



## Larry L. Rittgers

April 3, 1952 - November 2, 2015

Larry Rittgers (1952-2015)

Cedar Falls – Larry Rittgers, 63, of Cedar Falls died Monday afternoon, November 2, 2015, at his farm.

He was born on April 3, 1952 in Cedar Falls, son of Lester Findley and Anna Alice (Rasmussen) Rittgers. He married Susan E. Vislisel on May 26, 1973 at First Baptist Church in Cedar Falls.

He graduated from Dike High School in 1970 and earned his BA degree from the University of Northern Iowa in 1974. He was a science teacher at Dike High School where he coached junior and high school football and basketball. He also later drove the bus for the school district. He was a lifelong farmer in Grundy County.

Survived by: his wife, Susan Ellen, a daughter Amy (Andrew) White of New Hartford; three sons, Dan (Shannon) Rittgers of Cedar Falls; Tim (Emma) Rittgers of Des Moines; and Matthew (Hilary) Rittgers of Forest City; eight grandchildren: Jacob and Joshua White, Gabe and Reece Rittgers, Judah and Kristyna Rittgers, Lydia and Elliott Rittgers; a brother, Lee (Sandy) Rittgers of Cedar Falls; three sisters, Lois Stork of New Hartford, Mary Ellen (Tom) Kies of Jesup, and Lynn Korecki of Umpqua, Oregon.

Preceded in death by: his parents Lester and Anna Alice Rittgers, and a grandson, Malachi.

Services: Visitation will be held on Sunday afternoon, November 8, from 3-6 at Richardson Funeral Service located at 615 Main St in Cedar Falls. Services will be held Monday morning, November 9, at 10:00 am at Prairie Lakes Church located at 1907 Viking Road in Cedar Falls, with a meal immediately following at the church. Afterwards, burial will held at Fairfield Township Cemetery in rural New Hartford.

Memorials may be directed to the family for global missions.

# Cemetery Details

## Fairfield Township Cemetery

New Hartford, IA

# Previous Events

## Visitation

NOV 8. 3:00 PM - 6:00 PM (CT)

Richardson Funeral Service  
615 Main Street  
Cedar Falls, IA 50613  
(319) 266-3525  
richardsonfuneralservice@gmail.com  
<http://richardson.funeralplan2.com>

## Funeral Service

NOV 9. 10:00 AM (CT)

Prairie Lakes Church  
1907 Viking Road  
Cedar Falls, IA 50613  
(319) 266-2655  
<http://www.prairielakeschurch.org>

# Tribute Wall

PG

“ Please accept our sincere condolences. May the words quoted from this song bring you a measure of comfort as it did for us.  
”If a man or woman should die, can they live again?  
Hear the promise God has made:  
He will call; The dead will answer.  
They shall live at his command.  
For he will have a longing  
For the work of his own hand.  
So have faith, and do not wonder,  
For our God can make us stand.  
And we shall live forever,  
As the work of his own hand ”(Job 14:13-15)

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**Peggy Gienau** - November 10, 2015 at 11:05 AM

MA

“ I am so sorry about Larry's passing. It was such a shock, especially after reconnecting with him at church a couple Sunday's ago. He was a WONDERFUL person who always had a smile and a friendly word. God must have a special place for him.  
Marcia Andersen

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**marcia abdersen** - November 09, 2015 at 07:07 AM

DM

“ All of our family has so many precious memories of Larry and the whole Rittgers family. Thanks Larry for your friendship. You were a real prayer warrior and support to our family many times through the years . You are and will continue to be missed. In love,  
Dan Munson family .



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**dan munson** - November 09, 2015 at 01:11 AM

LC

“ *Larry Taylor Larsen and Family (Taylor Farm Grundy County) purchased the Florist Choice Bouquet for the family of Larry L. Rittgers.*



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**Larry Taylor Larsen and Family (Taylor Farm Grundy County)** - November 09, 2015 at 12:31 AM

JB

“ *Suzy & Family - So sorry to hear of Larry's passing - our families' prayers are with you all, Larry was special to so many people in a multitude of ways. I treasure many memories of Larry during our teaching & coaching years together - we were most often on the same page. Special memories of helping Lester catch his "unique" rock bass, skiing to the dismay of the camp owner & stranded due to a gas shortage on a most enjoyable Canadian fishing trip. One of my most memorable moments in coaching was sharing the sideline with Larry while winning the 1981 State Football Championship. May each of you be at peace knowing you were part of the life of a very special person.*

*God Bless  
Joe Becker*

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**Joe Becker** - November 08, 2015 at 02:03 PM



“ *Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Larry L. Rittgers.*



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November 07, 2015 at 08:23 PM



“ *Basket of Memories was purchased for the family of Larry L. Rittgers.*



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November 07, 2015 at 03:14 PM



“ *Dear Rittgers Family,  
When I heard the news of Larry's passing I was flooded with so many great memories of him at the farm. Hayrides, bonfires, baby chicks in your basement, hooking up a hose to make a waterslide on the playground, trips to our cabin in Minnesota, and always food and fellowship! I'm so thankful for all those great memories and how he showed each one of us how to live life with Christ!  
With Love,  
Rebecca Flaherty  
(Or as Larry would say "one of those Bagnall girls")*



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**Rebecca Flaherty** - November 07, 2015 at 07:33 AM

RS

“ Suzy we are praying for you and your family. Back in the early 1970's Larry was my Sunday School teacher. He was very passionate about the lesson plan and made the class interesting. We only had four or five students in our class so it was very personal. In one of the classes he put a small speck on the chalkboard then drew a line on the chalkboard looping the line back and forth several times with an infinity sign at the end of it...he stated that the speck represented our lifespan on earth and the line represented eternity in heaven and how important it was for each of us to be Christians for eternal life in heaven. That one really stuck with me since I'm a visual person and that speck was so small compared to the line. What a role model, he positively impacted so many lives.

