



Carl Otto

October 22, 1967 - May 23, 2025

Carl Otto, 57, of Oskaloosa, passed away in Playa del Carmen, Quintana Roo, Mexico on May 23, 2025.

Carl Allen Otto, son of John G. Otto III and Ronica Lee (Waters) Otto, was born October 22, 1967, in Ann Arbor, Michigan. While growing up, Carl developed a close relationship with his grandparents, Richard and Helen Waters, at their cottage on Portage Lake in Michigan. He graduated from Grandville High School in 1985, where he played on the hockey team all four years. He continued his education at Michigan State University, graduating in 1990 with a degree in Physical Education. While in college, Carl enjoyed being a baseball umpire and hockey referee for local community league teams. His love of baseball took him to Florida, where he graduated from the Joe Brinkman Umpire School and went on to umpire in the minor leagues for a year. While in Florida, he met the love of his life, Connie Heilman; they were married on September 17, 1998. While living in Florida, he furthered his career opportunities when he completed the apprenticeship program for electricians and received his Journeyman Electrician Certification. In 2007, he began working for Musco Lighting as a Field Technician in Palm Bay, FL, before moving to Charlottesville, VA. In 2012, he relocated to Oskaloosa to serve as a Tech Specialist. He became the Mini Pitch Project Manager (responsible for mini-soccer field production) in 2018. During his time at Musco, Carl continued to further his education by taking online courses, earning his Bachelor's and Master's Degrees in Project Management from

Southern New Hampshire University. Carl was considered a valuable member of the Musco family; he held contractor's licenses in multiple states, allowing Musco to conduct business in those states.

Carl had a passion for a wide range of sports; he enjoyed golf, rock climbing, running, and coaching his sons' soccer teams in the Mahaska County Soccer Club. He also developed a passion for scuba diving and was a master diver and scuba instructor. He was a member of DAN (Divers Alert Network), and it was on his last scuba diving trip in Mexico that he unexpectedly passed away from natural causes. Carl loved life and his family – he always looked forward to the family's annual summer vacations when they followed the road wherever it took them.

His family includes his wife, Connie Otto of Oskaloosa, IA; his sons, Travis Otto of Ankeny, IA, and Andrew Otto of Oskaloosa, IA; and his father, John Otto of Grandville, MI.

Carl was preceded in death by his mother, Ronica Otto, and his grandparents, Richard and Helen Waters and John and Betty Otto.

As was his wish, Carl's body has been cremated. In place of a funeral, there will be a Memorial Dive in Mermet Springs, Illinois, on Memorial Day 2026. Memorial contributions can be made to Stephen Memorial Animal Shelter.

Upcoming Events

Memorial Dive

MAY 25 (CT)

Mermet Springs
6724 N US HWY 45
Belknap, IL 62908

Tribute Wall

ED

“ I was extremely grateful for the time I spent with Carl on the Minipitch team in 2018. Carl was a kind hearted and determined individual to do whatever it took to help the youth in the area we were working. Through countless hours of travel and work during that summer in 2018 there were some stressful times, but nothing ever broke his spirit. Since I moved away from Oskaloosa it was always a pleasure to come back and visit Carl in the office or for a bite to eat. His attitude and determination will always be remembered and my thoughts and prayers go out to his family. Enjoy all the diving you can up in Heaven. God bless and rest easy my friend.

Eddie Daley - June 06, 2025 at 01:08 PM

JA

“ I'm very glad to meet Carl and learn a lot of things about Musco and project management. Thank you Carl for share with me your knowledge and I hope you have enjoyed the Mexican and traditional cuisine that I tried you to taste and thanks for your support and patience to teach me the best ways to perform my job. Gracias amigo, maestro y que GADU este siempre contigo y regreses en la nueva vida disfrutando plenamente.

Juan Carlos Avila - June 06, 2025 at 12:53 PM

LH

“ *The last time I saw Carl was years ago at Butch and Ronnie's cottage on Portage Lake, Pinckney, MI. It was a beautiful 4th of July, and we played a round of golf at Hudson Mills Metropark Golf Course in Dexter with Butch, Carl, a few other guys that were heavily medicated with something, and some of my (female) golf buddies. We gave them a run for their money, but what I remember most was the fun we had. Although quiet at times, Carl had a great sense of humor and enjoyed a good party like his mom, Ronica, did. My heart goes out to Butch, Connie and the boys. God bless you!*

xoxo Cousin Lynn

Lynn Hutzal-Visel - June 01, 2025 at 02:37 PM