



Edgar Grafke Jr.

December 25, 1932 - April 12, 2019

Edgar Grafke, 86, of Oskaloosa, passed away Friday, April 12, 2019, at his home in Oskaloosa.

Henry Edgar Grafke Jr. was born December 25, 1932, to Henry Edgar Sr. and Marjorie Lois (Towne) Grafke in Kansas City, Kansas. He grew up in Kansas City, the oldest of six children. He attended Washington High School and graduated in 1951 and then furthered his education at Emporia State Teachers College where he was a member of Alpha Kappa Lambda Fraternity and also played football. While in college, he married the love-of-his-life, Peggy Ann Williams September 4, 1954, at Welborn Community Church in Kansas City, Kansas. He earned his B.A. degree in Art Education in 1955 and then entered the Navy June 7, 1955, at the US Naval Air Station in Olathe, Kansas. After completing his three-year term of active duty June 6, 1958, he took a position teaching art at Meadow Brook Elementary School in Kansas City. After a year there, he was hired by his alma mater, Washington H.S. to teach art. During these years, Edgar continued to pursue his master's degree at Kansas University, which he received in 1966. In 1968, a former colleague informed him of position at William Penn College teaching art. After visiting Oskaloosa, he and Peggy decided that the college and community were where they wanted to work and raise their children.

While at William Penn, Edgar taught ceramics, drawing, painting, design, composition and art history. He also coached tennis and cross country, served as the college's videographer and faculty sponsor of Alpha Eta Omega Sorority, and helped develop the Jones Collection at William Penn. Ed not only immersed himself in the college but also became an active member of the Oskaloosa community, sharing his gifts and talents as he could: he designed the Mahaska County Flag and the Mahaska County Conservation Board Logo. He served on the Art-on-the Square Committee, the judging of the artists, and for many years demonstrated his pottery skills during the event. Edgar loved nature: he was a beekeeper and an avid gardener and applied organic principles before organic was popular. He also enjoyed hunting and fishing with his sons and friends. Edgar readily accepted challenges and helped design and build the family home with an art studio in the crow's nest. After his retirement in 1999, he spent numerous summers mowing Forest Cemetery. Ed was a member Mahaska #644 Masonic Lodge A.F. and A.M., St. Paul

Congregational United Church of Christ from 1968 – 2005, and a former member of Kiwanis.

His family includes his wife of 64 years, Peggy; his children: Henry Edgar Grafke III of Oskaloosa, David Alan Grafke (Glen Baker) of Denver CO, and Susan (Rick) Leedom of Oskaloosa; his grandsons: Elliott (Jess) Grafke of Redmond OR and Saif Grafke of Oskaloosa; a great-grandson, Hamilton Grafke. He is also survived by his siblings: Eva Hinds of Louisville KS, Marge (Bob) Doby of Leavenworth KS, Stuart (Jenny) Grafke of Braymer MO; a brother-in-law, Buck Waters of Leavenworth KS; and sister-in-law, Nelly Grafke of Kansas City KS.

In addition to his parents, Edgar was preceded in death by his sister, Sally Waters and a brother, Ernest Grafke.

Funeral services for Edgar will be held at 10:30 a.m., Wednesday, April 17, 2019, at Langkamp Funeral Chapel with Pastor Steve Howe of Life House Community Church officiating. Burial will be in Forest Cemetery with Military Honors by the Oskaloosa Honor Guard. Visitation will begin after 10 a.m., Tuesday; the family will greet visitors from 5-6:30 p.m. A Masonic Service will be held at 6:30 p.m., Tuesday evening. Memorials can be made to the Stephen Memorial Animal Shelter and Life House Community Church.

Cemetery Details

Forest Cemetery

934 North 9th ST
Oskaloosa, IA 52577
secretary@forestcemetery.com
<http://www.forestcemetery.org/>

Previous Events

Visitation

APR 16. 10:00 AM (CT)

Langkamp Funeral Chapel & Crematory
2116 N 3rd St
Oskaloosa, IA 52577
(641) 672-2181
langkampfuneralchapel@gmail.com
<https://www.langkampfuneralchapel.com>

Family Visitation

APR 16. 5:00 PM - 6:30 PM (CT)

Langkamp Funeral Chapel & Crematory
2116 N 3rd St
Oskaloosa, IA 52577
(641) 672-2181
langkampfuneralchapel@gmail.com
<https://www.langkampfuneralchapel.com>

