



Lyle D. Kreps

July 7, 1942 - February 13, 2025

Lyle Dean Kreps passed peacefully into the arms of the Lord on Thursday, February 13 surrounded by family. He was born in Fulton County, Illinois on July 7, 1942 to Ernest and Mildred Kreps. He, along with his five sisters, were raised on a farm outside of Bushnell, Illinois where he learned the value of hard work and that he hated the taste of milk – which he never again drank once he left the farm.

He attended Bardolph High School and graduated valedictorian in a class of twelve in 1960. One of them was Sharon Kay Wells, whom he married August 28, 1964.

He attended Western Illinois University and was a charter member of the Alpha Gamma Rho fraternity, in which he remained active throughout his life. He earned his Masters of Ag Economics from the University of Purdue.

After receiving an offer to become Director of Marketing for the Iowa Department of Agriculture, he moved to Des Moines, IA in 1966.

Lyle moved his family, which now included sons, Brian and Jason to the small town of Johnston, Iowa in 1973. When daughter, Jennifer was born later that year, Lyle posted a large banner across the house reading, 'At Last... Sugar & Spice!'

Lyle touched many, many lives in many, many, different ways.

He never met a stranger and loved talking to people, often striking up conversations with a joke or using his infectious sense of humor.

Deeply involved in his community he sat on many boards of directors including ChildServe/Convelescent Home for Children, Children & Families of Iowa, and Blank Park Zoo. He was an active member of the Johnston Lions Club, serving on its board, as President, and, as Fundraising Chairman, raised the money required to build the current Lions Club facility.

He was Executive Director of the Johnston Chamber of Commerce for several years until 2004. In 1989, he was named the Johnston Chamber of Commerce 'Citizen of the Year'.

Professionally, he started Diversified Management Associates, Ltd. which operated successful businesses in the fields of real estate, agribusiness, travel, research, association management, event management, hospitality, and concessions, but is most well known as Ad Sales Director at Meredith's Successful Farming magazine, the Executive Director of the Greater Des Moines Ruan Grand Prix from 1990-1992. At the Iowa State Fair, Lyle was the owner & operator of Stockman's Inn since 1973, where in 50 years he never missed a day.

He loved sports cars and auto racing. He owned a collection of 1960's British cars and raced an Austin Healy 'Bugeye' Sprite on road racing tracks throughout the Midwest for many years. He was President of the International Motor Contest Association, was a member of the Iowa British Car Club, served as President of the Des Moines Valley Region of the Sports Car Club of America, participated in multiple Motor-loway driving tours of the State of Iowa, and helped to begin the Central Iowa Mini Club.

He was a man of faith and led people to the Lord through the example he set in the everyday living of his life, the many mission groups that he led around the world included Caracas, Venezuela, Belize, Russia and Panama. He was instrumental introducing faith into the workplace by facilitating a Marketplace Ministries branch into the Des Moines area, and he would gladly share his testimony to anyone open to receiving it.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Ernest and Mildred Kreps and sisters, Shirley Caspall and Opal Davies.

He is survived by his wife, Sharon; sisters, Lucy Elrick, Gloria (Fred) Caspall, Joyce (Fred) Andrews; sons, Brian (Chris) Kreps, Jason (Shellie) Kreps; daughter, Jennifer (Dan) LaGrange; grandchildren, Reece Elrod, Paige Kueper (fiancée Tanner Vermaas), Callie Kreps, Haley Kreps, Dylan Kreps, Ethan Kueper, Faith Kreps, Grace Kreps, Addison Kueper, Daniel LaGrange, Emmie LaGrange and several nieces and nephews.

Visitation will be 4-7 PM Tuesday, February 18, 2025 at Reach Church 2725 Merle Hay Road in Des Moines. Funeral Service will be 11 AM Wednesday, February 19, 2025 at the church.

In lieu of flowers donations may be made to the Alzheimer Association, Iowa Chapter. 225 N. Michigan Ave Floor 17 Chicago, IL 60601

Live streaming will begin at 10:55 AM Wednesday, February 19th on Dyaamond Memorial Facebook Page

Floral deliveries may be made to Reach Church on Tuesday.

