

## Lyle D. Guldager

February 21, 1934 - January 16, 2022

Lyle David Guldager

February 21, 1934 - January 16, 2022

Lyle Guldager, 87, died at home, Sunday, January 16, 2022, following a battle with cancer. He was surrounded by his family. Lyle will be dearly missed by his family and friends and will live forever in our hearts.

Visitation and funeral service will take place at Richardson Funeral Service in Cedar Falls, IA on Saturday, January 22. Visitation 11:30am-1:30pm, Service 1:30pm immediately followed by the committal service at Greenwood Cemetary, Cedar Falls, IA.

Lyle David Guldager was born February 21, 1934, Cedar Falls, IA, to Godfrey and Juanada (Groesbeck) Guldager. His family lived on a farm west of Cedar Falls. They raised dairy cattle, beef cattle, hogs, and chickens, and grew corn and soybeans. In 1944, Lyle joined 4-H as a member of the Black Hawk Township. He refers to his years in 4-H as a youth as the "Golden Years" of 4-H. His prize project was showing Holstein. Lyle stayed involved in 4-H until the time of his death.

Lyle graduated from Teachers College High School, Cedar Falls, IA, in 1952. Following graduation, he enlisted in the United States Army. He attained the rank of SP2(T) while stationed in Washington, D.C. Lyle was very proud of his military service and has been known to say he wished he had stayed in longer.

At the time of his passing, Lyle was the owner of 1st Class Lighting (a commercial lighting company he started in 2000). His previous employment included being a school bus driver, route driver for Daisy Dairy, owned a portable feed-grinding truck/business, was the maintenance specialist for the Cedar Falls Lutheran Home, was a traveling salesman for Waterloo Heating and Cooling and Winter Bottom Supply, and drove charter buses for groups throughout the United States.

Though he enjoyed these jobs, he found his greatest satisfaction in being a farmer. Through this, he became infatuated with his father's Farmall International Harvester tractor. Lyle bought the tractor, had it fully restored, and was so proud of it. Local city festival parades—from Cedar Falls to Independence—and the annual Old-Timer Power Show held at Antique Acres were his favorite places to show it off. For many of those parades, Lyle pulled the 4-H Club floats. It was a perfect match!!

Lyle loved to travel as evidenced by some of his employment choices. However, most of his travels were for more personal reasons—revisiting his parents' childhood homes, showing his children where he was stationed while in the service, keeping in touch with extended family, meeting former President and Mrs. Carter in Plains, GA, etc. Every trip had a purpose and through those travels and the people he met and connected with he learned it was a very small world!

Lyle was united in marriage to Carol (Sampson) Kelley in 1958; they later divorced. Lyle was married and divorced three other times and remained unmarried until the time of his death.

Lyle became a member of the Cedar Valley Unitarian Universalists in 2015, most recently serving on the board of trustees and a member of the building and accessibility committees. Lyle was baptized and confirmed at Bethlehem Lutheran Church, Cedar Falls, IA. He's always had a strong commitment to church—regardless of the doctrine. Lyle became wholeheartedly involved in the church—he was not a “pew sitter.”

Lyle is survived by his children Yvonne “Toni” (Les) Akers, Tammy (Dan) Bern,

Tim (Aracelly) Guldager, Lynne Guldager, Gloria (Scott Smith) Guldager, and David (Nicole) Guldager. Grandchildren Joe and Jamey Akers; Miles and Taylor Bern; Sherrie Castillo, Cindy Childers, Kristi Salazar, Jean Martinez, and Diana Guldager; Robert Roof and Randall Crane; Benjamin and Carlton Smith; Connor and Logan Guldager, Kyle, Hunter, Jack, and Grace Maitland. Great-Grandchildren Alayna and Gavin Akers; Evelyn and Vivienne Bern; Antonio, Mariah, and Nicholas Castillo, Jessica Campuzano, Brandon, Madison, Ashley, Samantha, and Isabella Soto; Rylan and Malia Roof, Braxton and Charlee Crane; Adalee Kopsa. He is also survived by his Aunt Gloria Gene Snow, many cousins, and more friends than we can count. Lyle was preceded in death by his parents and his sister, Rev. Joyce Ruth Guldager.

