



## Junior Van Roekel

January 17, 1938 - September 8, 2018

Junior Van Roekel, 80, of Oskaloosa, passed away Saturday evening, September 8, 2018, at the Mahaska Health Partnership Hospice Serenity House in Oskaloosa.

Otto Junior Van Roekel, son of Otto Henry and Caroline (Van Hulzen) Van Roekel, was born January 17, 1938, in Oskaloosa, Iowa. Junior attended grade school in Rose Hill and was a 1956 graduate of Oskaloosa High School. His first job was with Wake Feed Mill where he worked for several years. He was later hired by Binns and Stevens and worked as a foreman for 26 years. In 1991, he went to work for Oskaloosa Food Products as the transportation supervisor/foreman. He retired from full-time employment in 2012 but continued to work part-time at Osky Food until a month prior to his death.

Junior married the love-of-his-life, Cecelia Reese, on July 4, 1961, at the Central United Methodist Church Chapel in Oskaloosa. They raised their family in Oskaloosa and Junior was a member of Central Reformed Church for over 60 years. Family was always Junior's first priority, he was truly a giving and loving husband, father, grandfather, brother, uncle, and friend; and showed his love and kindness through his actions. He was a man of deep faith, and though he was a man of few words, his convictions were very evident in his service to others.

Junior was also a member of the Oskaloosa Indians Booster Club and the Babe Ruth Board of Directors; he loved cheering on his grandchildren in their

sporting events. Junior had the ability to fix anything and loved tinkering on his cars. He enjoyed the out-of-doors and working in his yard; he had a meticulous way about him that was apparent in his vehicles, yard, and home. Junior also enjoyed the many friendships at his coffee group.

Junior's family includes his wife of 57 years, Cecelia; his children: Scott and Wendy Van Roekel of Oskaloosa and Shari Day, also of Oskaloosa; grandchildren: Justin (Danielle) Day and Jacey and Jaden Van Roekel; great-grandchildren: Jeren and Jordan Day. He is also survived by his siblings, Wayne Van Roekel of Oskaloosa, Joleen (Bob) Van Arkel-Peterson, and Lois Van Arkel-Alexander; a special brother-in-law, Jerry (Ramona) Reese; and special nieces: Kathy Walker, Susie Walker-Milburn, Beth Walker-Brown, and many other special nieces and nephews.

In addition to his parents, Junior was preceded in death by his step-mother, Artie Van Arkel-Van Roekel; his brother, John A Van Roekel; a sister, Dorothy Van Roekel-DeGroot; his wife's parents, David E. and Agnes Reese; sisters-in-law: Donna Reese-Bambrook, Diana Reese-(Karl) Walker-(Jack) Stout, and Shirley Reese-Cubit; and brother-in-law, Davey Reese.

Funeral Services for Junior will be held at 10:30 a.m., Wednesday, September 12, at the Central Reformed Church with Rev. Jon Nelson officiating. A family prayer service will be held at 10:15 a.m. in the church's east lounge. Private burial will be held in Forest Cemetery. Visitation will begin after 9 a.m., Tuesday, at Langkamp Funeral Chapel & Crematory; the family will greet visitors from 5-7 p.m., Tuesday evening at the chapel.

Memorials can be made to MHP Hospice Serenity House, the Oskaloosa Booster Club or Central Reformed Church.

# Cemetery Details

## Forest Cemetery

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

# Previous Events

## Open Visitation

SEP 11. 9:00 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

SEP 11. 5:00 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>

## Family Prayer Service

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SEP 12. 10:15 AM (CT)

Central Reformed Church East Lounge  
815 2nd Ave. EAst  
Oskaloosa, IA 52577

## Memorial Service

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SEP 12. 10:30 AM (CT)

Central Reformed Church  
815 2nd Ave. East  
Oskaloosa, IA 52577  
[d.langkamp@mahaska.org](mailto:d.langkamp@mahaska.org)

# Tribute Wall



“ *Junior Van Roekel*

October 05, 2023 at 11:57 PM



“ *Sorry to hear of Junior death. I did not know him personally but would always say hi to me and his wife Celicia was a great Christian couple. Wayne was a classmate of mine of 1971. He always look up to his brother. Our thoughts and prayers will be with entire family now and in the days ahead. Gary Delores (Morgan) Cundiff of Kirkville Ia*

**Delores (Morgan) Cundiff** - September 13, 2018 at 07:17 PM



“ *Shirley Bloodsworth lit a candle in memory of Junior Van Roekel*



**Shirley Bloodsworth** - September 12, 2018 at 02:36 PM



*Sending our deepest sympathy. Always enjoyed seeing and visiting with you and Jr.*