Previous Events

Visitation

FEB 18. 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Reach Church
2725 Merle Hay Road
Des Moines , IA 50310
hello@reachchurch.one
[http://reach church.one](http://reachchurch.one)

Funeral Service

FEB 19. 11:00 AM (CT)

Reach Church
2725 Merle Hay Road
Des Moines , IA 50310
hello@reachchurch.one
[http://reach church.one](http://reachchurch.one)

Tribute Wall



“ *Dyamond Memorial Funeral and Cremation Services created a Tribute Video in memory of Lyle D. Kreps*



Dyamond Memorial - *Burials *Cremations *Monuments - February 19, 2025 at 08:50 PM



“ *I was in the same pledge class at alpha gamma rho as Lyle: We are both Charter Members. I am pin #17 and think he was #18. He is and was a GREAT Guy. He will truly be missed. Roger Foxall*

Foxall, Roger E. - February 19, 2025 at 12:29 PM



“ *Kreps family - I'm so very sorry to hear of Lyle's passing. I worked for Lyle at Meredith. He was a wonderful boss. I learned a lot from him and not just work related. I learned a lot about life and raising children in this crazy world. May he rest in peace. May God bless all of you during this difficult time. Sherri Long*

Sherri Long - February 19, 2025 at 11:50 AM

KC

“ Hello Sharon and family. As you know Lyle and I go WAY back to grade school. As I think back, Lyle and I followed similar paths in our early lives: Bardolph Grade and High School; Western Illinois University; and Purdue University. I ended up in Columbia MO and he in DesMoines IA. Our paths crossed only occasionally after that but I always considered Lyle a friend. He was bright, entrepreneurial, and very successful. And based on the feed back from my sister-in-law Gloria, he was a great family man as well. I know you all miss him greatly. Sorry I couldn't make it to the funeral but my thoughts and prayers are with you. An old classmate, Ken Caspall

Ken Caspall - February 19, 2025 at 09:58 AM



“ 1 file added to the album Family Video



Dyamond Memorial - *Burials *Cremations *Monuments - February 18, 2025 at 09:02 PM



“ Large Basket Garden was purchased for the family of Lyle D. Kreps.



February 18, 2025 at 11:58 AM



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

February 18, 2025 at 11:58 AM



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



February 18, 2025 at 10:09 AM



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

February 18, 2025 at 10:09 AM



“ Your friends at QCI purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Lyle D. Kreps.



Your friends at QCI - February 18, 2025 at 08:27 AM



“ Fairest of All was purchased for the family of Lyle D. Kreps.



February 17, 2025 at 09:50 AM



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

February 17, 2025 at 09:50 AM



“ Sharon and Jason, so sorry to hear of the passing of Lyle. Know that I will keep him and your family in my prayers. Tom McEntee

Tom McEntee - February 16, 2025 at 08:11 PM



“ Sharon, Jason and the entire Kreps family I send my sincere condolences! Steve Tetzloff

Steve Tetzloff - February 16, 2025 at 06:18 PM



“ On your way through life, you only meet a few people like Lyle Kreps. He was a honest man and a true gentleman. When we would meet, our conversations would always be uplifting. He will be missed!
Denny Elwell

Denny Elwell - February 16, 2025 at 05:15 PM



“ The Campbell's Gang & The Depot People purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Lyle D. Kreps.



The Campbell's Gang & The Depot People - February 16, 2025 at 03:04 PM

BP

“ Sharon & family. I am saddened to hear that my friend died. Lyle was a neighbor for many years as well as a life long friend. Brenda and I send our love and condolences from Texas.

Bob Peitzman - February 16, 2025 at 02:50 PM

LC

“ As everyone knows, Lyle was an original, to say the least, and a guy who was loved around Meredith. Im sad to read of his passing, and I wish the family strength during this stressful time.

Larry Clayton - February 16, 2025 at 02:42 PM

BB

“ I got to know Lyle in the early 70's. As a Loan Officer at the Iowa Des Moines National Bank. I approved some Loan Advances for Real Estate Lyle was purchasing. At the time he didn't have all of the 4 "C's" of credit we were taught to be necessary for extending Capital. But, he certainly expressed "Character" and I approved the loan.

Our relationship expanded through out the 70's as he became my Boss and Mentor. This included many diverse ventures AgriTronix (who could forget the Seed Energizer?) IMCA racing, SCCA racing, British Motors and the day (I was with him) he agreed to take over Stockman's Inn at the Iowa State Fair. I moved on in the 80's to operate and own my own businesses. Many times I recall asking myself "what would Lyle do"? A VERY smart man.

