly, Kaitlin - August 22, 2015 at 11:49 AM



“ Bonnie, Shanda, and Chance. I am so sorry for your loss. I am glad we were all together in Fonda so recently. That was a nice reunion. Rod taught me to drive when I was only 11 or 12. I'll never forget that. And I'll never forget that he and Bonnie came to my wedding to help celebrate. He will be missed.

Matthew Johnson - August 21, 2015 at 11:40 PM

RJ

“ *Deepest sympathies! 58 is way to young. What a kind, generous man, donating life to others. I pray God grants you all peace!*

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**Rod and Diane Johnson** - August 21, 2015 at 09:52 PM

JS

“ *Cherish your yesterday's. They are irreplaceable souvenirs of your journey through life. Our deepest sympathy to the Wells family. May God hold you close & bless you during this difficult time.*

*Janet & Roger Schoon.*

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**Janet Schoon** - August 21, 2015 at 09:30 PM

MR

“ *Mike & Julie Reilly purchased the Blue & White Sympathy Floor Basket for the family of Rod Wells.*



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**Mike & Julie Reilly** - August 21, 2015 at 09:07 PM

JS

“ *Cherish your yesterday's. They are irreplaceable souvenirs of your journey through life. With our deepest sympathy to the Wells family.*

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**Janet Schoon** - August 21, 2015 at 09:07 PM

DB

“ We are sorry to hear of Rod's passing. He was such a good guy. He was my relief driver when I worked for Van-Hof, I never had to worry about a thing, he drove it like it was his own. Our sympathy to you.

*Dennis and Phyllis Bosma  
Ocheyedan, IA*

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**Dennis Bosma** - August 21, 2015 at 08:53 PM

DH

“ Deepest sympathy to the Rod Wells family. Incredible sad to hear this. Thoughts and prayers to all of you. Denise Bierstedt Hirneise

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**denise Hirneise** - August 21, 2015 at 06:22 PM

ML

“ My deepest sympathy to your family. Gods blessings to all of you.

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**Mary Lange** - August 21, 2015 at 04:21 PM

JW

*I remember Rod's wit and wonderful smile from the OLGC days. Heaven got a good one! My sympathies & prayers to the family.*

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**Julie McCartan Wiemers** - August 21, 2015 at 04:46 PM

JF

“ Joe Kapsch and family purchased the Eternal Grace for the family of Rod Wells.



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**Joe Kapsch and family** - August 21, 2015 at 03:45 PM



“ *White Sympathy Baskets was purchased for the family of Rod Wells.*



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August 21, 2015 at 03:41 PM



“ *Wow, still can't believe the news!! Whenever we saw each other we greeted each other by How the Hell are you!!! Then he would just smile!! 😊 We will all miss you Rod and Troy never got you to that race in Kansas City, please watch over them in Bristol Saturday night and yell for the 24!!! Rest in Peace , Rod 🙏 ?? Tim Judy and family*

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**judy hess** - August 21, 2015 at 03:20 PM



“ *I am saddened to learn of Rod's passing. My deepest sympathy to Bonnie, Shanda, Chance and all of the Wells family. I remember Rod as being one of the kindest people I have ever met. I have great memories of Rod and Larry's conversations and their laughter. You are in my thoughts and prayers.*

*Jody*

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**Jody Neppl** - August 21, 2015 at 02:02 PM



*Fonda lost a good man. I will remember Rod @ Men's League basketball playing tight defense and yelling "follow your shot" when you would shoot. He always asked how you were doing, and he did it with a smile. He will be missed! JC*

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**James Calkins** - August 22, 2015 at 04:56 AM

RM

“ Jim remembers coming back to coach baseball when Rod was a senior at OLGC and says Rod was the most competitive one out there by far! We will never forget how Rod would find any "M" in our home and turn it upside down to leave his "W" mark before the evening was over! Or the community plays - he portrayed a worn out drunk to perfection! How about his love for playing cards - not! Still think he was pulling a fast one on us about his card playing skills! The Iowa-Iowa State games - fun, fun, fun!  
Rod will be greatly missed...  
Rae, Jim and All!

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**Rae Miller** - August 21, 2015 at 01:57 PM

AT

“ To a wonderful neighbor who will missed dearly, Rest in Peace dear friend may God go with you. Alice and Jim



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**Alice and Jim Tauber** - August 21, 2015 at 01:19 PM

AM

“ Bonnie, Chance and Shanda,  
My heart breaks from this sad news. I am sending all the love I can to you from California. I wish I was closer to home so that I could see you all. I will never forget Rod giving me a hard time when I was a little girl and would come over and visit or babysit for Shanda and Chance. He was never seen by me without a smile!

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**Amy Michel** - August 21, 2015 at 12:49 PM



TB

*So very sorry for the loss of Rod. Please know that we are sending our sympathy and prayers to all of you.*  
*Tim and Tracy Baak*

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**Tracy Baak** - August 21, 2015 at 04:36 PM

MM

*My deepest sympathy to you Bonnie and your entire family.*

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**Margaret McCartan** - August 21, 2015 at 07:07 PM

TM

*We are so sorry for your loss, Bonnie. Our thoughts and prayers are with you and your family.*

*Teresa and Tom Meyer*

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**Teresa and Tom Meyer** - August 23, 2015 at 10:04 AM

CS

*Our deepest sympathy, Bonnie, Shanda, Chance and to the entire Wells family. Rarely saw Rod without a smile on his face.*

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**Craig and Renea Seagren** - August 23, 2015 at 07:39 PM