



## Richard Schafer

January 26, 1942 - March 18, 2026

Richard Schafer, 84, of Wellsburg, passed away Wednesday, March 18, 2026 at his home in Wellsburg. Funeral services will be held at 10:30 AM Tuesday, March 24, 2026 at the First Christian Reformed Church in rural Wellsburg. He will be laid to rest at the church cemetery. Visitation will be from 5-7 PM on Monday at the church. Woodley Funeral Home of Iowa Falls is caring for Richard and his family.

Richard Allen Schafer was born on January 26, 1942 to Thomas and Grace (Janssen) Schafer in Wellsburg, Iowa. He graduated from Wellsburg High School. He was a member of the First Christian Reformed Church. On November 18, 1967 Richard was united in marriage to Janice Shugar at the First Presbyterian Church in Ackley, Iowa.

Richard had a booming voice and used this wonderful talent to sing. He sang at many weddings and at over 200 funerals. He participated in the Messengers Quartet, the Layman Quartet, the Kings Men Chorus and the Interfaith Chorus. He went to many gospel concerts. Conveniently enough with this loud, booming voice, Richard could never get lost in a crowd. All one had to do was just listen and you would hear him talking and befriending a stranger somewhere. By the time you located him, he had found out who that person's parents were, where they grew up, and what they did for a living.

Richard farmed for many years but was also a beloved bus driver for over 40 years. He was a substitute driver for Exceptional Persons in the early years and later full-time for the W-SR and AGWSR School District. Those students who were lucky enough to have him as a bus driver were sometimes treated to an impromptu concert as he sang along to the radio or just a cappella. A few of his grandchildren were also blessed to have been driven to school by him. A favorite treat of his grandchildren on their birthdays was for Richard to sing happy birthday to them over the phone.

Richard served on the church board as both elder and deacon. He was also a Sunday school superintendent. He served 8 years on the board of the Cedar Falls Bible Conference. He enjoyed going to the shows in Branson, Missouri each year.

Richard was immensely proud of the family he and Janice raised. Those left to cherish his memory are his loving wife, Janice Schafer of Wellsburg, Iowa; their daughter, Laura Woods (Kyle Buckley) of New Providence; granddaughter, Courtney (great-grandsons- Robin and William) and grandson Garrett: son, Bradley Schafer (Shelly) of Wellsburg and their daughters, Sidney, Braelyn and Delaney as well as sisters and brothers-in-law and many nieces and nephews. Richard was preceded in death by his parents, Thomas and Grace Schafer; infant daughter, Anita Rae; granddaughter, Brittney Bennett, his sister, Gretta Schafer and mother and father in-law, Raymond and Jeanette Shugar.

Richard was devoted to his Lord and Savior and no doubt heard the words "well done good and faithful servant" as he was welcomed Home.

# Cemetery Details

## First Christian Reformed Church Cemetery

12419 185th St  
Wellsburg, IA 50680

# Previous Events

## Visitation

MAR **23**. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

First Christian Reformed Church  
12419 185th St  
Wellsburg, IA 50680

## Service

MAR **24**. 10:30 AM (CT)

First Christian Reformed Church  
12419 185th St  
Wellsburg, IA 50680

# Tribute Wall



“ *Florist Choice Bouquet was purchased for the family of Richard Schafer.* ”



March 22 at 08:45 AM



“ *Greg Steph Charlie Sam & Mikey Anderson purchased the Crystal Cross Bouquet for the family of Richard Schafer.* ”



**Greg Steph Charlie Sam & Mikey Anderson** - March 21 at 12:01 AM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Richard Schafer.* ”



March 20 at 11:47 AM