



Richard "Rich" Boersen Sr.

December 11, 1944 - April 17, 2025

Richard "Rich" Arlen Boersen, Sr., 80, of Grand Island passed away at his home on Thursday, April 17, 2025.

A Memorial service and celebration of Rich's life will be held at 3:00 p.m. on Thursday, April 24th, 2025, at All Faiths Funeral Home with military honors provided by the U.S. Navy and United Veterans Honor Guard. There is a reception following the service at the VFW. His family will scatter Rich's ashes at a later date.

A gathering of family and friends will be held from 2-3 p.m. at the funeral home prior to the Memorial service.

Rich was born December 11, 1944, in North Platte, NE to Pearl I. (Castor) Boersen. He was later adopted by his father Fritz H. Boersen, Sr. at age 6. In 1963, Rich graduated from Grand Island Senior High. He entered the U.S. Navy on October 2, 1963, from which he was later honorably discharged. Rich was an advocate for the military his whole life. He had proudly taken the Honor Flight to Washington, DC.

Rich was a life-long resident of Central Nebraska, growing up in Chapman and then residing in Grand Island for his adult years. He had to get it wrong first in order to get it right, but that is exactly what he did when he met and married Shirley Ann Linder, the love of his life. They were united in marriage on August 12, 1995, and remained together until his passing.

Rich experienced a 30+ year career as a salesman with Pepsi Cola. He was regularly celebrated for his unique and artistic beverage displays, while also

winning Route Salesman of the year.

As a young man, Rich played softball and participated in bowling leagues. He served on multiple teams and won countless tournaments. He was also an avid fisherman and hunter. Spending time at the family farm was also a favored pastime of his.

Rich was a long-time member of the Fraternal Order of Eagles (FOE), serving as President for the Grand Island chapter in 1984-85. He was also a long-time member of the American Legion. He earned multiple accommodations from the State for his handling of their BINGO affairs.

Those left to cherish his memory include his wife, Shirley; daughters, Sheila Boersen of Grand Island, NE, and Alaina Boersen of Phoenix, AZ; step-children, Dawn (David) Keith, Kris Shaver, both of Holdredge, NE, and RJ (Jessi) Linder of Overton, NE; and numerous grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Rich is also survived by two brothers, John (Lynette) Boersen and Fritz, Jr. (Marge) Boersen, both of Grand Island, NE; sister, Ronda (Walt) Ross of Grand Island, NE; and several nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents; daughter, Wendy (Boersen) Chmiel; son, Richard Arlen Boersen, II; an infant brother, Donald, and brothers, Gary, Mike and Larry.

Memorials are suggested to the family to be designated at a later date.

Online condolences may be left at www.giallfaiths.com.

Previous Events

Gathering of friends and family

APR **24**. 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM (CT)

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

Celebration of Life Service

APR **24**. 3:00 PM (CT)

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Tribute Wall



“ All Faiths Funeral Home created a Webcast in memory of Richard "Rich" Boersen Sr.



All Faiths Funeral Home - April 24, 2025 at 12:08 PM

PB

“ I will miss your gentile smile and kind hello, and the way you always gave my husband Gail a hard time about his many Oklahoma tee shirts he wore to bingo. We will miss you our friend ❤️

Pamela Broxterman - April 24, 2025 at 02:27 PM

JM

“ A very nice guy and always smiling..will miss you my friend and classmate of 1963...Jean Bailey MacNish

Jean Bailey MacNish - April 23, 2025 at 10:45 AM

JJ

“ Shirley, so sorry to read of Rich's passing. Prayers for you and your family. "When the one you love becomes a memory the memory becomes a treasure "

Jay and Phyllis, Omaha

Jay and Phyllis Johnson - April 23, 2025 at 10:07 AM

DW

“ Shirley and Family: We were so sorry to hear of Rich's passing. Both you and Rich were such wonderful neighbors to mom and word cannot express our thanks to you both for all your kindnesses to her while she was at home. Rich always went out of his way to help. May God's peace be with you all.
John and Dee Weidner.

Dee Weidner - April 22, 2025 at 11:14 AM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Richard "Rich" Boersen Sr..



April 21, 2025 at 01:45 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Richard "Rich" Boersen Sr..

April 21, 2025 at 01:45 PM