



## Jay Curtis Stoddard

February 12, 1930 - December 12, 2017

Jay Curtis Stoddard

Jay C. Stoddard, 87, of Grand Island, died December 12, 2017, in Grand Island.

Services will be held Saturday, at 10:00 a.m., at St. Stephen's Episcopal Church in Grand Island. Father Robert Lewis will officiate. Burial will be in the Ord Cemetery in Ord, NE at 2 p.m. Saturday.

Visitation will be Friday from 5:00 – 7:00 p.m. at All Faiths Funeral Home in Grand Island.

Mr. Stoddard was born on February 12, 1930, in Eustis, NE. to Fred and Amelia Stoddard.

He is preceded in death by his parents, Fred and Amelia Stoddard, brothers Gerald and Orville, sister Roberta, and great grandson Jet David Hansen.

Survivors include wife, Dorothy, a daughter and son-in-law, Debbie and Ken Elson of Salem, VA., two sons and daughters-in-law, David and Kathy Stoddard of Grand Island and James and Jeannine Stoddard of Santa Maria, CA.

Also surviving are nine grandchildren, Amy and her husband, Kirk Tanksley; Michelle -Elson Roza and her husband, Tony Roza; Jayson Stoddard and wife Abbi; Nick Stoddard and wife Abby; Sarah and her husband, Jared Hansen; Laura Stoddard Krebs, Matthew Stoddard, Andrew Stoddard, and Thomas Stoddard.

Jay is also survived by nine great-grandchildren: Samantha, Aksel, Kaizer,

and Norah Hansen; Ezra and Oliver Stoddard and Cooper Beins; Elson and Lewis Tanksley; and brother, Paul Stoddard.

Jay was raised in Ord, Nebraska, where he graduated from Ord High School in 1948. He was president of the student council, Co-Captain of the football team, Captain of the basketball team (Finals in class "B"), All-state basketball team, State track meet, first chair trumpet, and choir. He then attended Kearney State College.

He was united in marriage to Dorothy Hosek on August 23, 1949, in Pocatello, Idaho. To this union they were blessed with three children. The couple lived in North Platte, NE., where Jay was a watch maker. They moved to Kearney, and then to Grand Island, where they raised their family. Jay worked for Allstate Insurance Company from 1955-1998, where he received the "Medallion of Honor" award for service to "customers and community." He was a life member of Honor Ring, received the "Century Club" and "Life Quality" awards, and was honored as a "Conference of Champions." He was a member of the Grand Island Life Underwriters for 20 years, and served on the Board of Directors, as well as President.

Jay was active in the Democratic party in Nebraska and ran for various local and state offices, where he traveled around the state and enjoyed meeting people from all over. Jay attended three National Democratic Conventions. He was a member of Stephen's Episcopal Church in Grand Island, where he was a member of the choir, served on the St. Stephen's Vestry, and served as a lay-reader. He was also a member of Masonic Lodge 318, Tehama Shriners, Jaycees, and a Scout Master. Jay served on the Grand Island School Board and PTA President.

Jay possessed a phenomenal work ethic and a wonderful smile. Through 40 years of selling insurance to 15 years of politics around Nebraska – he kept that positive attitude. The friendships he made numbered in the hundreds and he always tended to those friendships with honesty, caring, and of course – that smile. Jay loved sports and coaching. His sons and grandsons were guided through his tutelage as he continued his working effort on the

basketball court and the baseball diamond. He always enjoyed winning- but even in a losing game – he kept that smile.

Memorials are suggested to St. Stephen's Episcopal Church in Grand Island, the Salvation Army, and the Valley County Museum in Ord, NE.

# Cemetery Details

## **Ord City Cemetery**

Ord, NE

# Tribute Wall



“ Jay Curtis Stoddard

October 08, 2023 at 11:02 PM



“ I sang with Jay in the Choir at St. Stephens up until we left for Alaska. He was so much fun to sing with and just carry on a conversation. He was a true gentleman and a great Tenor. May His Memory Be Eternal.

