



Gary D. Rosacker

September 7, 1950 - June 14, 2023

Gary D. Rosacker, 72, of Grand Island died Wednesday, June 14, 2023 with his loving family at his side.

Born September 7, 1950 in Omaha, Neb., Gary was the second son of Warren and Shirley (Bull) Rosacker, and subsequently the older brother of two younger sisters. He was raised in Tekamah, graduating from Tekamah High School class of 1968. Gary looked back fondly on his youth in eastern Nebraska, often reminiscing about freely playing with friends and cousins, in and out of town, in barns, along the banks of the Missouri river, and climbing anything he could. Tall, slender, and athletic, Gary played many sports, excelling in basketball and baseball, a sport for which he maintained a life-long affection. He received his Bachelors of Education from Midland Lutheran College in 1973. Gary taught school for two years before returning to further his education at the University of Nebraska-Omaha, receiving his Master's in Industrial Psychology in 1978. He moved to Grand Island that same year and began working for Chief Industries.

In March 20, 1982, he was united in marriage to Linda Hayworth. This union was blessed with two sons, Christopher and Jeffrey. Gary went to work for Federated Insurance and later, Stephens-Ryder-McCue Insurance agency. He became partner with the company now known as Ryder Rosacker McCue & Huston in 1986, where he would lead the insurance agency for nearly four decades, much of which was as its president. Gary's intelligence and deep personal care for the staff of the agency and his clients led to many enduring

friendships that extended well beyond the professional setting.

Gary was deeply involved in his community. In addition to participating in his sons' activities, his community involvements were many, including serving on the boards of Goodwill Industries of Greater Nebraska, the Heartland United Way, Grand Island Area Economic Development Corporation, Fonner Park, as well as active involvement with his church. He also served numerous roles beyond serving on boards and was a generous contributor of many charitable causes, but often preferred to go unrecognized and work behind the scenes. Gary was a lifelong Lutheran, baptized at Immanuel Lutheran Church in Benson, confirmed at Tekamah Emmanuel Lutheran Church, and was a member at St. Pauls Lutheran Church in Grand Island for more than four decades.

Gary lived and loved life to its fullest. Some of his enjoyments included golf, scuba diving, sky-diving, baseball, basketball, riding his four wheelers/ATVs, as well as being an adventurous and avid traveler. He had a deep love of music and a beautiful singing voice. He was a life-long reader who was always working his way through one or more books at a time. He enjoyed many literary genres, foremost of which was a deep fascination with history. He is also known for his quick wit and love of storytelling, both of which he used to share a laugh with everyone he met. Gary was a compassionate animal lover, most notably of dogs, of which he cared for many in his life. He had an unparalleled ability to make quick and lasting friendships because of his kindness, humor, and genuine compassion for all those he met. He continued to acquire new, devoted friends even as he neared the end of his life. Above all though, Gary cherished family and was an adoring father and grandfather.

Those left to cherish his memory are his wife of 41 years, Linda; son, Christopher (Dana) Rosacker of Grand Island and their sons, Warren, Charles, and Frederick; brother, David (Melissa) Rosacker of Omaha, and sisters, Jeanne (Ron) Crumly of Page, NE and Nancy Rosacker of Neligh, NE. Other survivors are his mother-in-law, Jerane Hayworth; brothers-in-law, Greg

(Beth) Hayworth and Craig Groff; and nieces, nephews and many friends. Gary's death came after a decade of battling cancer, in which he demonstrated endless bravery, unyielding optimism, and unwavering grace. He is preceded in death by his son, Jeffrey; parents, Warren and Shirley Rosacker; step mother, Esther Rosacker; father-in-law, Ronald Hayworth; and sister-in-law, Stacy Groff.

All Faiths Funeral Home is entrusted with arrangements following Gary's passing. A Visitation will be from 5-7 PM Wednesday in the Bosselman Conference Center at Fonner Park, in Grand Island. Funeral services will be 11 AM Thursday, June 22 at St. Pauls Lutheran Church in Grand Island. Pastor Jeff Pedersen will officiate. Livestreaming will be available on the church's Facebook page. Burial will be in the Grand Island Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, memorials are suggested to either the Central Nebraska Humane Society or the Jeffrey Rosacker Endowed Fund at the Grand Island Public Schools Foundation to help students access mental health services.

Cemetery Details

Grand Island City Cemetery

Grand Island, NE

Previous Events

Celebration of Life Service

JUN **22**. 11:00 AM (CT)

St. Pauls Lutheran Church
1515 South Harrison Street
Grand Island, NE 68801

Tribute Wall



“ Gary D. Rosacker

October 08, 2023 at 11:02 PM



“ So sorry to hear about Gary's passing. Gary was such a good friend. We have known each other for over 50 years. He liked to come to the ranch and spend time riding horse or just visiting about our lives. All five of our children knew Gary and his wonderful sense of humor. Some have worked closely with him. We valued his advice. He will be greatly missed.

Craig Thompson - June 21, 2023 at 10:27 AM



“ Medium Dish Garden was purchased for the family of Gary D. Rosacker.



June 21, 2023 at 09:30 AM



“ Rick H. purchased the Lily and Rose Tribute Spray for the family of Gary D. Rosacker.



Rick H. - June 20, 2023 at 08:08 PM

CH

“ So very sorry to hear about Gary's passing. He was a very special person to everybody in our family. We still have a letter Gary wrote to us many years after he coached our son Kenny in baseball. It still means so much to us, and his kindness and interest in our boy was not uncommon. He made all the kids on his team feel valued and important. It was the reason we switched our business to Gary's insurance company, and we have never regretted it. He and everybody in his office treated us so well. What a magnificent man! He was a gift to Grand Island and certainly a gift to us personally. Can only imagine how difficult this loss is for your family! May he be healthy and happy to be reunited with Jeff. Bless you all!

Cathy and John Howard - June 20, 2023 at 03:54 PM



“ Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Gary D. Rosacker.



June 18, 2023 at 01:03 PM

KC

“ So sorry to hear of Gary's passing. We were neighbors for many years and Gary was my agent for many more. I hope you and Jeff can be together for eternity. God bless you Linda and Chris and the rest of you families. May God grant you peace and comfort. Till we meet again 🙏🙏

karen colan - June 17, 2023 at 09:50 PM

SJ

So sorry for your loss. You are in my thoughts and prayers 🙏

Sherry Jewett - June 19, 2023 at 08:57 PM

GG

I knew Gary at Midland College. I roomed with him for one semester. I haven't been in contact since then. My sister who graduated from Midland sent me his obit. Just because I knew him briefly doesn't mean he didn't have an impact on my life. I considered him a model that I aspired to be. I'm pleased to know that he led an honorable, distinguished, service-filled life. He shined throughout his life. My condolences.

Gary Gaughran - June 22, 2023 at 10:01 PM

BN

“ Gary was a big part of making my College Days at Midland College fun!! Have a lot of good memories of good times with Rosy. We did not really see each other maybe a couple times since College but always felt his friendship. Sorry for your loss Bryan "Butch" Nitchie.

Bryan Nitchie - June 17, 2023 at 10:02 AM