

Footprints

One night I had a dream. I was walking along the beach with the Lord, and across the skies flashed scenes from my life. In each scene I noticed two sets of footprints in the sand. One was mine, and one was the Lord's.

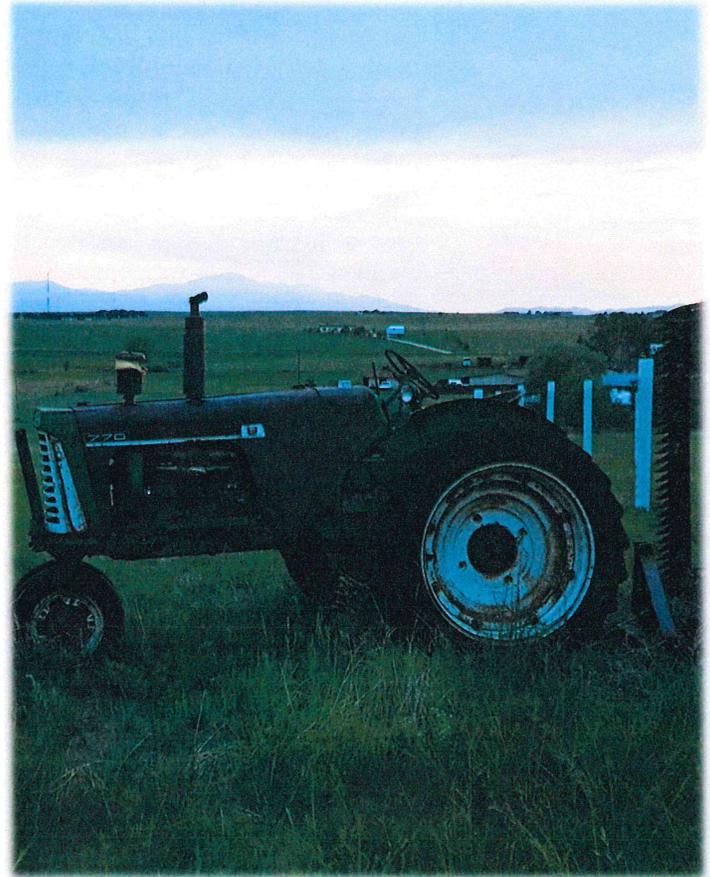
When the last scene of my life appeared before me, I looked back at the footprints in the sand, and to my surprise I noticed that many times along the path of my life there was only one set of footprints. And I noticed that it was at the lowest and saddest times in my life.

I asked the Lord about it. "Lord, you said that once I decided to follow you, you would walk with me all the way. But I notice that during the most troublesome times in my life there is only one set of footprints. I don't understand why you left my side when I needed you most."

The Lord replied, "My precious child, I love you and would never leave you. During your times of trial and suffering, where you see only one set of footprints, I was carrying you."



In Loving Memory



Ricky Bryan Rook

January 3, 1960 ~ April 22, 2025



Ricky "Rick" Bryan Rook was born on January 3, 1960, to his parents, Wilbur and Tillie (DeJong) Rook. He was the only boy with four older sisters and one younger sister. He grew up on the family farm outside of Doon, Iowa and went to school in Rock Valley, Iowa. Farming was in his blood, like it was in his fathers.

In June of 1979, he married the love of his life, Kathy Leusink. In October 1983, they welcomed their first little girl, Alisha. After Alisha

was born, they moved to the family farm where Rick had done numerous things over the years, from raising hogs and painted ponies to selling small lawn tractors. In May of 1993, they welcomed their second daughter, Caitlin.

In 2012, Rick needed a change in scenery, so he and his family decided to move to Colorado, where he had started a small automotive repair shop. After his wife passed away in 2015, Iowa started calling to his heart and he moved back in 2020. After moving back, he worked for some area farmers hauling cattle and hogs as well as working for the Rock Valley Hay Auction.

Rick retired at the beginning of 2025 at the age of 65 and he and his good friend, Gerald Van Tilburg, traveled to different gun shows in the area. Rick passed away Tuesday, April 22, 2025, at the Avera Heart Hospital in Sioux Falls, South Dakota at the age of 65.

He is survived by his daughters, Alisha Rook of Pueblo, Colorado and Caitlin Rook of Colorado Springs, Colorado; sisters, Marlys Hamann of Hull, Iowa, and Paula Brandimarte of Colorado Springs, Colorado; brother-in-law and brother by heart, Stephen Applegate of Colorado Springs, Colorado; and his mother, Tillie Rook of Rock Valley.

Rick was preceded in death by his wife, Kathy Rook; sister, Vickie Riphagen; and many aunts, uncles and cousins.

Celebrating the Life of ***Rick Rook***

January 3, 1960 ~ April 22, 2025

MEMORIAL SERVICE

2:00 PM, Saturday, May 10, 2025

Porter Funeral Home

Rock Valley, Iowa

OFFICIANT

Rev. Stanley Groothof

Trinity Christian Reformed Church

Rock Valley, Iowa

MUSICAL SELECTIONS

"Never Not Remember You"

Cooper Alan

"Angels Among Us"

Alabama

"One More Day"

Diamond Rio

"How Do I Say Goodbye"

Dean Lewis

HONORARY PALLBEARERS

Ben Lines ~ William Dunagan

Wyiat Hamilton ~ Jasper Lines

Stephen Applegate ~ Gerald Van Tilburg

Following the service, Rick's family invites everyone to stay for a time of fellowship and refreshments.