*B.J. Elder - Kenai, Alaska*

**B.J. Elder** - December 20, 2017 at 04:41 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Jay Curtis Stoddard.



December 15, 2017 at 06:29 AM



“ Sorry for your loss. Your are in my prayers and thoughts.

*Bob Dodendorf*

**Robert Dodendorf** - December 14, 2017 at 05:02 PM

DG

“ I am saddened to hear about Jay Stoddard's passing. It does, however, give me time to reflect on the important role he, Mrs. Stoddard, Debbie, Jamie and Dave, one of my closest GI friends, played throughout my days growing up in Grand Island.

*I remember Jay from his office in the J.C. Penney store (or was it Sears?) and out on the basketball court in the Stoddard's driveway. He was always relatable and easy to be around—welcome traits in a friend's dad. Having spent a fair amount of time at the Stoddard's house, I saw my first color TV there. And since moving from Nebraska, I have followed Jay's political efforts from afar.*

*To all the Stoddards: Thank you for your welcoming home. My thoughts are with you at this difficult time. I share your sorrow. And I'm sure, through the memories of family and friends, Jay will live on in the hearts of many.*

*Warmly,*

*Dan Greenberger*

---

**Dan Greenberger** - December 14, 2017 at 01:53 PM

CP

“ Jay was the first neighbor out to shovel after a snow. It was my challenge to get out first so he didn't do my front walk if it was just a dusting. On deep snows he always went one step past the driveway line just to let me know he wished he could do it all. If we were on vacation and it snowed he would do it all. One time he even rebuilt our snowmen when some teens knocked it down. He and another neighbor man did this together. Quite a neighbor, quite a guy.

---

**Cheryl Placzek** - December 14, 2017 at 12:55 PM

CP

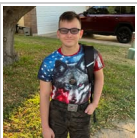
“ Jay and Dorothy have been the only next door neighbors we've had, since we live on the corner. I was frosting cookies today, by my kitchen window that looks out at their driveway, and I thought of how I will miss knocking on the window and waving at Jay when he got in his car if it was parked there. He would look up and wave with the biggest smile. If I was in my yard and he drove by he would honk greetings to me. Or is I was mowing he would stand there til I turned off the mower just to say, "You know you're great neighbors and we love you. You have great kids." Same thing every time usually. I never got tired of hearing it.

Cheryl Placzek - December 14, 2017 at 12:29 PM

RW

“ I have known Jay and family for years. I really got to know Jay from 2010 to the present. He stopped often down to the office and we discussed life, Sports, Nebraska History, the Insurance Industry, politics, family, and mutual folks. Always that smile, upbeat and positive--even when memory and Health issues began to arise. He moved into 1811 W 2nd St in 1974. Lasted there until 2017. Touched a lot of lives in between. He was extremely proud of all of his children and grandchildren. Brought me articles and told many stories about them, and their accomplishments. Jayson--he worried about you often, during your recent Appalachian Trail hiking adventure. We also visited happily about the Elson family. My best to the extended family, during this time of loss. He will be missed.

R Wagoner - December 14, 2017 at 02:21 AM



“ Jay was always good person always had listening year gave good advice going miss knew him a lot years blessings prayers for the family

Alison Francis Evans - December 13, 2017 at 06:07 PM

LB

*Jay was a great man who cared about people,he will be missed by many.*

---

**Leonard Boguslaw** - December 14, 2017 at 01:50 PM

MF

*Our condolences on the passing of your father.*

*Mark Francis and Family*

---

**Mark Francis** - December 14, 2017 at 02:45 PM

BO

*I just now received word of Jay's passing. I am very proud to have counted him among my dearest friends. I will miss our chats in his office that we had most every time I was in Grand Island. He was an inspiration. My life will be emptier without him in it.*

*He passed on the same day as did my father 18 years ago.*

*Happy trails my friend.*

---

**Brian T. Osborn** - January 05, 2018 at 01:14 AM