



## Richard Swanson

April 5, 1941 - July 16, 2023

Surrounded by his family, Richard “Dick” Swanson of Cedar Falls, Iowa, died after a brave four-year fight with cancer at his home on Sunday, July 16, 2023, at the age of 82.

Richard was born to Dena and Ivan Swanson in Cedar Falls on April 5, 1941. Both he and his wife, Karen (Juhl), graduated from Cedar Falls High School with the class of 1959. They then were married at the Little Brown Church on October 9, 1960. Upon having a family, Richard graduated from the University of Northern Iowa and established a 32-year career at John Deere.

Richard enjoyed spending time with his family and friends, playing games, tinkering on cars and he could fix anything. He loved his cats and sweets. Richard thrived in the art of making deals! He and Karen spent many winters in Casa Grande, Arizona, California, and Florida. He loved his Corvettes, classic cars and going to car shows. He was a member of the Cedar Valley Corvette Club. Most of all he loved being with his family. Above all else, Richard was the pillar of his family and will be dearly missed.

He is survived by his wife, Karen; daughters, Tammy (Steve) Ralph of Iowa City and Tracy Bright of Cedar Falls; grandsons, Jeremy (Misty) Ralph of Coralville, Derek (Marie) Ralph of Minneapolis, Nick Bright of Janesville, and Chris Bright of Waterloo; great-grandson, Christian Ralph of Coralville; and

brother, Don Swanson of Cedar Falls.

He is preceded in death by his parents, brother, Robert Swanson, and sister, Gloria Hansen.

There will be a visitation on Thursday, July 27, 2023, from 4-6 p.m. at Richardson Funeral Service in Cedar Falls.

Memorials may be directed to the family for a memorial bench at the Western Home or to the Cedar Valley Humane Society.

# Previous Events

## Visitation

JUL **27**. 4:00 PM - 6:00 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



“ *Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Richard Swanson.*



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July 26, 2023 at 05:36 PM



“ *We're so sorry to hear of Richard's passing. Our little South Main neighborhood was so special and we will remember the good times we had. One of the most interesting to me was the time we added a "yard art" sundial to the area between our driveways and Richard and David spent so much time trying to set the time on it. I remember asking them if it could even be set to daylight savings time. There were so many things like that to recall. He will be missed. And, Karen, you and your family are in our thoughts and prayers. May God hold you in His loving arms. David and Joan Miller*

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**David and Joan Miller** - July 26, 2023 at 05:08 PM



“ *I worked with Richard at John Deere Engine Works....such a nice man! Glenda Trower*

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**Glenda Trower** - July 23, 2023 at 03:17 PM

CT

“ Carol and Chuck Tom purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Richard Swanson.



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**Carol and Chuck Tom** - July 22, 2023 at 05:06 PM

LB

“ As young boys Richard and I were best buddies. If he wasn't at my house , I was at his. My cousin Marilyn and I spent a lot of time playing canasta at his dining room table. His Mom more than tolerated us, she would feed us lunch and snacks while playing cards. We worked on bikes together and when he got his first car we worked on that together too. So sorry for the family's loss. Sad to lose a childhood friend.

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**larry beck** - July 18, 2023 at 10:35 PM

RJ

“ Sixty-Three years of Friendship dating back to High School years. Great person to have known, and fond memories never to forget.

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**Roy & Rita Justis** - July 18, 2023 at 12:58 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Richard Swanson.

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July 17, 2023 at 09:43 PM



“ *Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Richard Swanson.* ”



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July 17, 2023 at 09:43 PM