Lyle was a very loving, caring, and hard-working man. He supported and took great interest in his children, and their children and grandchildren in all of their endeavors. He took joy in meeting and connecting with people in all walks of life. Lyle loved watching the change of the seasons—especially how things were growing in the fields. He enjoyed music, especially listening to the Cedar Falls Municipal Band and the UNI Glee Club. Lyle also enjoyed weekly movies, theater productions, and loudly cheered the UNI Panthers and the Iowa Hawkeyes. No day for Lyle was complete without his coffee and donut from his local Casey's, visiting with friends at Cedar Falls Hy-Vee, and enjoying a meal at Cedar Falls Village Inn. Of course, he also had his daily crossword, jumble, cryptoquip and sudoku puzzles he had to complete!! All of us have learned so much from him and will miss his stories of "how it used to be."

Memorials may be directed to the family.

The family of Lyle Guldager would like to thank UnityPoint Hospice, physicians and nurses at UnityPoint Health and MercyOne, MercyOne Waterloo Cancer Center, Pastor Emma Peterson and the Cedar Valley Unitarian Universalist community, Rev. Kent Matthies, Black Hawk County 4H, Richardson Funeral

Service and all of the many family, friends, and business associates that have supported Lyle and the family.

# Cemetery Details

## Greenwood Cemetery

the end of College St, north of First Street  
Cedar Falls, IA 50613  
(319) 273-8628

# Previous Events

## Funeral Service

JAN **22**. 1:30 PM (CT)

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

# Tribute Wall

MS

“ 1 file added to the album *Guldager Funeral Service*



Michael Sulentic - January 26, 2022 at 04:18 PM

KT

“ 1 file added to the album *Memories Album*



KW Taylor - January 22, 2022 at 12:41 PM

CC

“ *Grandpa Guldager was an awesome grandpa. I have nothing but good memories about him and his love and kindness. He always made an effort to be in our lives. He will be missed.*



Cynthia Childers - January 22, 2022 at 12:26 PM

CC

*This picture was about 3 years ago when he came down to visit his granddaughters and great grand kids.*

Cynthia Childers - January 22, 2022 at 12:27 PM

LP

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Lloyd Peterson - January 22, 2022 at 11:38 AM

KS

“ My grandpa would always travel and come visit me and my sisters he always reached out to us he would make these beautiful Christmas cards for us il always remember him as a good man I love him dearly rest in peace grandpa 💔

Kristy salazar - January 22, 2022 at 10:53 AM

TS

“ Times-Republican Staff purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of Lyle D. Guldager.



Times-Republican Staff - January 22, 2022 at 10:20 AM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Lyle D. Guldager.



January 21, 2022 at 04:43 PM

CI

“ Dear Guldager family,  
We are all saddened about the loss of your dad, Lyle. My dad, Vern Hesse, went to school with Joyce, "neighbored" with Joyce and Lyle in their younger years and also attended Bethlehem Church together. My dad, siblings and I have fond memories of attending church with your family. I remember your grandpa, Godfrey, ringing the church bell every Sunday! Our thoughts and prayers are with you at this sad and difficult time.  
With deepest sympathies, Chris Hesse Isley, Vern Hesse, Bill Hesse, Chuck Hesse, Mary Hesse Wetjen

Chris Isley - January 21, 2022 at 03:12 PM



“ Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Lyle D. Guldager.



January 21, 2022 at 03:06 PM

LK

“ Deepest sympathies to Lynne and the entire family of Lyle.  
Lana Knickerbocker



Lana Knickerbocker - January 20, 2022 at 10:22 PM



“ *Strength & Solace Spray was purchased for the family of Lyle D. Guldager.*



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January 20, 2022 at 05:29 PM



“ *4-H is going to miss that bright red Farmall tractor pulling our 4-H float in downtown Waterloo, Cedar Falls and Hudson! He was always so willing to pull the float for many, many years! Also, we will miss seeing him at our 4-H Award's ceremony where he donated engraved pins for 4-Hers who earn a Merit Award! Always with a smile and a joyful heart! 4-H is also nominating him to the Iowa 4-H Foundation Hall of Fame this year 2022. Wish he could have been here to receive the award! He will be missed! Judy Muniz, past Extension employee.*

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**Judy Muniz** - January 20, 2022 at 12:15 PM



*I can't even express to you how wonderful this makes me feel. To know that my dad would be so proud of this award. He would be beaming from ear to ear! I was just reading through a 4H book that he has at his house with different years that he was in and when he was younger and all of the notes he took and pictures and everything. He was so proud of his affiliation with the club❤️❤️*

