



John Van Surksum, son of John and Gertrude (Rempt) Van Surksum, was born February 2, 1938, at Rock Rapids, Iowa. John grew up on the family farm near Inwood, Iowa and after completing high school volunteered for the US Army. On June 11, 1959, John was united in marriage with Jeanette “Nettie” Vlastuin at her parents’ farm. The couple raised three daughters, Debra, Susan, and Dawn. John lost the love of his life on June 2, 2023.

Today would have been their 67th wedding anniversary. He moved to Fellowship Village in Inwood, Iowa in December 2023. John was so blessed to be able to stay at Fellowship Village and often expressed what great care he was given. His room had a beautiful view of the courtyard where he spent many hours watching the birds and enjoying nature. John was a longtime member of the Netherlands Reformed Congregation of Sioux Center, Iowa.

John volunteered for the US Army after he completed school. He often shared stories from his time in the Army and overseas in Germany. He remained a member of the American Legion until his death. John worked at the lumberyard in Doon for several years before taking a job at Kooima’s in Rock Valley as a machine operator. He worked there until his retirement in 2003. John was a volunteer fireman for many years in Doon including serving as the Fire Chief. John was a talented carpenter and handyman. He loved tinkering in the garage and fixing things around the house. John was a regular at the Corner Café for coffee during the week and enjoyed hearing the latest happenings in Doon. John passed away Saturday, June 6, 2026, at Fellowship Village at the age of 88.

He is survived by his daughters, Susan (Steve) Hoekstra, and Dawn (Lane) Munson; grandchildren, Lance (Amy) Juffer and their daughter, Annika, Stephanie (Chad) Mulder and their children, Dylan, Gracyn, and Aubryn, Cole Hoekstra, Chance Hoekstra, Dane Munson, and Cydne Munson; sisters-in-law, Tillie Blom, Ann Vlastuin, Emma Vlastuin, and Mary Van Surksum; and brother-in-law, Elmer Vlastuin.

Preceding John in death was his wife, Jeanette, his parents, John and Gertrude Van Surksum; daughter, Debra Van Surksum; great-grandson, Andrew Juffer; and his siblings, Bernie Van Surksum, Rich Van Surksum, Johanna Teunissen, Grace Van Veldhuizen, Bill Van Surksum, and Gary Van Surksum.

In Loving Memory
John Van Surksum
February 2, 1938 ~ June 6, 2026

FUNERAL SERVICE
10:00 AM, Thursday, June 11, 2026
Porter Funeral Home
Rock Valley, Iowa

OFFICIANT
Rev. H. Hofman
Netherlands Reformed Congregation

ORGANIST
Harold Schelling

PSALTERS
“A Mindful God” #281 All Verses
“The Fearlessness of Faith” #71 Verses 3&4

PALLBEARERS
Lance Juffer ~ Chance Hoekstra
Cole Hoekstra ~ Dane Munson
Chad Mulder ~ Dylan Mulder

HONORARY PALLBEARERS
Stephanie Mulder ~ Cydne Munson
Gracyn Mulder ~ Aubryn Mulder ~ Annika Juffer

MILITARY RITES
Rock River American Legion Post 476
Iowa Honor Guard

INTERMENT
Hillside Cemetery
Doon, Iowa

John’s family invites everyone for a time of food and fellowship at the Netherlands Reformed Christian School following the committal service at the cemetery.

*God saw he was getting tired
And a cure was not to be,
So He put His arms around him
And whispered, "Come with Me."*

*With tearful eyes we watched him suffer
And saw him fade away,
Although we loved him dearly
We could not make him stay.*

*A golden heart stopped beating
Hard working hands to rest,
God broke our hearts to prove to us
He only takes the best.*



PORTER FUNERAL HOME

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