



Ron Ellefson

January 5, 1942 - February 18, 2020

Ron Ellefson, age 78, of Storm Lake, Iowa died on Tuesday, February 18, 2020 at his home in Storm Lake.

Funeral services will be held on Saturday, February 22, 2020 at 1:00 p.m. at St. Mark Lutheran Church in Storm Lake. Visitation will take place on Friday, February 21, 2020 from 5:00-7:00 p.m. at the Fratzke & Jensen Funeral Home in STORM LAKE. In lieu of flowers, the family requests that memorials be given to St. Mark Lutheran Church: 1614 W 5th St. Storm Lake, IA 50588. The Fratzke & Jensen Funeral Home in Storm Lake is in charge of the arrangements.

Ronald Dean Ellefson, the son of Ernest and Eleanora (Benson) Ellefson, was born on January 5, 1942 in Jasper, Minnesota.

Ron was baptized as an infant at Highland Lutheran Church in Sherman, South Dakota. He was also confirmed at the same church in 1959.

Growing up, Ron attended grade school at Highland District 45 and later graduated high school from Garretson High School. While in high school, Ron was a member of the Future Farmers of America. After receiving his high school diploma, he went on to attend Augustana University.

Ron enlisted in the Army Reserves and was honorably discharged in 1969.

On June 26, 1969, Ron was united in marriage to Connie Ilene Graham in South Sioux City, Nebraska. The couple was blessed with two children, Rob Lee Ellefson on June 14, 1973 and Ryon Jay Ellefson on June 24, 1976.

One of Ron's most notable achievements was creating alcohol fuel during the gas recession. He and his brother Jeff (Jerome) created the alcohol company called Energy Independence Corporation (EIC) of Montrose, MN. They received international reviews in the late 70s as they drove across the country in an alcohol fueled vehicle. That journey received international recognition as they completed their destination to the White House.

Ron was a member of the American Lutheran Church and more recently, was a member of St. Mark Lutheran Church in Storm Lake. Ron was very active in youth ministries. Ron's extended education includes: Stephens Ministries as a Christ Care Leader, Christ Care Equipper and Stephen Ministries Break Through Leader. The Western Iowa Synod of ELVC acknowledged Ron's completion of the Lay School of Ministry. Ron achieved recognition from Dale Carnegie and Rockhurt University for public speaking mastery.

Ron was a visionary. He founded Liberty Food Service in 1987 and the company has expanded across the United States.

In his free time, Ron enjoyed fishing in Canada, flying his plane, and riding motorcycles.

During his retirement Ron spent time traveling on mission trips including Africa- visiting Jerusalem, and dedicated his time for humanitarian efforts in New Orleans during the Katrina relief and hurricane Ike in Galveston. Ron was a dedicated founding committee member for the restoration of the

Trumpeter Swan in Buena Vista County.

Those left to cherish his memory include his wife, Connie Ellefson; son, Rob (Emily) Ellefson; brother, Robert (Dorly) Ellefson; brother-in-law, Daniel Richmond; sisters: Patricia (Jer) VanBenschoten, Nancy Corpe, Ruth Ellefson, Luanne (Dave) Jorgenson; grandchildren, Fisher and Finley Ellefson; 13 nieces and nephews, several grand nieces and nephews; extended family to include Mike Neilsen and friends.

Ron was preceded in death by his parents, Ernest and Eleanora Ellefson; son, Ryon Ellefson; brothers, Ernest Dean Ellefson and Jermone Ellefson; sister, Lois (Jim) Hughes; brothers-in-law, LeRoy Graham and Terry Graham; parents-in-law, Graydon and Sarah Graham.

Previous Events

Visitation

FEB **21**. 5:00 PM - 7:00 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

FEB **22**. 1:00 PM (CT)

St. Mark's Lutheran Church -- Storm Lake
1614 West 5th Street
Storm Lake, IA 50588
<http://www.stmarkstormlake.com/>

Tribute Wall



“ *Fratzke & Jensen Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Ron Ellefson*



