



## Merle Hoversten

October 24, 1938 - June 3, 2021

Merle Hoversten, 82, of Alden, passed away Thursday, June 3, 2021 at University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics in Iowa City. Memorial services will be 3:00 PM on Saturday, June 12, 2021 at the Immanuel Lutheran Church in Iowa Falls. He will be laid to rest at the Alden Cemetery. Woodley Funeral Home and Cremation Services of Iowa Falls is caring for Merle and his family.

Merle Leroy Hoversten was born on October 24, 1938 at home on the farm to Elmer and Ilo (Weaver) Hoversten. He attended Alden School and graduated in 1957. After high school, Merle enrolled in the United States Air Force from 1959 to 1962. After serving in the Air Force, Merle attended Drake University and obtained his CPA. During this time, Merle also worked on the family farm and worked for a taxi service in Des Moines, Iowa. In 1971 Merle opened and ran Merle's East Side Lounge in Iowa Falls, Iowa for 23 years, until 1994. After closing his lounge, Merle continued to work on the family farm until his passing. Merle was also an active member of the Immanuel Lutheran Church in Iowa Falls, Iowa.

Merle was a huge Iowa Hawkeye fan and loved all sports. He had a passion for his lounge and loved to make fudge. Merle was a predominant individual in the Alden community, and whether you are young or old, someone always has a story about Merle. He loved to drive around Alden at a slow speed and check on family and friends. If Merle had an opinion about something,

typically, you knew what his opinion was. Furthermore, Merle enjoyed being on his land and sharing memories with close family and friends who would stop and see him.

Merle is survived by five sisters and one brother, Betty (Ralph) Richtsmeier of Babbitt, Minnesota, Delia Rockow of Alden, Iowa, Verna Scott of Branson, Missouri, Evelyn (Tom) Kinstle of Bowling Green, Ohio, Frances Rout of Cambridge, Iowa and David Hoversten of Alden, Iowa as well as many nieces, nephews and friends. He was preceded in death by his parents; brothers: Robert Hoversten, Donald (Jackie) Hoversten, Wallace (Shirley) Hoversten, Richard Hoversten, Harold Hoversten, Gene Hoversten, Maurice (Donna) Hoversten and Ronald Hoversten; brothers-in-law, Maynard Rockow, Jay Jacobson, Darrell Rout and a sister-in-law, Kyong Aechoe.

# Cemetery Details

## Alden Cemetery

Alden, IA 50006

# Previous Events

## Service

JUN 12. 3:00 PM (CT)

Immanuel Lutheran Church  
313 Lee Lane  
Iowa Falls, IA 50126

# Tribute Wall

MR

“ *I remember*

Mary Rameyer - November 24, 2025 at 07:56 AM

KI

“ *Merle was my mom's, Marilyn Fischer's first cousin. I remember meeting him a couple of times, he was such fun loving guy. Mom would tell me how much fun he was growing up. I am sorry we are just finding out. He will surely be missed*

Kim - April 03, 2023 at 01:59 PM

JS

“ *I grew up at Merle's Eastside. He was a one man show. I remember him cooking burgers and he had his leg his leg up on the stove. Old Style was 50 cents a can, and my dad wanted him to give me a beer because pop was 65 cents. My cousin and I went fishing in Iowa Falls and caught a fishing pole. The guy on the bank said it was his and gave us \$5. That's the best fishing, we didn't have to clean it. My family was trying to locate us and my dad said maybe they're at Merle's. Sure enough the Chevelle and the boat were out front. I was only 17 at the time. We spent that fishing reward on video games. I regret not stopping to see him more recently.*

John Smith - June 06, 2021 at 05:36 PM

SL

“ *Sheryl Luppen lit a candle in memory of Merle Hoversten*



Sheryl Luppen - June 05, 2021 at 11:51 AM

DW

“ Thanks Merle for the rides home when my motorcycle would'nt start. ( because someone pulled the coil wire)---You did serve the best nightcrawlers in town!!

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**Dick Whittington** - June 05, 2021 at 04:36 AM

JR

“ I'll always remember when Uncle Merle locked me in the walk in cooler at the bar. It was in the early seventies and I was a high school kid. The cooler had no door handle on the inside, I immediately began to pound on the door and yell for help much to the delight of Merle and everyone sitting at the bar. He was grinning from ear to ear as he showed me the metal tool laying right there by the door which was used to open the door from the inside. Probably not the first time he did that.

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**Jeff Richtsmeier** - June 04, 2021 at 01:09 PM

DC

“ We had lots of laughs and lots of disagreements but he was a very good friend. Gonna miss ya Merle. Hugs and prayers to family.

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**Darla Carpenter** - June 04, 2021 at 10:42 AM

WB

“ I will ALWAYS remember night of his birthdy 74-75ish mike n bonnie ostrem walked in the door, he looked at them , then at us shooting pool. Spun, sprinted out the back door, down the alley n headed across the bridge towards town and ran out of gas about 3/4 across. Took his b.d. Spanking like a man!! Lol. Definitely miss him!!

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**william bonin** - June 03, 2021 at 08:08 PM

DC

*We just visited Merle last week. Saw him outside looking out over the fields. He was very special to us. He will be remembered and missed.*

**Diane (Peet) Clark** - June 04, 2021 at 12:19 AM

DW

*Thanks Merle for the rides home when my motorcycle would'nt start. You did serve the best nightcrawlers in town. Will miss you. Dick Whittington*

**Dick Whittington** - June 04, 2021 at 10:46 AM

KB

*“ Sending my condolences to Merle's family and friends. Merle and I connected. We had quite the discussions and he was not afraid to tell me what was on his mind about any given subject. He was genuinely honest and very giving. Our family was the recipients of his labor, whether it was apples or asparagus, etc. I am sure we were not alone in receiving his gifts. The birds will miss his daily feedings. I will miss our visits. Until we meet again, Merle.  
~Kathy Bengtson*

**Kathy Bengtson** - June 03, 2021 at 02:25 PM

LH

*“ What can I say - My heart is broken !! He called me about 2 weeks ago to get some information from me and didn't know the answer - he says I should have just called the Times Citizen they know more than you do ! I worked for Merle in the early 70's didn't even know how to pour a beer and he left me ! I learned my job that day with the help of my customers - And the time he signed my pay check Lori Harmless and the lady at the bank saw no humor in it ! I have endless stories but you don't have time ! I will miss you Merle - until we meet again - Lori-Harms- Bonin*

**Lori Harms-Bonin** - June 03, 2021 at 02:13 PM