Bruce Burkland

Bruce Burkland - February 16, 2025 at 02:40 PM



“ *Serene Reflections Bouquet* was purchased for the family of Lyle D. Kreps.



February 16, 2025 at 12:25 PM



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

February 16, 2025 at 12:25 PM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket* was purchased for the family of Lyle D. Kreps.



February 16, 2025 at 11:37 AM

WW

“ I pledged AGR at Western Illinois in the Fall of 1973, ten years after Lyle was one of the "founding fathers."

First met him in 1980 at the Stockman's Inn after the National AGR Convention in Ames. After I moved to Iowa in '85 saw him every year at Stockman's during the fair.

In 1995 our youngest daughter had the Grand Champion 4-H Market Hog. Of course Lyle was quick to donate to our Sale of Champions fund.

Definitely an Iowa State Fair legend as well as the Johnston and Des Moines communities. He'll be missed.

*Wayne Whipps
Cedar Falls, IA*

Wayne Whipps - February 16, 2025 at 10:30 AM

PB

“ Pamela B. purchased the Beautiful Dreams for the family of Lyle D. Kreps.



Pamela B. - February 15, 2025 at 01:57 PM

RV

“ We'll forever remember Lyle in his turquoise Mini wagon with matching shirt and cap at IBCC events. Also remember well a club outing to Lyle and Sharon's where we were able to see Lyle's impressive collection. He will be missed at the IBCC.
Russ & Robin Vanderhoef

Russ & Robin Vanderhoef - February 15, 2025 at 11:18 AM

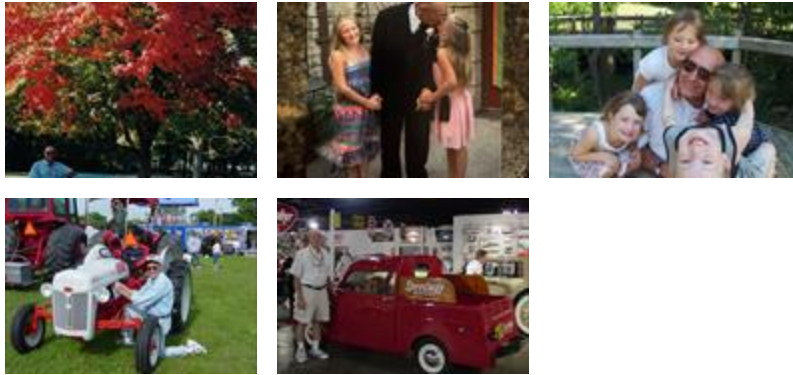
RC

My condolences to the family, only knew Lyle a few years with IBCC, he was a great man. Glad I had a chance to know him. He will be missed.

Randy Cumpton - February 16, 2025 at 05:35 PM

HK

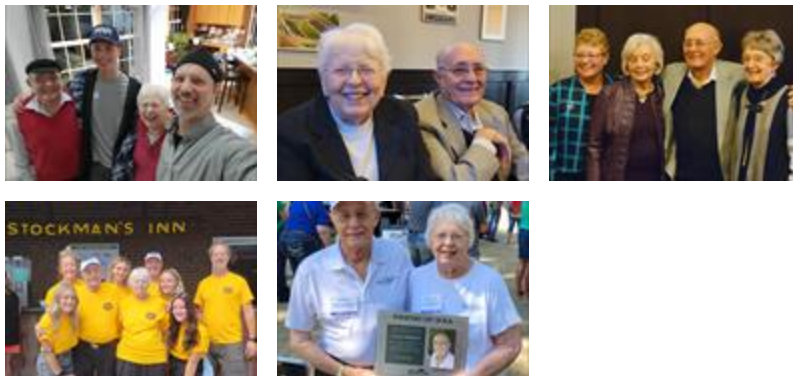
“ 12 files added to the tribute wall



Haley Kreps - February 15, 2025 at 01:17 AM

JA

“ 12 files added to the tribute wall



Jason - February 14, 2025 at 05:54 PM

JO

“ 1 file added to the album *Lyle Kreps*



Johnny - February 14, 2025 at 02:50 PM