



Kurtis Keen Kruger

August 9, 1960 - January 5, 2023

Kurtis Keen Kruger, 62 of Parkersburg, Iowa passed away from a heart attack on Thursday, January 5th, 2023, in Nochixtlan, Mexico. He was on the last 1,500-mile segment of his decade long goal to ride his motorcycle over 15,000 miles from the top of North America to the bottom of South America.

Kurt was born on August 9th, 1960, in Grundy Center, Iowa, the son of Dennis Kruger and Billie Lee Mommer. He attended Dike High School and graduated with the class of 1978. He married Bonnie Ann Deer in 1989 and they had 2 sons, Kody and Klayton. Starting at a young age, Kurt worked as a farmer for Kruger Seeds, before forming his own farming business in 1995.

He was a loving father, hard-working farmer, dedicated member of alcoholics anonymous, and a life-long adventurer. He was a charter member of the Second Chance motorcycle club and remained active in the organization his entire life. Kurt had a soft spot for children and smiled with excitement when he learned he would become a grandpa.

When it was time to work, he was focused and efficient. Kurt always knew he wanted to be a farmer and devoted his life to mastering his craft. There was no job on the farm he wouldn't do, and would regularly clean grain bins, climb the bins/leg, and fix tile. He enjoyed being mistaken as an employee and having the opportunity to reveal his identity. He worked with his two sons

every day, who were very much inspired by his work ethic and ability to lead by example. His presence in the office and in the field can never be replaced.

Kurt built many lasting friendships through his 40-year membership in Alcoholics Anonymous. Over the years, he was quick to help a brother in need but avoided any recognition for doing so. Few people know the extent of what he has done for the AA community.

When the farm work was done, he would immediately start planning a new motorcycle adventure. He rode in places like Mongolia, Iceland, Norway, South Africa, Chile, Peru, and Colombia, to name just a few. Kurt also had a love for endurance motorcycle riding. His idea of fun was riding from the east coast to the west coast in under 50 hours and riding in the Hoka Hey, a motorcycle race spanning 9,833 miles with hundreds of riders, in which he placed 13th at the age of 60. He rode over 750,000 miles in his lifetime, enough to circle the earth 30 times, and it brought his life great joy and adventure.

Left to cherish his memory are his parents: Dennis Kruger of Iowa, and Billie Lee Mommer of Texas; sisters: Kimberly Kruger of Texas, Stacy Kruger of Colorado and Heidi (Michel) Kruger of Portugal; sons: Kody (Vanessa) Kruger of Iowa and Klayton (Lauren) Kruger of Iowa; niece: Jessie Marie of Texas; nephews: Jacob Bear of Texas and Django Vermeulen Kruger of Portugal; and many other aunt/uncles, cousins, family, and friends whom he treasured.

He was preceded in death by his grandparents: Jake and Lillian (Finger) Kruger, & Russell and Lois (Ericksen) Mommer; step-mother: Holly (Harris) Kruger; brother and sister-in-law: Phil and Jodi (Anderson) Kruger.

Public visitation will be held from 4 to 7 p.m. on Jan. 20th at Fredsville Lutheran Church located at 32756 150th Street, Cedar Falls, Iowa. Funeral

services for Kurt will be held at 11 a.m. on Jan 21st. Pastor Lee will officiate the service Fredsville Church.

The family of Kurt would like to extend our sincere thanks to Brian Foltz who was travelling with Kurt when he passed away and he said, "This ride is not done until we get him home."

Memorials may be directed to ABATE of Iowa or the Northeast Iowa Food bank.

Cemetery Details

Fredsville Lutheran Church Cemetery

Cedar Falls, IA 50613

Previous Events

Visitation

JAN **20**. 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Fredsville Lutheran Church
32756 150th Street
Cedar Falls, IA 50613

Memorial Service

JAN **21**. 11:00 AM (CT)

Fredsville Lutheran Church
32756 150th Street
Cedar Falls, IA 50613

Tribute Wall

GW

“ I remember the 1st time I met Kurt. We had one of our 1st outings since starting the Second Chance Motor Cycle Club at Palasades Park in Cedar Rapids. That was about 43 years ago. We all road many miles together. Rest in piece Brother.

Gary Wood - April 16, 2023 at 07:49 PM

S.

“ Rest in peace Kurt ...fly and ride high friend



Sheila barfels ..Riley - February 07, 2023 at 10:39 PM

MH

“ Sincere condolences to Kurt's family and friends from Finland.