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**Lynne Guldager** - January 20, 2022 at 12:39 PM

LG

“ My dad with my son Robert on the day of Robert’s deployment to Afghanistan❤️



Lynne Guldager - January 20, 2022 at 11:39 AM

LG

“ My daughter Randall at the parade in Hudson driving the Farmall with grandpa right behind her. Cherished memories❤️

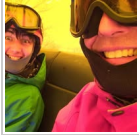


Lynne Guldager - January 20, 2022 at 11:30 AM

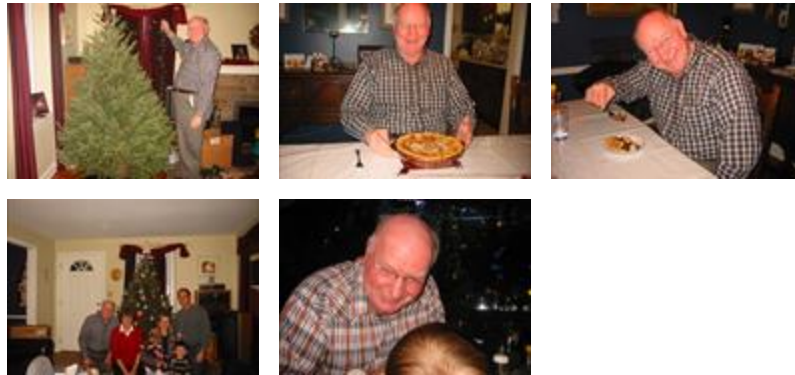
AJ

“ I am sorry to hear of Lyle's passing. I have many fond memories of his family. I was in 4-H club so I knew Godfrey and Nada, Joyce & Lyle. I drove past their farm, as I grew up about a mile west of them. I appreciated reading the obituary as it brought back memories of more recent years - I always knew he was in the vicinity when I would see his car's license plate of TCHS; he would be walking in Hy-Vee with his cup of coffee and his puzzle page under his arm; driving his tractor in parades, etc. Yes, he will be missed! I extend my sympathy to the family.  
Alice Bunnell Janssen

Alice Janssen - January 20, 2022 at 10:41 AM



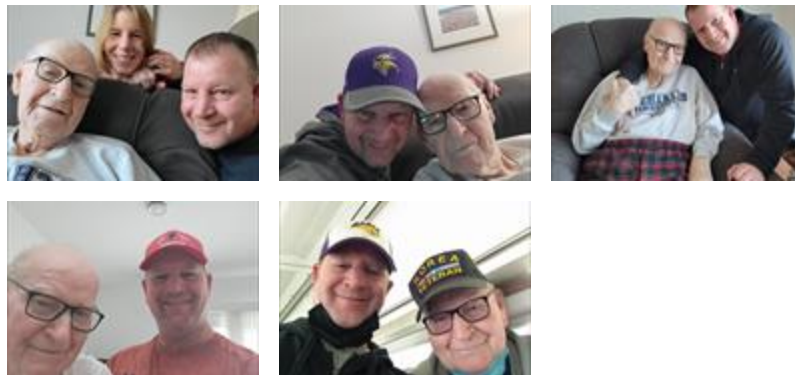
“ 8 files added to the tribute wall



Scott Smith - January 20, 2022 at 09:17 AM



“ 13 files added to the tribute wall



David Guldager - January 20, 2022 at 08:51 AM



“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



Gloria Guldager - January 20, 2022 at 08:44 AM

GG

“ 1 file added to the album *Memories Album*



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**Gloria Guldager** - January 20, 2022 at 08:44 AM

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**Gloria Guldager** - January 20, 2022 at 08:43 AM

GG

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**Gloria Guldager** - January 20, 2022 at 08:42 AM

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“ 1 file added to the album *Memories Album*



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**Gloria Guldager** - January 20, 2022 at 08:41 AM

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**Gloria Guldager** - January 20, 2022 at 08:41 AM

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**Gloria Guldager** - January 20, 2022 at 08:40 AM

GG

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**Gloria Guldager** - January 20, 2022 at 08:40 AM

GG

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**Gloria Guldager** - January 20, 2022 at 08:39 AM

GG

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**Gloria Guldager** - January 20, 2022 at 08:38 AM

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**Gloria Guldager** - January 20, 2022 at 08:37 AM