Masonic Service

APR 16. 6:30 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Langkamp Funeral Chapel & Crematory
2116 N 3rd St
Oskaloosa, IA 52577
(641) 672-2181
langkampfuneralchapel@gmail.com
<https://www.langkampfuneralchapel.com>

Funeral Service

APR 17. 10:30 AM (CT)

Langkamp Funeral Chapel & Crematory
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Tribute Wall



“ *Edgar Grafke Jr.*

October 05, 2023 at 11:57 PM

KD

“ *What a honor to have know Mr. Grade. He was a awesome art professor, fill in dad for me, when Susan and I were pledge sisters for Alpha Eta Omega. Our sponsor for the sorority and a wonderful father,as I remember the how proudly they all spoke of their parents. My deepest sympathy. Love to all of you.*

Kimberly Dalbey - April 19, 2019 at 05:39 AM

KD

Please overlook my crazy spellcheck. Mr. Grafke

Kimberly Dalbey - April 19, 2019 at 05:42 AM

AR

“ *The times I visited i remember always setting at the dinner table as a family. It left a warm feeling in my heart. We shared good conversations on current events. One of the things i picked up on was his genuine caring of other people.*

Alan Rush

Alan Rush - April 18, 2019 at 04:01 AM



PH

“ *Ed was a family man first and foremost and I always respected him for that. Joyce and Paul Hilding Jr. 402-944-2240*

paul hilding - April 17, 2019 at 07:11 PM



“ *A sympathy card was purchased for the family of Edgar Grafke Jr..*



April 17, 2019 at 06:42 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Edgar Grafke Jr..*



April 16, 2019 at 06:07 PM



“ *Sweetest Sunrise Bouquet was purchased for the family of Edgar Grafke Jr..*



April 15, 2019 at 06:44 PM



“ *61 files added to the album LifeTributes*



Langkamp Funeral Chapel & Crematory - April 15, 2019 at 02:37 PM

MS

“ *Peggy and family -Love and prayers to you and your family♥ You and Ed were a model couple. My heart aches for you. He touched so many lives♥♥*



Mary Sandholdt - April 15, 2019 at 11:00 AM

SG

Those words mean so much. Thank you, Mary! God bless you.

Susan Leedom(Grafke) - April 15, 2019 at 10:59 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Edgar Grafke Jr..*



April 15, 2019 at 10:55 AM

JF

“ *I didn't get to see my cousin Edgar often enough but when I did, I always enjoyed our conversations. I loved his hugs because he was tall enough to surround me with love. My love to all the family. Janet Ferson*

Janet Ferson - April 14, 2019 at 09:56 PM

AD

“ *Dear Grafke family, I remember how kind, patient and gentle Prof. Grafke was. He always welcomed me kindly as Susan's friend. In fact, you all made me feel so very welcome in your home, and you were very patient with my childishness! Thank you so much for those wonderful, positive memories. I am praying for you all in this time of sadness. May God give you His peace that passes understanding.*

Anna (Brackin) Dykstra - April 14, 2019 at 12:52 PM



Thank you, Anna you are a blessing to us.

Susan Leedom - April 15, 2019 at 08:25 AM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Edgar Grafke Jr..*



April 14, 2019 at 12:50 PM

JC

“ *Very sorry for your loss. Professor Grafke was one of my favorites at William Penn, I always enjoyed his classes and talking with him.*

Joe Caloia - April 14, 2019 at 12:08 PM

BN

“ *Becky Netten lit a candle in memory of Edgar Grafke Jr.*



Becky Netten - April 14, 2019 at 11:22 AM



“ *A sympathy card was purchased for the family of Edgar Grafke Jr..*



April 14, 2019 at 11:08 AM



“ *I am so sorry to hear this , my love goes to the family many prayer for all of you.*

Marty Burke

Marty Burke - April 14, 2019 at 11:04 AM

DJ

“ *Someone shot Ed's dog years ago. He called me when he was told my son did it. I said he would never do that. Years later I got a call from Ed saying he found out the guilty party! How many men would take the time to call and let me know! What a great guy!! I had so much respect for Ed!*

Donna Howard Johnson - April 14, 2019 at 09:49 AM

JL

“ *Peggy and family, Our thoughts and prayers are with you in your loss 🙏*



Judy & Larry Lewis - April 14, 2019 at 09:01 AM

JM

“ *Jean Morris lit a candle in memory of Edgar Grafke Jr.*



Jean Morris - April 13, 2019 at 10:36 PM