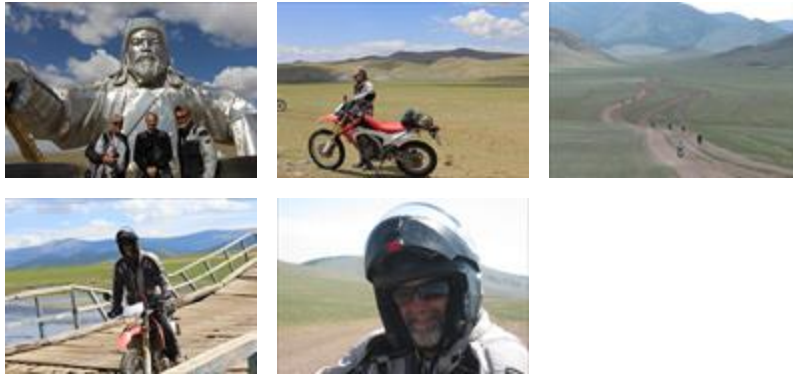
We met Kurt and Mike in 2019 at the port of Tallinn, Estonia on our way back from the annual Jõgeva Treff meeting. They were on their way through Finland to Nordkap and were thinking about the best routes to the north. After talking for a while, we said "Ari has a nice sauna cabin by the river, come there for the night and we can plan a good route for you the next day". So we spent the late evening taking a traditional Finnish sauna and swimming in the river. The next day there was some motorcycle maintenance, Kurt got to know Ari's small farm and we gave ideas about a route following the eastern border of Finland - on a gravel road, of course... 🚗

Marko "Hä®ski" Hartikainen, Ari Weckman & Family

Marko "Hä®ski" Hartikainen - January 28, 2023 at 10:34 AM

DE

“ I met Kurt on a Mongolian riding adventure in 2018. It's a place with stunning landscapes, few roads and lots of tracks. So the perfect place to ride a motorbike. The adventure had its challenges with breakdowns, dropped bikes and injuries. Despite this, it remains my favourite trip because of the great group of people on the trip. Thanks Kurt. My sincere condolences to your family and friends from Donald Epps in Australia.



Donald Epps - January 25, 2023 at 01:20 AM

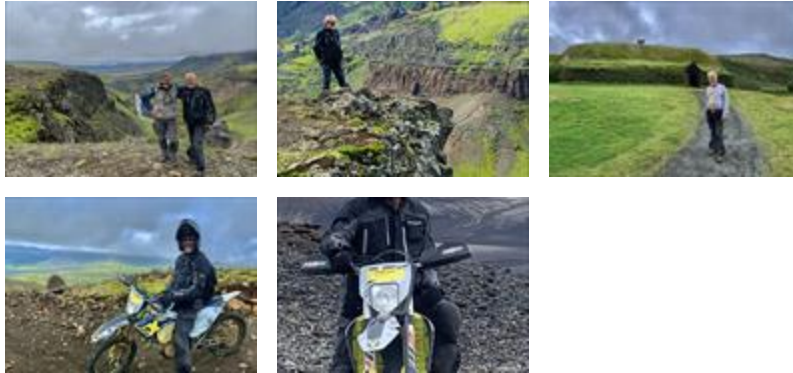
AB

“ We met Kurt on a motorcycle trip into Mongolia in 2018. We both have treasured memories of riding with Kurt and enjoyed his company and getting to know him. Our thoughts are with Kurt's family and friends at this sad time. Ride free Kurt. Ian and Averl NZ

Averil and Ian Boyd - January 24, 2023 at 09:13 PM

JO

“ 31 files added to the tribute wall



john&holly - January 24, 2023 at 08:22 PM

JO

The last contact I had with our good companion Kurt was on January 1st.

*May I share his quote-
While in Mexico*

*“Trying to stay on the down low But it’s hard to camouflage COOL”.
Yes my friend COOL will be missed RIP*

john&holly - January 24, 2023 at 08:30 PM

MM

“ I first met Kurt when he joined one of our tours in Kyrgyzstan & Mongolia, I was the ride leader, we instantly hit it off, as an ex trucker I often joked with him how I would come to the US to drive one of his trucks during harvest, probably illegal, but Kurt always assured me he would make it happen. In this touring game you get to meet a lot of people but Kurt was a standout for his humble softly spoken and thoughtful demeanour, I will miss you mate! Sincere condolences to his family and friends for mick & Veronica and all the Compass team

Mick McDonald - January 24, 2023 at 06:10 PM

HS

“ 7 files added to the tribute wall



Holly Smith - January 24, 2023 at 01:48 PM

HS

“ My husband and I first met Kurt on a motorcycle trip in Mongolia & Kyrgyzstan a few years ago. I’ll always remember him as the sweet, polite, soft spoken and kind hearted Iowa farmer. He had a fun steak in there too, like after an all-day ride, ripping it up with my husband, doing donuts, while the rest of us were just clamoring to get OFF the bikes for a hot shower and dinner. I’ll also never forget the time he purposely doused me on a river crossing, head-to-toe, even filled my pockets with water. He was quite pleased with his handiwork. Next up was Iceland, where just the three of us spent a few gorgeous weeks, riding there. He loved his family and loved life! Although we wish we all could have many more years of adventures with this dear friend, we are extremely blessed to have met him and cherish the times we had. Sending love to all of you— his family and friends.

