

In Loving Memory of
HOWARD JAMES THIESSEN
December 5, 2019 ~ April 14, 2026

MEMORIAL SERVICE

Tuesday, April 21, 2026, at 11:00 am
Grace Bible Church
Hutchinson, Kansas

OFFICIANT

Pastor Josh Mills

EULOGIST

Randy Orpin

SONG LEADER

Pastor David Cahoon

PIANIST

Aaron Potter

CONGREGATIONAL HYMNS

How Great Thou Art
It Is Well With My Soul
The Doxology

INTERMENT

Tuesday, April 21, 2026, at 9:00 am
Garden Community Church Cemetery

CASKET BEARERS

Danny Orpin, Randy Orpin, Robby Orpin,
Jack Newland, Doug Orpin,
Stephen Orpin, Jonny Orpin, Charles Orpin,
Jon Yates, Tyler Thiessen

MEMORIAL

In lieu of flowers, payable to
Stockham Family Funeral Home

Arrangements by
Stockham Family Funeral Home, McPherson, Kansas

Matthew 13:3-9, 18-23

And He spoke many things to them in parables, saying, "Behold, the sower went out to sow; and as he sowed, some seeds fell beside the road, and the birds came and ate them up. And others fell on the rocky places, where they did not have much soil; and immediately they sprang up, because they had no depth of soil. But when the sun had risen, they were scorched; and because they had no root, they withered away. And others fell among the thorns, and the thorns came up and choked them out. And others fell on the good soil and were yielding a crop, some a hundredfold, some sixty, and some thirty. He who has ears, let him hear."

"Hear then the parable of the sower. When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what has been sown in his heart. This is the one on whom seed was sown beside the road. And the one on whom seed was sown on the rocky places, this is the man who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy; yet he has no root in himself, but is only temporary, and when affliction or persecution arises because of the word, immediately he falls away. And the one on whom seed was sown among the thorns, this is the one who hears the word, and the worry of the world and the deceitfulness of wealth choke the word, and it becomes unfruitful. And the one on whom seed was sown on the good soil, this is the man who hears the word and understands it; who indeed bears fruit and brings forth, some a hundredfold, some sixty, and some thirty."



In Loving Memory
Howard James Thiessen

December 5, 2019 - April 14, 2026

HOWARD JAMES THIESSEN

Howard James Thiessen passed away unexpectedly on April 14, 2026, at the age of 6.

Howard was born in Wichita, Kansas, on December 5, 2019, to Scott and Ruth Thiessen. He had an outgoing and friendly personality and enjoyed talking with friends and relatives of all ages. He loved life, loved people, and was endeared to everyone who knew him. Howard's bright eyes and sweet smile brought light into the room when he walked in. His maturity in thought and conversation was beyond his years, and he made an impression on the lives of all those around him. Howard enjoyed participating in Adventure Club at church and was two Bible verses away from completing his current book. This would have been annoying to him after working so hard all year. His exact words about this would likely have been, "What a hassle!" He also enjoyed first grade and was preparing to play the air guitar at his end-of-year school program.

Howard was a helpful young man and was always looking for a way to use his Swiss Army knife to complete a task. His dad looked for opportunities for him to open boxes and other handy uses for his first pocket knife. Howard really enjoyed these opportunities as well as dissecting every type of plant. He was so excited about his knife that he took it along to church one Wednesday evening. When the

teacher noticed him showing it to some of the other children, his mom was called over, so the knife could be placed into safekeeping until after church. He also endeavored to "help" his mom with her busy workload by giving both of his sisters haircuts one day. She was quite surprised by this unexpected occurrence and spent a notable amount of time trying to correct the result of his well-meaning efforts.

Last summer, Howard trusted Jesus as his Savior from sin during the week of Vacation Bible School. A Bible verse that meant a lot to him was John 3:16, "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life." Howard would want us to know about God's great love. Because of this love, God sent His Son, Jesus Christ, to live a holy life here on earth so He could die for our sins on the cross. The best news is that on the 3rd day, Jesus didn't stay in the grave, but He rose again to make the way for those who believe in Him to have eternal life. Howard's faith is an example for us. God promises eternal life for those who believe, and God always keeps His promises.

Like his father and grandfather, Howard had a love for all things farming: tractors, implements, crops, and livestock. His favorite shows to watch were related to farming, and his favorite place to be was

outside with his dad and grandpa, soaking up every possible moment. On the way home from church, Howard loved to look at the fields. When they would stop to look at the soil and roots, he was delighted whenever he would see an earthworm. He would whisper, "Look, Dad, one of our little friends that helps the soil!" He always said it in a whisper so he wouldn't scare the worm.

Howard was a creative builder with Legos. Whenever he received a new set, he would build it and enjoy it for about 3 days before he repurposed the pieces into his own creations. He frequently modified them as he found ways to make improvements and was very excited to show others what he had made.

Howard's memory will be cherished by his parents: Scott and Ruth, his sisters: Edith and Katherine, his grandparents: David and Janene Thiessen and Debbie Orpin, great-grandparents: Robert and Frances Thiessen and Stan and Imogene Carlisle, aunts and uncles: Danny (Laura) Orpin, Randy (Bethany) Orpin, Robby (Holly) Orpin, Christy (Jack) Newland, Doug (Laura) Orpin, Stephen (Shannon) Orpin, Jonathan (Julianne) Orpin, Rachel Orpin, Charles Orpin, Emily (Jon) Yates, and Tyler (Abigail) Thiessen, as well as many cousins and friends. Howard was preceded in death by his grandpa: Chuck Orpin, and great-grandparents: Clarence and Ruth Orpin and Gayle and Twila Lenstrom.