

Duane Richard Bonnema was born January 14th, 1956, the youngest of six children born to Melvin and Gertie (Haverhals) Bonnema. He attended school at Lebanon Christian Elementary and Western Christian High School, where he was not just a student but also the bus driver.

He began his career at Sioux Fertilizer and worked at Boyer Farms for many years, eventually taking over the Bonnema family farm on Cleveland Avenue near Hawarden, Iowa. He always had a creative gift for blacksmithing and created many metal work solutions at Duey's Repair Shop on the home place. In 2023, he retired and was diagnosed with cancer that summer. He fought the fight head-on, but he never forgot to admit pure gratefulness that through the accidents and illnesses he had experienced, God had granted him the precious time he needed to raise his family.

In 1992, Duane married Lea Ann Koopmans on August 29th in Ireton, Iowa. He and Lea Ann raised their four children on the farm – Britney, Logen, Deven and Laney.

Duane wasn't known for having nothing to say. He loved to visit his favorite spots – Quick Corner and Central Café. His children admit that a trip downtown for a quick meal was never quick. If Duane knew the clientele, then there was a story to tell or a “wise crack” to share. He followed the sport of high school wrestling with vigor, and he took great pride in being a husband, a father to four and grandpa to nine. Duane passed away Tuesday, February 25, 2025, at Hawarden Regional Healthcare at the age of 69.

Duane is survived by his wife, Lea Ann; four children, Britney (Bjorn) Johnson with Estelle and Soren of Olympia, Washington, Logen (Mallorie) Bonnema with Hazel and Harper of Hawarden, Deven (Chelsea) Bonnema with Birdie of Ireton, and Laney Bonnema (Tyler Smithson) with Tyler Mia and Charlie of LeMars, Iowa; five siblings, Leora (John) Van Midden-dorp of Rock Rapids, Iowa, Marlene Broek of Sioux Center, Iowa, Gervin (Helen) Bonnema of Orange City, Iowa, Cheryl Frost of Holland, Michigan, and Joyce Williams of Waverly, Iowa; 9 siblings-in-law, Jim (Mary) Koopmans, Jeanna (Mark) Negaard, Randy (Cindy) Koopmans, Ron (Connie) Koopmans, Arven (Patti) Koopmans, Bob (Darla) Koopmans, Sharole Rens, Sandy (Ken) Van Voorst and Janice (Bernie) Fedders, all from Sioux County, Iowa. Also blessed by Duane's gift of conversation are his numerous nieces and nephews; great-nieces and great-nephews; and many friends.

Rejoicing to welcome him to his heavenly home include his parents, Melvin and Gertie Bonnema; granddaughter, Etta Jo Bonnema; brothers-in-law, Jay Broek and Gary Frost; parents-in-law, Henry and Leona Koopmans; and a nephew, Dustin Koopmans.

Remembering the Life of ***Duane Richard Bonnema***

January 14, 1956 ~ February 25, 2025

FUNERAL SERVICE

1:00 PM, Tuesday, March 4, 2025
St. Paul's Lutheran Church
Ireton, Iowa

OFFICIANT

Rev. Michael Boothby

ACCOMPANIST

Jeanna Negaard

CONGREGATIONAL HYMNS

“How Great Thou Art”
“By Grace I'm Saved”
“Amazing Grace”

PALLBEARERS

Dan Bonnema ~ Brian Frost
Trent Rus ~ Mark Rens
Justin Negaard ~ Austin Koopmans

HONORARY PALLBEARERS

Jeffrey Vander Esch ~ Charlie Van Driessen
John Haverhals ~ Doug Wilkins
Robert Nelson ~ Duane Fickbohm ~ Al Kingma

INTERMENT

Pleasant Hill Cemetery
Ireton, Iowa

Duane's family invites everyone for a time of food and fellowship at the Ireton Community Center following the committal service at the cemetery.

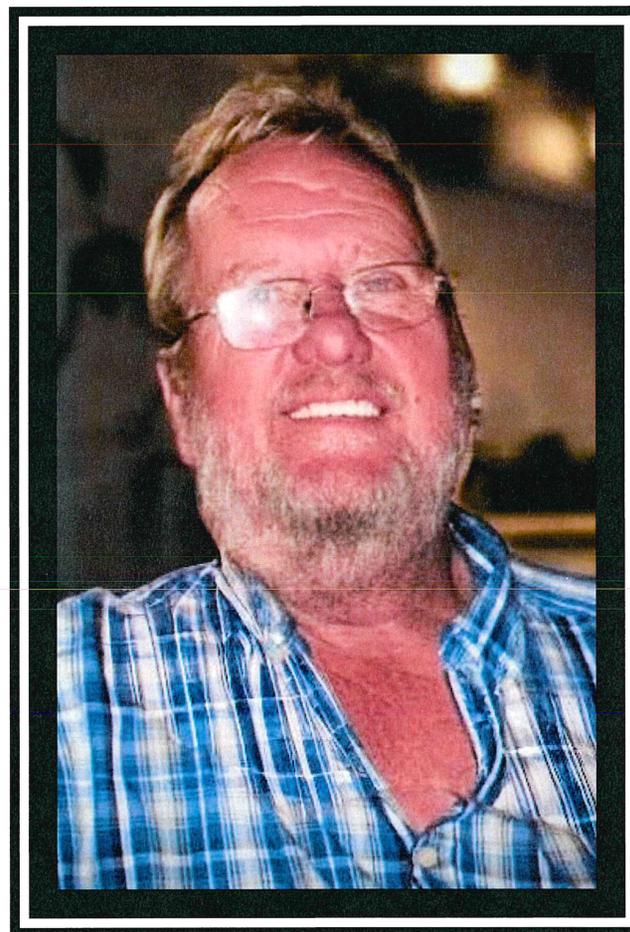
Last Reunion

*When my life's last page is written
And the book of life complete.
When my journey on this earth is over,
Please don't be sad or weep
I've lived my life as I saw fit,
I have no one to blame;
I think if I could live it over
I'd live it much the same.
I gave a little, took a little
Of life's full brimming cup;
I fought rough battles along the way.
But never once gave up.
Some day perhaps on yonder shore
I'll clasp a friendly hand,
And we'll have a glad reunion
In heaven's glorious land.*

*Josephine Snider
Gregory, South Dakota*



In Loving Memory



Duane Richard Bonnema

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