



Wayne Ripke

December 18, 1940 - December 28, 2024

Wayne Ripke, age 84, of Storm Lake, Iowa died December 28, 2024 at Methodist Manor Retirement Community in Storm Lake.

Funeral services will take place Saturday, January 4, 2025 at 10:30 a.m. at Zion Lutheran Church in rural Storm Lake. Burial will be in the Zion Lutheran Church Cemetery. Visitation will be held Friday, January 3, 2025 from 4-7:00 p.m. at Fratzke & Jensen Funeral Home in STORM LAKE. The Fratzke & Jensen Funeral Home in Storm Lake is in charge of the arrangements.

Wayne was born December 18, 1940 in Storm Lake, Iowa the son of Walter and Marie (Hogrefe) Ripke. He was baptized on January 1, 1941 and confirmed his faith on April 11, 1954 at Zion Lutheran Church. Wayne attended Zion Parochial School, then graduated high school from Sulfur Springs in 1958. Wayne's faith was the cornerstone of his life, and he remained a lifelong member of Zion Lutheran Church.

Wayne owned Wayne Ripke Trucking. He was passionate about music, especially polka and classic country. Wayne bought his first concertina at the age of 17 and taught himself how to play. Many people have enjoyed listening to the Wayne Ripke Band from 1963 until 2013. Wayne also loved Oliver tractors. He enjoyed going on tractor rides, especially his trip to the Black Hills. In his free time, Wayne could be found watching his favorite TV channel,

RFD TV. More than anything, Wayne treasured time with his friends and family. He will be deeply missed by all who knew and loved him.

Left to cherish Wayne's memory include his siblings: Clifford (Shirley) Ripke of Hartley, Iowa; Elaine (Len) Brechler of Edinburg, Texas; Loren (Sue) Ripke of Mount Vernon, Iowa; Marlys (Jim) Martin of Sioux City, Iowa; sister-in-law: Darnell Ripke of Storm Lake, Iowa; thirteen nieces and nephews; extended family and friends.

Wayne is preceded in death by his parents, Walter and Marie Ripke; brother, Willis Ripke; and niece, Barbara Nieland.

Cemetery Details

Zion Lutheran Cemetery

1725 555th St.
Storm Lake, IA 50588

Previous Events

Visitation

JAN 3. 4:00 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>

Funeral Service

JAN 4. 10:30 AM (CT)

Zion Lutheran Church
1725 555th St
Storm Lake, IA 50588

Tribute Wall



“ *Fratzke & Jensen Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Wayne Ripke*



Fratzke & Jensen Funeral Home - January 03, 2025 at 04:17 PM

GB

“ *In memory of Wayne.*

I feel so bad that I was totally unaware that Wayne had passed away. I heard it today 2/16/2025 while listening to Musicians come and play on KASM Radio station from Albany, MN.

I was able to pull up Wayne's Obituary to get caught up. Had I known, I surely would have been at his funeral.

Meanwhile, back in the late 70's and early 80's while I was living in Fairmont, MN, I would drive to Storm Lake or Albert City to meet Wayne, Norm Hogrefe, and Norms Dad. I played tube with the group and truly enjoyed the gigs I worked with Wayne and the band. Wayne enjoyed playing his BROWN concertinas. He had 3 of them when I was working with him and he said to me, "I have 3 Brown concertinas and I don't need 3" So, I asked Wayne, which one he wanted to sell. He said the Ab!! So that night at the gig we settled on a price and I took it along home with me. That Ab was originally owned by Vince Sandhurst, Adam's great uncle!! I still have it and it was used on a recording we made with the Dale Dahmen and the Polka Beats tune called the "Fidling Tenors" Great tune and great sounding concertina. All we have left now are the great memories. We will miss Wayne going forward. Our sympathy to his family and Blessings to you all.

