



Lester "Les" H. Critel Jr.

December 27, 1941 - July 3, 2023

Lester "Les" H. Critel, Jr., age 81, of Wood River, passed away Monday, July 3, 2023 at St. Francis Medical Center.

Funeral Service will be held Monday, July 10 at 10:00 am at All Faiths Funeral Home with Pastor, Darrell Holzinger officiating. Visitation will be held Sunday, July 9 from 6-8 pm at the funeral home. Interment will take place in the Mt. Pleasant Cemetery in Cairo. Memorials suggested to the family for later designation. Condolences can be left at [www. giallfaiths.com](http://www.giallfaiths.com).

Les was born December 27, 1941, in York, NE to Lester H. Sr. and Justena (Bergen) Critel. He was raised on a farm south of Aurora near Stockham. He attended school in Aurora and graduated in 1961.

He was united in marriage to Carol Mael and to this union two sons were born, Jon and Craig. He later married Betty Perkins and to this union he gained an adopted daughter, Mickhalla Critel.

Les had a variety of jobs around Grand Island. He was employed with Gambles for 8 years and then with Hornady Bullets for 13 years. He then farmed southwest of Cairo for 7 years. He then resumed work with Grand Island Public Schools after 20 years of dedicated service he retired. Then came out of retirement and worked for the Grand Island parks and recreation

for 10 years.

He was a member of the Platt Duetsche, Christ Lutheran Church in Cairo and the Area Islander Cruisers, he was very proud of his 1936 Chevy Coup and 1946 Ford Coup. He was a founding member of Les Critel and the Country Kings Band. He enjoyed car shows and races, fishing, Husker Football, spending time with family and meeting up with his friends. Les never met a stranger and had a way of getting to know everyone. He always had a joke or quick comeback ready.

Survived by children, Jon (Juli) Critel of Moorcroft, WY, Craig (Jennifer) Critel of Burwell and Mickhalla Critel of Grand Island; grandchildren, Cody, Jesse, Jonathan, Alison, Dillon, Landon, Addison and Abbigail; 5 great grandchildren, special friend, Darla McAllister and family; sister, Marjorie (Bud) Vontz and brother, Gene (Lynn) Critel.

Preceded in death by his parents.

Previous Events

Visitation

JUL **9**. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

All Faiths Funeral Home
2929 S Locust St
Grand Island, NE 68801
(308) 398-2929
allfaiths@giallfaiths.com
<https://www.giallfaiths.com/>

Funeral Service

JUL **10**. 10:00 AM (CT)

All Faiths Funeral Home
2929 S Locust St
Grand Island, NE 68801
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Burial

JUL **10** (CT)

Mount Pleasant Cemetery
Cairo, NE

Tribute Wall



“ Lester "Les" H. Critel Jr.

October 08, 2023 at 11:02 PM



“ Serene Retreat was purchased for the family of Lester "Les" H. Critel Jr..



July 07, 2023 at 04:50 PM



“ Sweet Tranquility Basket was purchased for the family of Lester "Les" H. Critel Jr..



July 05, 2023 at 09:58 PM