Fratzke & Jensen Funeral Home - February 21, 2020 at 02:00 PM

AH

It's been so long since I saw my cousin Ron, who was a neighbor on the adjacent farm just down lane from Grandpa LW Ellefson's farmhouse where we lived when we were kids at Highland School together in the 1940s. I regret that since then I have always lived too far away to see him and his family often. These pictures help to fill the gaps between family reunions (summer picnics and Christmas gatherings back in the 1950s and only a few times since then - notably funerals.) I had no idea how very active Ron has been in reaching out to care for others. We only had a short time to converse at my sister's funeral so we couldn't catch up on all his doings. Many of his interests, concerns, activities and challenges are similar to those of my family; I wish we'd taken time to keep in touch better. I would have loved hearing his narration of each of these photos and more about his many achievements. Some of my treasured photos are of the Ellefson clan enjoying our Christmas reunion (1959?) at my mother's apartment in Canton, SD. Ron and his brothers and a cousin or two were sent out around the neighborhood to borrow butter to be melted for our lutefisk because Mom didn't have enough for both the lefse and the lutefisk. Ron was a cheerful beggar and smiled when the "adventure" was complete. His ready smile on the introductory photo for this video was just the same as I remember it.

Annette Ellefson Hermansen - February 23, 2020 at 02:09 AM



“ Floor Plant for Sympathy was purchased for the family of Ron Ellefson.



February 21, 2020 at 07:07 PM



“ 2 files added to the album Memories Album



Fratzke & Jensen Funeral Home - February 21, 2020 at 05:07 PM



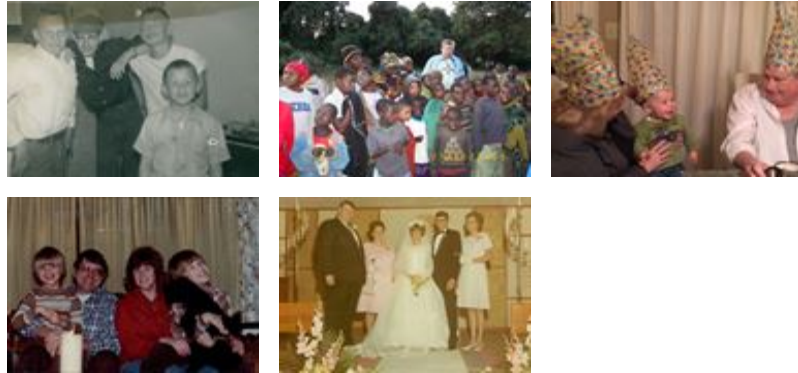
“ Charley Paulson purchased the Healing Tears - A II White for the family of Ron Ellefson.



Charley Paulson - February 21, 2020 at 03:38 PM



“ 80 files added to the album LifeTributes



Fratzke & Jensen Funeral Home - February 21, 2020 at 01:49 PM



“ Peaceful Wishes was purchased for the family of Ron Ellefson.



February 20, 2020 at 07:19 PM



“ White Sympathy Baskets was purchased for the family of Ron Ellefson.



February 20, 2020 at 03:28 PM



“ Connie sorry for you loss. I really enjoyed Ron and his humor. Sad day for all but he is in a better place than suffering.

Steph - February 20, 2020 at 03:02 PM

SM

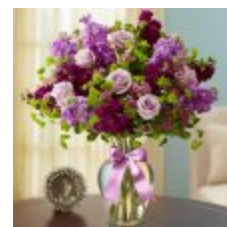
“ *Steph&Sharon Mickelson lit a candle in memory of Ron Ellefson*



Steph&Sharon Mickelson - February 20, 2020 at 02:59 PM

CM

“ *C & M business machines Dave & Ginger Maudlin purchased the Shades of Purple for the family of Ron Ellefson.*



C & M business machines Dave & Ginger Maudlin - February 20, 2020 at 01:23 PM

BB

“ *Connie, you have my deepest sympathy! Ron was a very wonderful person, and will be missed by everyone who have had the great experience of knowing Him. May he RIP! God bless you and your family . Bob Baschke*



Bob Baschke - February 20, 2020 at 12:21 PM

YW

“ *Your Liberty Family in Washington purchased the Serenity Prayer 30" Sonnet for the family of Ron Ellefson.*



Your Liberty Family in Washington - February 20, 2020 at 11:57 AM

MC

“ *Our sympathy to you and your family. I always remember the fun boat ride on the lake in Storm Lake. He was happy and made it fun for everyone.
Peace to him and you. Margaret Cuva*



Margaret Cuva - February 20, 2020 at 11:51 AM

MF

“ *Murph(David P Murphy) and the Murphy Family purchased the Lavender & White Sympathy Basket for the family of Ron Ellefson.*



Murph(David P Murphy) and the Murphy Family - February 20, 2020 at 11:33 AM