GG

“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



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**Gloria Guldager** - January 20, 2022 at 08:36 AM

GG

“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



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**Gloria Guldager** - January 20, 2022 at 08:35 AM

GG

“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



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**Gloria Guldager** - January 20, 2022 at 08:34 AM

GG

“ 1 file added to the album *Memories Album*



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**Gloria Guldager** - January 20, 2022 at 08:33 AM

GG

“ 1 file added to the album *Memories Album*



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**Gloria Guldager** - January 20, 2022 at 08:31 AM

MT

“ We were saddened to read of Lyle's death and send each of you our sincere sympathy. We knew Lyle had some health issues, but did not know how serious they were. I've known Lyle since the age of seven, and Lyle was around ten when we became neighbors. We both treasured our Danish heritage. Lyle through the years ask me to help him think of fun Danish captions to have printed on his T. shirts which he'd wear in parades driving his treasured antique Farmal Tractor.

*It's interesting as now in death, my parents, Lyle and his parents and sister Joyce remain neighbors at Greenwood cemetery having plots in the same row.*

*I regret none of our family will be able to attend Lyle's funeral service due to our family staying Covid careful. Please know our thoughts and prayers will be with you all during this difficult time.  
Marcie and Clifford Trent*

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**Marcie Trent** - January 19, 2022 at 11:14 PM



“ Dear Guldager & Akers families, I am so sorry to learn of Lyle's passing. I appreciated the fact that our families knew each other for generations--Lyle's mom and my great-grandma were friends, Lyle & my grandma went to school together, and then Joe & I went to school together. Imagine my surprise when I moved into my condo several years ago to find out that I knew my next door neighbor Lyle!

Lyle has been a very kind neighbor over the years. A great (and funny) example of that was when I accidentally locked myself out of my house while walking my dog in winter weather at night. Lyle kindly let us "camp out" at his home while we waited for the locksmith...who took almost two hours and three phone calls to arrive.

May God bring you and your family the peace, strength and unity only He can bring during this difficult time. May you find comfort in your memories with your dad and grandpa.

Blessings,  
-Brooke Trent & Jubal Slone

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**Brooke Trent** - January 19, 2022 at 01:53 PM

GG

Thank you for sharing this memory, Brooke. Blessings to you and your family.

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**Gloria Guldager** - January 20, 2022 at 09:24 AM

LG

“ Dad with his prized dairy cow❤️



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Lynne Guldager - January 19, 2022 at 08:45 AM

JH

“ Dear Tammy, Gloria, David, and all your remarkable families,

*As you all drew me into your family so many decades ago, I came to know your dad, as well. He was a good friend with amazing knowledge in so many diverse areas. Dduring his latter years, we worked together at the Cedar Valley Unitarian Universalist congregation's Accessibility Task Force, where he contributed many unique ideas.*

*In deep sympathy to you all, Judy*

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Judy Harrington - January 19, 2022 at 08:39 AM

LG

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall

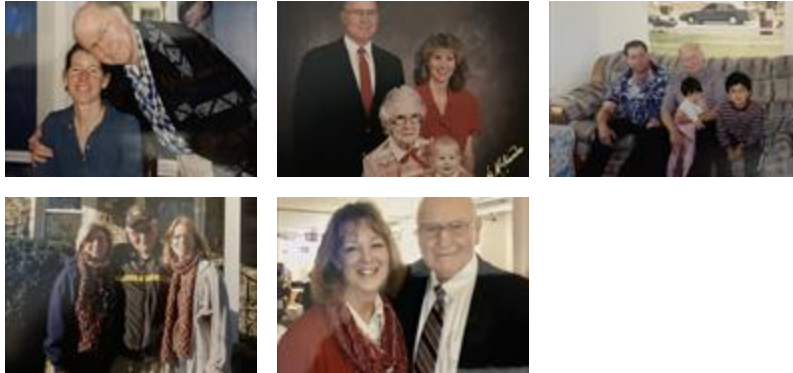


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Lynne Guldager - January 19, 2022 at 08:29 AM

LG

“ 6 files added to the tribute wall



Lynne Guldager - January 19, 2022 at 08:25 AM



“ Grandpa Guldager and I at my graduation party in 2020.

Connor Guldager



Connor Guldager - January 18, 2022 at 09:29 PM



“ Florist Choice Bouquet was purchased for the family of Lyle D. Guldager.



January 18, 2022 at 09:18 PM