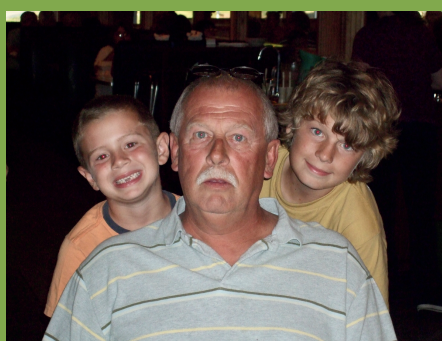




THANK YOU FOR YOUR WORDS
OF SYMPATHY, YOUR VOICE OF
CONCERN, YOUR GESTURE OF
CARING, AND THE LOVE THAT
YOU OFFER.

HENDERSONS
FUNERAL & CREMATION CARE



JACK BAKER JR.

August 18, 1949 - August 29, 2026

JACK MILTON BAKER JR., 77, OF ANKENY, IOWA, PASSED AWAY ON AUGUST 29, 2026, IN DES MOINES. HE WAS BORN ON AUGUST 18, 1949, IN DES MOINES AND SPENT A LIFE ROOTED IN FAMILY, HARD WORK, AND THE PLACES HE CALLED HOME. JACK GREW UP IN VALLEY JUNCTION IN WEST DES MOINES, IOWA. HE GRADUATED FROM VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL IN 1967 AND SOON AFTER ENTERED THE MARINES DURING THE VIETNAM WAR. AFTER THE WAR, HE LIVED IN MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE, BEFORE MOVING BACK TO DES MOINES, WHERE HE REMAINED CLOSELY CONNECTED TO THE COMMUNITY THAT SHAPED SO MUCH OF HIS LIFE.

IN MAY 1968, JACK MARRIED DONNA KAY TRACHEL IN CALIFORNIA. LATER, HE MARRIED CONNIE WATSON IN DES MOINES ON VALENTINE'S DAY, FEBRUARY 14, 1990. THEIR MARRIAGE BECAME AN IMPORTANT AND LASTING PART OF HIS LIFE. THROUGHOUT HIS WORKING YEARS, JACK WAS KNOWN AS A HARDWORKING MAN WHO BUILT A LIFE THROUGH STEADY DEDICATION AND PRACTICAL SKILL. HE WORKED FOR ARMSTRONG/TITAN TIRE, PENN DIXIE, DID SOME PEST CONTROL AND ALSO SOME HOME REMODELING, FINALLY RETIRING FROM MEDIA COM. HIS WORK REFLECTED A WILLINGNESS TO TAKE ON MANY RESPONSIBILITIES AND A PRIDE IN DOING THINGS WITH HIS OWN HANDS. JACK ALSO MADE TIME FOR THE THINGS HE ENJOYED MOST. HE WAS A HUGE GOLFER WHO LOVED SPENDING TIME ON THE COURSE. HE BOWLED AND FISHED WITH FRIENDS IN CANADA AS WELL AS FAMILY IN FLORIDA, CREATING MEMORIES THROUGH THE HOBBIES AND PASTIMES THAT BROUGHT HIM HAPPINESS. AFTER RETIREMENT, HE MOVED TO FLORIDA FOR SEVEN YEARS BEFORE RETURNING TO DES MOINES BECAUSE OF HEALTH, ONCE AGAIN MAKING HIS WAY BACK TO THE CITY THAT HAD LONG BEEN CENTRAL TO HIS LIFE. HE IS SURVIVED BY HIS LOVING WIFE, CONNIE BAKER. HE ALSO LEAVES BEHIND HIS CHILDREN, JOHN BAKER AND HIS WIFE TERESA, PAULA BAKER AND HER HUSBAND ANDY SCHLARMANN, RICHARD BAKER AND HIS WIFE ZARA, AND TROY HALL. JACK'S FAMILY WAS FURTHER BLESSED BY EIGHT GRANDCHILDREN AND 15 GREAT-GRANDCHILDREN, EACH PART OF THE LEGACY OF LOVE AND FAMILY HE LEAVES BEHIND. HE IS ALSO SURVIVED BY HIS SIBLINGS, LARRY BAKER, PHIL BAKER AND PHIL'S WIFE DANIELLE AND LYNN BURNS, HIS AUNT DOROTHY JENSEN, AND HIS NEPHEWS TRAE BAKER AND MICHAEL BURNS, ALONG WITH MANY EXTENDED FAMILY MEMBERS AND FRIENDS WHO WILL REMEMBER HIM WITH AFFECTION. HE WAS PRECEDED IN DEATH BY HIS BROTHER, JIM BAKER; HIS BROTHER-IN-LAW, JAMES BURNS; AND HIS NIECES, CASSONDRA SELF AND MELISSA BURNS. JACK WILL BE REMEMBERED FOR HIS DEVOTION TO HIS FAMILY, HIS YEARS OF HARD WORK, AND THE ENJOYMENT HE FOUND IN GOLF, FISHING, BOWLING, AND TRAVEL. HIS MEMORY WILL LIVE ON IN THE MANY LIVES HE TOUCHED AND IN THE FAMILY WHO CARRY HIM FORWARD WITH LOVE.

CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF
JACK MILTON BAKER JR.
HENDERSONS FUNERAL HOME
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 3, 2026
5:00 P.M. - 7:00 P.M.