Gary Baggenstoss

Gary Baggenstoss - February 16, 2025 at 06:01 PM

DW

“ *Darvin Will lit a candle in memory of Wayne Ripke*



Darvin Will - January 09, 2025 at 06:47 AM

TR

“ We are saddened to hear of the passing of Wayne. He was a remarkable man, and we always enjoyed having him on our annual tractor rides in Schaller. We will surely miss him and his quick wit! Our most sincere condolences, thoughts and prayers! ~The Harold King Memorial Tractor Ride, Inc.; Board & Family

The Harold King Memorial Tractor Ride - January 03, 2025 at 08:48 PM

BD

“ beverly Durst lit a candle in memory of Wayne Ripke



beverly Durst - January 03, 2025 at 04:40 PM

BD

“ beverly Durst lit a candle in memory of Wayne Ripke



beverly Durst - January 03, 2025 at 04:22 PM



“ 199 files added to the album LifeTributes



Fratzke & Jensen Funeral Home - January 03, 2025 at 11:09 AM



“ Wayne is a Legend! My parents would drag me as a kid to his dances...and I learned to polka dance because of that. This is another “day the music died!” Nobody can replace the way he could play that concertina! My sincerest sympathies to the Ripke family.



Kris (Meseck) Wester - January 03, 2025 at 08:28 AM



“ Margaret E. purchased the Country Basket Blooms for the family of Wayne Ripke.



Margaret E. - January 02, 2025 at 03:53 PM

TC

“ Terry Coombs lit a candle in memory of Wayne Ripke



Terry Coombs - January 02, 2025 at 03:30 PM

JH

“ 2 files added to the tribute wall



Jensen Funeral Homes - January 02, 2025 at 12:26 PM

SE

“ Sandy Endreson lit a candle in memory of Wayne Ripke



Sandy Endreson - December 31, 2024 at 04:58 PM

SB

“ Sharon Buchholz lit a candle in memory of Wayne Ripke



Sharon Buchholz - December 30, 2024 at 06:44 PM

LH

“ My favorite memories of Wayne were at Arcadia playing polka gigs and then going to the basement for a hamburger and homemade pie. Then again, there were the road trips to Wahoo NE with the whole crew in the van. Memories were made on those trips! I will miss his laughter and his kindness. I extend my sincere condolences to his family and friends.



Laura Hanna - December 30, 2024 at 06:03 PM

JW

“ Joan Whitney lit a candle in memory of Wayne Ripke



Joan Whitney - December 30, 2024 at 05:26 PM

DJ

“ Deb and Kevin Jesse lit a candle in memory of Wayne Ripke



Deb and Kevin Jesse - December 30, 2024 at 02:15 PM

MP

“ *mark prunty lit a candle in memory of Wayne Ripke*



mark prunty - December 30, 2024 at 07:48 AM



“ *One of my favorite Concertina players in the "polka" crowd was Wayne Ripke. So many of the impromptu gatherings I sought out Wane because we just "clicked" playing together. My heartfelt sadness I am sure is shared with his family as they remember our music and fellowship together. At home and dances. Throughout many Iowa locations. Wayne, I'll be right behind ya with the Tuba in Heaven soon. TubaDon*

Don Van Diepen - December 29, 2024 at 08:54 PM

BM

“ *Ben & Judy Malcom lit a candle in memory of Wayne Ripke*



Ben & Judy Malcom - December 29, 2024 at 06:36 PM

HM

“ Hello, it saddens me to hear of Wayne’s passing. I’m just 6 years younger than Wayne was, so his passing is closer to my heart. My most favorite memory of Wayne was back in the 60’s when he borrowed my dad’s 1958 Pontiac. When my dad got it back he said “the gas pedal was bent. I guess Wayne tried its top end.” Wayne later admitted to having driven it “as much as it would give, 120 mph. I don’t think my dad borrowed out the car again. God bless you Wayne, we’ll all miss you.

Harlan Morse - December 29, 2024 at 02:35 PM

JP

“ Jennifer peters lit a candle in memory of Wayne Ripke



Jennifer peters - December 29, 2024 at 11:43 AM

TW

I met Wayne when I worked at port a hut when he was driving the delivery truck almost 50 years ago. We always visited through the years when we met somewhere in town.

tom Wessman - December 31, 2024 at 04:30 PM

FM

Wayne was a great guy. Enjoyed being around Wayne whether playing with the band so socially in TX and elsewhere. Will be missed

Frank Melmer

Frank Melmer - January 03, 2025 at 10:02 AM

CD

“ Cheryl DeMan lit a candle in memory of Wayne Ripke



Cheryl DeMan - December 28, 2024 at 07:22 PM

CR

“ connie roche lit a candle in memory of Wayne Ripke



connie roche - December 28, 2024 at 04:57 PM

EB

“ edgar batiste lit a candle in memory of Wayne Ripke



edgar batiste - December 28, 2024 at 04:56 PM