**Shirley Bloodsworth** - September 12, 2018 at 02:39 PM

DF

“ Always enjoyed talking to Jr. I really liked his point of view and upbeat attitude. The lord will have a great addition. Our thoughts and prayers go out to his beautiful family.  
*Dennis Fisher family*

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**Dennis L Fisher** - September 12, 2018 at 11:12 AM



“ *Simply Happy Kalanchoe Plant was purchased for the family of Junior Van Roekel.*



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September 12, 2018 at 08:09 AM

TJ

“ *My sympathy and thoughts go out to the family. I am lucky enough to know a large majority of this family. Junior sure showed his love for Cecilia and his family. So many memories that you have to treasure with such an amazing and kind man.*

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**Tonya Johannes** - September 11, 2018 at 09:49 PM

KS

“ Cecelia, Scott, Shari, Wayne and families,  
Sincere Sympathy for all of you at this difficult time. Worked with Jr.  
Van for many years and reacquainted with his hearing health. Super  
guy that would do anything for anyone and have wonderful  
memories of him. He will be greatly missed by all and you have our  
thoughts and prayers in the days ahead.

*Kathy & Scott Shaw*

*Stacy Sammons*

*Concept by Iowa Hearing Aid Centers*

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**Kathy Shaw** - September 11, 2018 at 04:14 PM

HK

“ Cecelia, I remember spending some nights running around with  
Junior in his 1953 Maroon Plymouth We had some great times  
together. My heart goes out to you and extend my deepest  
sympathy. Howard Kool

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**Howard Kool** - September 11, 2018 at 03:22 PM

GJ

“ Sorry for your families lose. Known Junior for years a great  
gentleman will always remember him as a friend and fellow trucker.  
God Bless

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**Gary Junkins** - September 11, 2018 at 02:15 PM

ML

“ Mike, Quin, Ann, Laura Lanning purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Junior Van Roekel.



Mike, Quin, Ann, Laura Lanning - September 11, 2018 at 11:08 AM

MG

“ Mike & Mindy Gaarder lit a candle in memory of Junior Van Roekel



Mike & Mindy Gaarder - September 11, 2018 at 05:24 AM

Shelly  
Van  
Roekel  
Pope

“ Shelly Van Roekel Pope lit a candle in memory of Junior Van Roekel



Shelly Van Roekel Pope - September 10, 2018 at 10:18 PM

JB

“ Judy Belzer lit a candle in memory of Junior Van Roekel



Judy Belzer - September 10, 2018 at 08:47 PM

JL

“ *Cecelia and Family Oir thoughts and prayers are with you! Judy and Larry*



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**Judy and Larry Lewis** - September 10, 2018 at 07:35 PM

PD

“ *Cecelia....  
I am so sorry for your loss.... My heart breaks for you. I do know how hard it is to lose your "other half"....I wish I could say something magical and make the hurt go away.....but I can listen if you need an ear. I will also say a little prayer for you and your family if that's ok.*



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**Patricia Draughn** - September 10, 2018 at 06:20 PM

LO

“ *Cecelia and family, I am so sorry for your loss. Prayers that God will give you strength, comfort to get you through the difficult days ahead. With my deepest sympathy, Lou*



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**Lou** - September 10, 2018 at 06:17 PM

RS

“ Only got to meet Junior a time or two, but you Cecelia have been a friend since grade school at Webster...i know you both loved each other dearly...Junior was a rock and soulmate to you.. i could tell, by the way you always spoke of him... Prayers are with you and your entire family in this sad time..Cecelia, you can take comfort in knowing he no longer is suffering ,but safe in his Masters Arms.. Your loss is Heavens gain..

*Bob Sparrow*

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**Robert Sparrow** - September 10, 2018 at 05:12 PM



“ Lovely One Spathiphyllum Plant was purchased for the family of Junior Van Roekel.



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September 10, 2018 at 03:04 PM

JF

“ Jeff Ferguson lit a candle in memory of Junior Van Roekel



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**Jeff Ferguson** - September 10, 2018 at 02:27 PM

KL

“ *Cecelia and family,  
You folks were such wonderful back door neighbors when you lived on O Ave. I remember Meghan use to go play with Justin a lot when he was visiting. She started thinking your names were grandpa and grandma. She always came home and told me something special grandpa had made.*

*Our love and sympathy is with your family.  
Kathy Larsen and family*

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**Kathy Larsen** - September 10, 2018 at 02:27 PM

SL

“ *Our sincere condolences to Junior's family and especially our lifelong friend and South 2nd neighbor, Cecilia. We did not know Junior well but his love for Cecilia was evident. You are in our thoughts and prayers*



*Mike and Steve Lanning*

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**Steve Lanning** - September 10, 2018 at 01:59 PM

CV

“ *Cliff VandeWall lit a candle in memory of Junior Van Roekel*



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**Cliff VandeWall** - September 10, 2018 at 01:33 PM