



Ray De Zwarte

September 12, 1926 - October 15, 2020

Ray De Zwarte, 94, of Oskaloosa passed away peacefully surrounded by his loving family, Thursday, October 15, 2020, at Mahaska Health in Oskaloosa.

Raymond De Zwarte, son of James and Nettie (Verros) De Zwarte, was born September 12, 1926, at the home of his parents near Harvey, Iowa. His love of farming was nurtured throughout his childhood as he grew up helping his dad. He entered the Army in May of 1945 and served in Germany during WWII until he was honorably discharged in 1947.

On February 24, 1948, he married Mildred Brummel in Oskaloosa. Together they farmed in the Pella, Harvey, and Eddyville areas. Four children, Sherril Postma, Donna Baitzer, Debra Gray and Richard De Zwarte, were born to this union.

Ray officially retired in 1989 but continued to help his son on his farm. With more free time, he became keenly interested in restoring tractors and spent many hours tinkering in his shop. He also enjoyed wood-working and made many items for his family and others. His wood-working skills enabled him to play a vital role at Vacation Bible School at Central Reformed Church; for 15 years, he fashioned each year's craft project's components. Ray also served many terms as deacon and an elder at his church. He created many toys for his grandchildren through the years and enjoyed watching them play with his creations. Ray was a man of honesty and integrity and lived his life by the

"Golden Rule." He was happiest when his family surrounded him.

His family includes his children and their spouses: Sherril and Bob Postma of Knoxville, Debra and Stan Gray of Murray, and Rick and Diane De Zwarte of Eddyville; ten grandchildren: Rob (Suzanne) Postma of Siren, WI, Shannen (Adam) Cahill of Knoxville, Tyler Baitzer of Des Moines, Emily (Brad) Foss of Kildeer, IL, Kylie (Adam) Wroblaski of Berthoud, CO, Brandon (Laura) Gray of Altoona, Lacey (Dave) Asplund of Austin, TX, Ryan (Kristy) De Zwarte of Oskaloosa, Ashley (James) Hayward of Eddyville, and Cody (Delaney) De Zwarte of Montezuma; 15 great-grandchildren and one great-great-grandson. A sister, Erma Steenhoek of Pella, and a brother, Loren De Zwarte of Knoxville, also survive Ray.

In addition to his parents, Ray was preceded in death by his wife, Mildred, on September 20, 2016; a daughter, Donna Baitzer; a brother, Marvin De Zwarte, and a sister, Dorothy Ter Louw.

Funeral services for Ray will be held at 10:30 a.m., Monday, October 19, 2020, at Central Reformed Church with Reverend Jon Nelson officiating. According to the rules put in place by the Iowa Department of Public Health, proper social distancing and appropriate personal protective equipment are advised for attending this public event. The family requests that all those attending wear masks. This service can be viewed at livestream.com/centralreformed. Burial will be in Evergreen Cemetery with military honors by the Oskaloosa Honor Guard. Visitation will be held from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., Sunday at Langkamp Funeral Chapel. Memorial contributions can be made to Central Reformed Church Childrens Ministry Program.

Cemetery Details

Evergreen Cemetery

Easton Ave. and 205th ST
Leighton, IA 50143

Previous Events

Open Visitation

OCT **18**. 10:00 AM - 6:00 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

OCT **19**. 10:30 AM (CT)

Central Reformed Church
815 2nd Ave. East
Oskaloosa, IA 52577
d.langkamp@mahaska.org

Tribute Wall



“ *Langkamp Funeral Chapel & Crematory created a Tribute Video in memory of Ray De Zwarte*



Langkamp Funeral Chapel & Crematory - October 18, 2020 at 01:13 PM

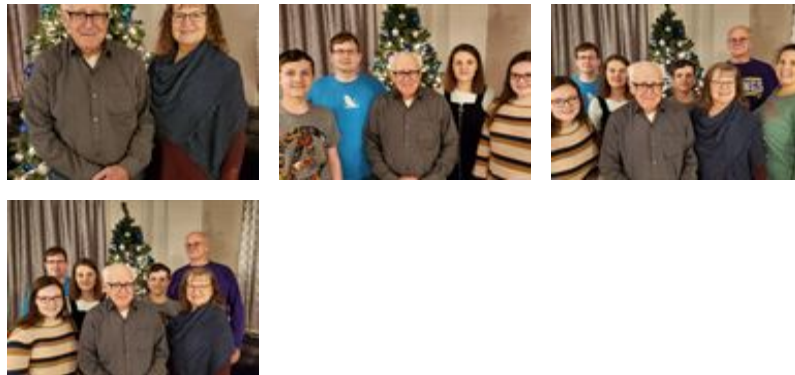


“ *Ray De Zwarte*

October 05, 2023 at 11:57 PM



“ *4 files added to the album LifeTributes*



Langkamp Funeral Chapel & Crematory - October 19, 2020 at 10:34 AM



“ 87 files added to the album Life Tributes



Langkamp Funeral Chapel & Crematory - October 18, 2020 at 01:10 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Ray De Zwarte.



October 18, 2020 at 08:05 AM



“ Kayla Davis lit a candle in memory of Ray De Zwarte



Kayla Davis - October 18, 2020 at 04:14 AM



A wonderful man, husband, father and grandfather. You will be missed Ray. My heart goes out to the whole DeZwarte clan. RIP and give Donna a hug for me...

Kayla Davis - October 18, 2020 at 04:20 AM



“ *Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Ray De Zwarte.*



October 17, 2020 at 06:03 PM



“ *My thoughts and prayers to all Ray's family. I remember Ray and Mildred and you kids when you lived by Durham a few miles from us and we all wet to the old Third Church in Pella. Ray and my dad were cousins. May the Lord comfort you all as you cherish the memories of him. I will watch his service.*
Karen (Uitermarkt) Vink

Karen Vink - October 17, 2020 at 11:37 AM



“ *Strength & Solace Spray was purchased for the family of Ray De Zwarte.*



October 16, 2020 at 09:41 PM