



## Sy & Rachel Yang

October 11, 2024

Sy Yang, 43, and Rachel Yang, 45, of Oskaloosa, came into the presence of their Savior on October 11, 2024, in a car accident while traveling from Des Moines to Oskaloosa on Hwy 163.

Sy Yang, son of Houa and Mai K. (Yaj) Yang, was born in Iowa City, Iowa, on March 12, 1981. The family soon relocated to Oskaloosa, he attended Oskaloosa Schools, and was a 1998 graduate of Oskaloosa High School. While in high school, he worked at Hardee's restaurant, and it was there that he fell in love with his future wife. He and Rachel Anne Heatherly married on December 8, 1998, at her parents' home in Oskaloosa. They made their home in Oskaloosa, and Sy was soon employed at Pella Corp. in Pella. He served in numerous capacities through the years and, most recently had worked in the logistics department.

Sy and his family attended Bethel Christian Reformed Church, and in his free time, he loved hunting and fishing. His favorite fishing spots were in northeast Iowa, where he went fishing for trout with his daughter Kaylah.

Rachel Anne Yang, daughter of David Eugene and Deborah Kaye (Sullivan) Heatherly, was born in Silvis, Illinois. When Rachel was a child, the family moved to Exeter, California, where her parents served as youth pastors. She attended school there, and her mother eventually home-schooled Rachel and

her siblings. In 1995, the LORD called the family to move to Oskaloosa. Rachel was home-schooled through high school and then attended William Penn University for two years, where she studied Elementary Education. While in college, Rachel worked under her mother, the manager, at Hardee's Restaurant. It was there that she fell in love with her future husband.

While attending Penn, she had her first child in 2000 and decided to stay home to care for her growing family. When her children were young, she and Sy worked as custodians at the Oskaloosa Christian School. In 2016, she went to work as a para-educator at North Mahaska Schools. For the last several years, Rachel has been part of the staff at the SONshine Preschool at Oskaloosa Christian School. She loved the work and teaching and modeling the love of God to all her young students.

Rachel also attended Bethel Christian Reformed Church with her family. She loved the outdoors, hiking, camping, and fossil hunting. Her dad called her his "little theologian" because of her love for God's Word and diligent Bible Study. As a mother, she did her best to be stern but gentle, trying to instill God's Love and Grace in her children.

Their family includes their children: Morgan and Mat Van Donselaar, Kaylah Yang, Julie Yang, and Ben Yang, all of Oskaloosa; Sy's parents: Houa and Mai K. Yang of Oskaloosa; Rachel's parents: David and Deborah Heatherly of Oskaloosa; Sy's siblings: Phong and Mai Yer Yang of Oskaloosa, and Sakee and Boa Xiong of Eau Claire, WI, and Luke and Gao Yang of Oskaloosa; Rachel's grandmother, Aner Bell Sullivan of Colona, IL; Rachel's siblings: Joshua and Amy Heatherly of Tracy, IA, and Jason and Leah Storm of Lake Keomah, Oskaloosa; and a host of aunts and uncles.

Rachel was preceded in death by a sister, Sonia Heatherly.

In Matthew 13:1-9, Jesus gave a parable of the sower. Sy and Rachel were

the good ground. “But others fell on the good ground and yielded a crop some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. He who has ears to hear, let him hear”! Matthew 13:8,9.

Funeral Services for Sy and Rachel will be held at 10:30 a.m., Saturday, October 19, 2024, at the Bethel Christian Reformed Church. Pastor Doug Van Der Pol of Bethel and Pastor Bruce Thompson will officiate. Burial will be in Forest Cemetery. The visitation will begin at 2 p.m., Friday, at the church; the family will greet visitors from 3-7 p.m. Memorial contributions can be made to Bethel Christian Reformed Church. Langkamp Funeral Chapel has been entrusted with Sy and Rachel’s final arrangements.

# Cemetery Details

## Forest Cemetery

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

# Previous Events

## Visitation

OCT 18. 2:00 PM (CT)

Bethel Christian Reformed Church  
2157 230th ST  
Oskaloosa, IA 52577

*The family will greet visitors from 3-7 p.m.*

## Funeral Service

OCT 19. 10:30 AM (CT)

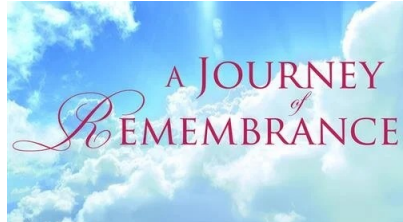
Bethel Christian Reformed Church  
2157 230th ST  
Oskaloosa, IA 52577

*Pastor Doug Van Der Pol of Bethel and Pastor Bruce Thompson will officiate.*

# Tribute Wall



“ *Langkamp Funeral Chapel & Crematory created a Tribute Video in memory of Sy & Rachel Yang*



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**Langkamp Funeral Chapel & Crematory** - October 17, 2024 at 07:38 PM



“ *Langkamp Funeral Chapel & Crematory created a Funeral Service for Sy and Rachel Yang in memory of Sy & Rachel Yang*



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**Langkamp Funeral Chapel & Crematory** - October 17, 2024 at 12:31 PM

DH

“ *I'm so sorry to Sy and Rachel's family and friends. I worked with Sy at Pella Corp. He was so proud of his family and shared his fishing stories! He loved potlucks we had with our group at work. I will always remember his smile*

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**Dianne Holst** - October 18, 2024 at 06:35 PM

JW

“ Jessica W. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Sy & Rachel Yang.

