

Born on March 8, 1948, in Adrian, Minnesota, to Herman and Tena (Vander Plaats) Dirksen, Dick Daryl Dirksen grew up in various communities before settling in Ireton, Iowa, as a young boy. On December 3, 1968, he married Joanne (Jo) Van Maanen in Rock Valley, Iowa, and together they were blessed with five children. Their 56 years of marriage were filled with love, devotion, and countless cherished memories.

Dick served in the Iowa National Guard from September 1966 through September of 1972. He was called up to active duty in May of 1968 at Fort Carson, Colorado until August of 1969. During his active duty time he was selected to attend Recondo Course and successfully graduated. Dick was honorably discharged. Throughout his life, Dick worked in several different occupations, with his final job being at Vande Berg Scales, where he retired after 22 years of dedicated service on April 15, 2020. His commitment to his work was matched by his deep involvement in his community. Dick served on the Rock Valley Ambulance for 25 years, offering his time and skills to help others in times of need. He also served on the board of New Life Treatment Center, reflecting his passion for supporting those in need of recovery and guidance.

Dick knew and loved the Lord and passed this love on to his family. He was assured of his salvation and commented shortly after receiving the diagnosis of cancer in November of last year that he wanted God to be glorified through this journey. Dick's greatest joy in life was his family. He especially cherished the time spent with his beloved grandchildren and great-grandchildren, whose presence brought him immense happiness. His proudest accomplishment, however, was achieving 35 years of sobriety on February 19, 2025. Through his recovery, Dick was able to touch the lives of countless individuals, offering support and friendship through AA meetings and Celebrate Recovery. He formed many lasting relationships through his journey, and his legacy of love and support will continue to inspire all who knew him.

Dick passed away peacefully on Saturday, March 29, 2025, surrounded by family and loved ones at the age of 77. The family is grateful for the outpouring of love and support during this time. Dick's legacy of love, service, and strength will live on in the hearts of all who knew him. He will be deeply missed but never forgotten.

Dick is survived by his **devoted wife of 56 years, Jo**, and their 5 children and their families:

Son, Steve and Gayle (Fritz) Dirksen

Haeley and Jordan Faber and their children, Avery, Levi, and Beau
Jess and Amber Dirksen and their daughter, Braelynn

Daughter, Mindi and Mitch Miller

Trent and Katie Miller and their daughter, Emilia
Samuel and Kennedy Yun
Layne and Mollie and their son, Luka

Son, Kirk and Londa (Wassink) Dirksen

Brayden, Kalen and Kira

Daughter, Tanya and Jeremy Hildebrandt

Tia, Rian, Dante and Gabriel

Daughter, Jodi and Cory Riemersma

Madison and Gustav Espersen
Jackson
Lydia

Dick is also survived by his siblings, Larry (Gloria) Dirksen, Don (Gail) Dirksen, Carol (Jerry) Liston, Teri (Brad) Wagner, and Gretchen (Randy) Van't Hof; as well as his sister-in-law, Donna (Glen) Tilstra. He was preceded in death by his parents, Herman and Tena Dirksen; parents-in-law, John and Jeanette Van Maanen; stepmom, Lois Mitchell; brothers, Jerry Dirksen and Ronald Dirksen; and sister-in-law, Marlys.

Remembering the Life of Dick Daryl Dirksen

March 8, 1948 ~ March 29, 2025

MEMORIAL SERVICE

11:00 AM, Wednesday, April 2, 2025
Faith Reformed Church
Rock Valley, Iowa

OFFICIATING

Rev. Dan De Groot
Rev. Mark Beernink

PIANIST

Natalie Ysselstein

FAMILY REFLECTIONS

Steve Dirksen
Mindi Miller

MUSICAL SELECTIONS

"Knowing What I Know About Heaven"

Recorded by: Guy Penrod

"This I Know (Jesus Loves Me)"

Sung by: Dick's Granddaughter, Haeley Faber
and Dick's Great-Grandchildren

CONGREGATIONAL HYMNS

"Power in the Blood"

"Make Me a Channel of Your Peace"

"Yet Not I but Through Christ in Me"

PALLBEARERS

Dick's Beloved Grandchildren

MILITARY RITES

Rock Valley American Legion Pfarrer-Fox Post 321

FAMILY INTERMENT

Rev. Stanley Groothof
Valley View Cemetery
Rock Valley, Iowa

*Dick's family invites everyone for a time of food and fellowship in the
Family Life Center immediately following the memorial service.*

My Life View

By: Dick Dirksen

In Genesis 1:5, there was evening and there was morning—the first day. God created time, the controlling and defining facture of the universe. Without time, change as we know it is not possible. Without change, we cannot have motion or growth. We as humans cannot think outside the constraints of time.

*There is only today
For yesterday is but memory
And tomorrow but vision
So every today well lived
Makes every yesterday a memory of happiness
And every tomorrow vision hope.*

In John 3:16, For God so loved the world that He gave His only Son so anyone who believed in Him should not perish but have eternal life. When time ends for us, God has made a way for us to move to eternity with Him forever.

I have tried to make this prayer the guide for my life....

*God, grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change
The courage to change the things I can
And the wisdom to know the difference
Living one day at a time
Accepting hardship as the pathway to peace
Taking, as Jesus did, this sinful world as it is, not as I would have it
Trusting that He will make all things right if I surrender to His will
So that I may be reasonably happy in this life
And supremely happy with You in the next.
Amen! To God Be The Glory!*



Celebrating the Life of



Dick Daryl Dirksen

March 8, 1948 ~ March 31, 2025