May he rest in peace 💕🙏

My deepest condolences, Holly Smith



Holly Smith - January 24, 2023 at 01:22 PM

TG

“ When Kurt's Grampa passed he rode his bike to Hope Mommer's house to pick up his ashes and give him a ride back to Dyke, Iowa. It meant so much to my Mom, Mrs. Russel Mommer, Bill Cushman, and Tana Gornick and family.

Tana Gornick - January 23, 2023 at 06:49 PM

ST

“ Kody and Klay,

I'm not certain if you remember me or not, but I worked in the library @DNH with all of you and had Klay in TAG and Vanessa too. I was so sorry to read about the death of your dad. He was a really interesting person!! What a traveler and motorcycle rider!! You certainly will miss his presence. The obit was really interesting and insightful. Please know that I am thinking about all of you family members and am sorry for your loss. Vickye Thompson

Stan Thompson - January 22, 2023 at 05:09 PM

LF

“ *I first got to know Kurt on a motorcycle adventure in Mongolia 2018. Later in 2019 Kurt came visiting me at my farm in Sweden together with his friend Mike. We did some really nice motorcycling together. I especially remember how much Kurt enjoyed just sitting in my garage, drinking coffee and watching all the bikes. So peaceful. I miss him a lot.*

Condolences to Kurt's family and friends.

LARS from Sweden



Lars Forslund - January 21, 2023 at 10:00 AM



“ *Rest in peace Kurt*



Tommy Pedersen - January 21, 2023 at 04:07 AM



“ *What a great guy he was. Can't believe he is gone but happy he died riding his bike. He was such a kind and caring man. So sorry for your loss.*



Deann Kane (De) - January 20, 2023 at 07:11 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Kurtis Keen Kruger.*



January 20, 2023 at 02:14 PM



“ *Serene Retreat was purchased for the family of Kurtis Keen Kruger.*



January 20, 2023 at 11:00 AM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Kurtis Keen Kruger.



January 20, 2023 at 10:56 AM



“ Garden Accent Stone - "Wherever a Beautiful Soul..." was purchased for the family of Kurtis Keen Kruger.



January 20, 2023 at 10:50 AM



“ Heavenly Grace Spray was purchased for the family of Kurtis Keen Kruger.



January 19, 2023 at 08:06 PM



“ Delightful Dieffenbachia was purchased for the family of Kurtis Keen Kruger.



January 19, 2023 at 05:37 PM



“ *Small Garden Dish was purchased for the family of Kurtis Keen Kruger.*



January 19, 2023 at 03:05 PM



“ *Kurt Kelley & Chris and Elizabeth Harn purchased the Serene Retreat for the family of Kurtis Keen Kruger.*



Kurt Kelley & Chris and Elizabeth Harn - January 18, 2023 at 01:12 PM



“ *So sorry for your loss. Went to high school with this awesome man. Special memories of he and Kim. Marsha (Stoffregen) Wilkens*

Marsha Wilkens - January 18, 2023 at 09:24 AM



“ *Cynthia & Katy Harris, Nick, Wyatt, Paul purchased the Country Basket Blooms for the family of Kurtis Keen Kruger.*



Cynthia & Katy Harris, Nick, Wyatt, Paul - January 17, 2023 at 08:20 PM



“ *Serene Retreat was purchased for the family of Kurtis Keen Kruger.*



January 17, 2023 at 04:05 PM



“ *My sincere condolences to Kurt's family and friends! I will miss working with him as he was great to work with and always had a smile on his face. I terrific guy who will definitely be missed!! May your memories sustain you.*

Douglas Boe - January 17, 2023 at 03:56 PM



“ *Days of Sunshine Bouquet was purchased for the family of Kurtis Keen Kruger.*



January 17, 2023 at 11:50 AM



“ *Joyful Memory was purchased for the family of Kurtis Keen Kruger.*



January 17, 2023 at 10:22 AM

LN

“ I’m sorry for your loss. Years ago, we were great friends. Went on many rides together. Loved my cookies. Through out the years, I’ve thought of him many times. Will always love him. And cherish our friendship and wonderful times together.

Lisa Finn Nissen - January 16, 2023 at 08:32 PM

YL

“ Your friends at LANDUS purchased the Emerald Garden Basket for the family of Kurtis Keen Kruger.



Your friends at LANDUS - January 16, 2023 at 01:42 PM



“ Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Kurtis Keen Kruger.



January 16, 2023 at 01:29 PM

DS

“ Kurt will be missed by many and remembered by all who knew him. We are blessed to have known him for many years. Godspeed buddy, you are truly riding free. Dr. Eldon B. and Vicki L. Swanson

Dr. Eldon B. Swanson - January 16, 2023 at 01:22 PM



“ *Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Kurtis Keen Kruger.* ”



January 16, 2023 at 12:13 PM