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Jessica W. - October 18, 2024 at 12:40 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Sy & Rachel Yang.



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October 18, 2024 at 09:30 AM

PG

“ PDC Buyer Group planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Sy & Rachel Yang.

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PDC Buyer Group - October 17, 2024 at 03:42 PM



“ Medium Dish Garden was purchased for the family of Sy & Rachel Yang.



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October 17, 2024 at 03:42 PM

VM

“ Vanessa, Victoria, and Brandon Murphy purchased the Sweet Tenderness for the family of Sy & Rachel Yang.



Vanessa, Victoria, and Brandon Murphy - October 17, 2024 at 02:08 PM



“ 228 files added to the album LifeTributes



Langkamp Funeral Chapel & Crematory - October 17, 2024 at 01:20 PM

TF

“ The Edmundson Family purchased the Enchanted Cottage for the family of Sy & Rachel Yang.



The Edmundson Family - October 16, 2024 at 09:12 PM



“ *Beautiful Dreams was purchased for the family of Sy & Rachel Yang.*



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October 16, 2024 at 04:41 PM



“ *I knew Sy and Rachel as educators who wanted the best for the kids they touched at North Mahaska. Rachel helped so many students as an associate, as well as helping me in the library when I subbed. I didn't have a clue of what to do when I had the sixth graders. Fortunately, she knew just what needed to be done and guided me!*

*I got to know Sy this past spring when he volunteered to coach track and field for the boys and girls teams. He worked with the sprint teams, never missing a practice, a meet, or a fun-filled bus trip! I feel fortunate to have gotten to know Sy during those bus trips. I learned, over the season, that he was a great husband, father and a dedicated coach!.*

*He will be missed next season by the kids, Coach Amy Griffin and me. Our hearts and prayers go out to Ben and his sisters in this very difficult time in their lives.*

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**Phil Griffin** - October 16, 2024 at 03:07 PM



“ *Hey Rachel, you were my favorite teacher.*

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**Tatum Wolver** - October 16, 2024 at 01:47 PM

TP

“ The Faculty & Staff of William Penn planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Sy & Rachel Yang.

The Faculty & Staff of William Penn - October 16, 2024 at 11:57 AM



“ Basket Full of Wishes was purchased for the family of Sy & Rachel Yang.



October 16, 2024 at 11:57 AM

JP

“ Jayme Paxton lit a candle in memory of Sy & Rachel Yang



Jayme Paxton - October 16, 2024 at 10:11 AM

JB

“ Jaarsma Bakery planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Sy & Rachel Yang.

Jaarsma Bakery - October 16, 2024 at 09:46 AM

JB

“ *Jaarsma Bakery purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Sy & Rachel Yang.*



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**Jaarsma Bakery** - October 16, 2024 at 09:46 AM

AW

“ *This is so heartbreaking. Sy and Rachel were people that made small town medicine so gratifying. So sorry for your loss. Dr. Anne Whitis.*

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**Anne Whitis** - October 16, 2024 at 09:45 AM

F2

“ *From the Class of 2022 planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Sy & Rachel Yang.*

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**From the Class of 2022** - October 16, 2024 at 09:28 AM

F2

“ *From the Class of 2022 purchased the Dreams From the Heart Bouquet for the family of Sy & Rachel Yang.*



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**From the Class of 2022** - October 16, 2024 at 09:28 AM

MA

“ Maci, Emma, and Alex purchased the Love's Journey for the family of Sy & Rachel Yang.



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**Maci, Emma, and Alex** - October 15, 2024 at 08:49 PM

FL

“ Felicia Luzadder planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Sy & Rachel Yang.

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**Felicia Luzadder** - October 15, 2024 at 08:44 PM



“ Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Sy & Rachel Yang.



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October 15, 2024 at 08:44 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Sy & Rachel Yang.



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October 15, 2024 at 01:45 PM

TM

“ Great parents and great Kids! Just a great family! They all made teaching a little easier. Very supportive parents and kids who were respectful and happy! Definitely a tragic loss! Sy and Rachel be missed by all that knew them!

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**Terry Malone** - October 14, 2024 at 06:55 PM

HZ

“ Sending all my love and prayers to the entire Yang family. May God be with you all during this incredibly difficult time.

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**Heather (Fenton) Zolecki** - October 14, 2024 at 06:29 PM

BP

“ Absolutely heart-breaking.... Sy and Rachel were such great parents and so good to me as band chaperones. I was honored to have all four children in band at North Mahaska. May God bless Sy and Rachel with eternal peace and joy and may He be there each and every moment of Morgan, Kaylah, Julie and Ben's lives. Much love....Bruce Peiffer

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**Bruce Peiffer** - October 14, 2024 at 12:14 PM