*Randy Saathoff & family  
Class of '80*

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**Randy Saathoff** - November 06, 2015 at 08:15 PM

RB

“ Suzy & Family,  
Almost 35 years of memories of joy that can never be taken from us. Our family as well as many others can attest to the fact that we are all blessed to be a part of a bigger family along with the Rittgers. Larry loved to work, loved to have fun, loved to tell stories, loved to laugh, and loved to help others. We have not just lost a friend, but a Brother in Christ who has gone home.  
Love Rick & Pat Bagnall and Family

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**Rick Bagnall** - November 06, 2015 at 06:54 PM

MS

“ *Mary S. purchased the Treasured Lilies Spray for the family of Larry L. Rittgers.*



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**Mary S.** - November 06, 2015 at 12:20 PM

CH

“ *Your family is in our prayers and thoughts. Larry was the tenant of our farm property for many years and we had great confidence in his abilities and skills as a farmer. Several of us visited you once and were made very welcome in your home. Larry gave us an excellent tour of the farm and was very good at explaining everything to us. We are so glad that we got to meet him once and see what a special person he was. We are very saddened by his death. May peace be with you. Cathy Henry and Mary Kelley for the Taylor Farm*

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**Cathy Henry** - November 06, 2015 at 12:09 PM



“ *Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Larry L. Rittgers.*



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November 06, 2015 at 11:15 AM

KB

“ Your family are in our thoughts and prayers. He will be greatly missed.

*Our Deepest Sympathy*

*Kevin and Kelly Bolton*

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**Kelly Bolton** - November 06, 2015 at 09:52 AM

LS

“ I am so very sorry to hear of your loss. Larry was one of my favorite teachers/coaches back when I was in school. May you all find peace in the days ahead.

*Lyn Colvin*  
*Class of '82*



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**Lyn Smith** - November 05, 2015 at 09:18 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Larry L. Rittgers.



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November 05, 2015 at 07:24 PM



“ *Enchanted Cottage was purchased for the family of Larry L. Rittgers.*



November 05, 2015 at 05:23 PM



“ *Basket Full of Wishes was purchased for the family of Larry L. Rittgers.*



November 05, 2015 at 03:01 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Larry L. Rittgers.*



November 05, 2015 at 12:39 PM



“ *Amy, So sorry for your loss! Tara Thomas*

**Tara** - November 05, 2015 at 11:26 AM



“ *Basket Full of Wishes was purchased for the family of Larry L. Rittgers.*



November 05, 2015 at 09:44 AM



“ *Heavenly Heights Bouquet was purchased for the family of Larry L. Rittgers.*



November 05, 2015 at 09:29 AM



“ *So many great memories. We love you all and are so thankful for your friendship. We will miss Larry's stories but are sure he is in heaven with a new audience. 🙌💚💚💚💚💚*



**Doug and Kathy Jensen** - November 04, 2015 at 10:52 PM

JE

“ Dearest Suzy, Amy, Dan, Tim, Matt, and all,  
You have been in my thoughts throughout these last few days. I am remembering countless times spent with you...at your home (working and playing), at church, at many events such as mission trips and the oh so famous clown outings (Remember the motor home trip to Cloquet?), baptisms, graduations, visits to Clear Lake for those first waterski adventures. The memories make me smile and remind me of the gift God gave me through the friendship of your family. I am praying that God is providing peace and comfort through your amazing family and countless friends. I know that Larry is experiencing face to face moments with Jesus and I trust that we will all meet again one day. My love and prayers for you.  
Jayne Erickson

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**Jayne Erickson** - November 04, 2015 at 08:49 PM

EW

Our family is so thankful that we just got a chance to spend time combining with Larry and Amy's family. The kids all thought Larry was so funny and kind and he let our 10 year old Cale drive a tractor which made his day. Your entire family is in our prayers as you go through these difficult days ahead. Emily Wellnitz and family

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**Emily Wellnitz** - November 05, 2015 at 07:29 AM

RV

Our family has so many memories with your family and especially stories Larry loved to share. He was a mentor to our boys and someone we called a friend. We are thankful for friendships that will never go away. May God's peace overflow to each one of you as you walk through these days and weeks ahead. You are loved. Ron and Velda

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**Ron and Velda** - November 05, 2015 at 07:54 AM

LE

*My thoughts and prayers go up for your family. Larry was an exceptional person with a warm heart and kind soul which is evidenced in his love for his children and for you Susie. His love for God was always evident and he always saw the best in people. Your loss will be felt by many.*

*Linda Elliott*

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**Linda Elliott** - November 05, 2015 at 10:35 AM

SE

*Larry's love for God, enthusiasm for life, and generosity to others inspired many. Our prayers go out to your family at this time.*

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**Steve and Janice Ephraim** - November 05, 2015 at 10:43 PM

KO

*Suzy, Amy, Dan, Tim, and Matt, our hearts and prayers go out to you at this time. May God fill you with His peace and sustain you through the coming days, weeks, months and year. We will always remember him as a kind, generous, Godly man.*

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**Kathy and Craig Olmstead** - November 06, 2015 at 12:46 PM

TT

*Suzy and family... Our deepest sympathies go out to your family. Larry will be greatly missed, and the entire Dike-New Hartford family is grateful for Larry's time spent here....as a teacher, coach, and bus driver. What a good man!! He'll be missed!!*

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**Tom Textor** - November 09, 2015 at 01:54 PM