

Ralph Victor Riggs, 87



Jan. 17, 1930-March 11, 2017

ATLANTIC – On January 17, 1930, Ralph Victor Riggs was born on the Ross Riggs farm.

Ralph attended Atlantic High School graduating with the Class of 1948. He joined the Air Force in 1950 where he was Commander Staff Sergeant proudly serving our country for four years. He married the love of his life Rosemary "Rosie" Riggs on September 20, 1952 at Fletcher Chapel and then resided in Albuquerque, NM where he completed his military career. While in New Mexico,

Ralph was proud to be part of the construction of the Swinging Bridge over the El Vado Lake where it still remains today. Ralph and Rosie then moved to the family farm where they continued farming for 40 years. Three children were born to this union: Mike, Pat and Jeff. Ralph retired from farming and moved into Atlantic in 1994.

Ralph was a member of the Fletcher Chapel Church and later of The First United Methodist Church. He was a 4-H Leader, member of the Cass Co. Cattlemen's Assoc., Charter Member of the Elks Lodge, and The American Legion. Ralph was a member of the Griswold Golf Course and later Nishna Hills of Atlantic. Ralph was proud to be inducted into the Atlantic Trojan Football Hall of Fame and most proud of their undefeated season in 1947. Ralph was also privileged to participate in the Honor Flight to Washington D.C. in 2013.

Ralph liked old western films, big band music, the Hawkeyes, minced meat pie, driving his Ford Galaxy in parades, crossword puzzles, watching Lawrence Welk, visiting his friends at Ed's Lawnmower shop, and enjoyed white wine spritzer or drinking red beer at Nishna Hills. The golf course was a fun place where many memories were made and many rounds of golf played with family and friends. Ralph loved holidays and gatherings where all of his family were present. There were many special times spent around the Riggs stove, sharing love and laughter. Ralph joined the technology world where his iPad became a source of fun picture-taking and facetimeing with his grandkids. For those who knew Ralph, he ate what he wanted, he said what he wanted, and in the end he was at peace knowing that it was his time to leave us and join Rosie and friends in heaven. Ralph was a fixture in the community, where everyone knew him and will miss him greatly.

Ralph passed away after a short illness in Atlantic on March 11, 2017 at the age of 87 years, 53 days.

Ralph is survived by son Mike Riggs and wife Lisa of Elk Horn; daughter Pat Hemminger and husband Dale of Harlan; son Jeff Riggs and wife Jayne of Olathe, KS; seven grandchildren: Megan Riggs and fiancée Justin Logsdon, Cori Steele and husband Nate, Reid Hemminger and wife Linda, Katrina Parker and husband Ryan, Ross, Lauren and Joanna and three great grand children: Lucas, Leigha and Hayden; his sister-in-law Eloise Brower of Red Oak; many nieces and nephews, other relatives and friends.

Funeral services for Ralph Victor Riggs of Atlantic will be Saturday, March 18th at 11 a.m. at the First United Methodist Church in Atlantic. Visitation with the family will be held from 9-11 a.m. prior to service in the sanctuary of the church. A burial inurnment military ceremony was held following the service at the Atlantic Cemetery where he and wife 'Rosie' shall be reunited in their final resting place. Funeral arrangements have been made by the family and First United Methodist Church in Atlantic.