Curt Ryan Terpstra

Curt Terpstra, of Pella passed away Dec. 31, due to injuries sustained in an airplane accident. Services were Jan. 7 in New Sharon, with burial at New Sharon Cemetery.

Curt Ryan Terpstra was born Jan. 20, 1982 in Oskaloosa, to Mike and Marcia Terpstra and was raised on the family farm by New Sharon. In 2006, he built his home in Pella, where he resided with his dog, Jack. Curt was graduated from North Mahaska High School in 2000, and began working as a Brick Mason. In 2002, Curt and his brother, Chip started their own business: of Terpstra Masonry. In 2015, they began a new venture of C & C Aerial Applicators, for which Curt was the crop dusting pilot. Curt's love of flying started when he was very young. He started building and flying remote control planes at the age of 12, and continued to have those model planes in his home. In 2004, he took flying lessons, and in 2009 he purchased his own plane. One of Curt's favorite things to do was to buzz the house of his niece and nephew so they would come running out to see Uncle Curt. He also enjoyed scaring his mother by buzzing over the combine during harvest.

At the age of 8, he started playing the bass guitar and joined his brother in the country music group “Young Country” performing all around Iowa and at the Iowa State Fair. He enjoyed riding 4 wheelers, motocross racing, wakeboarding, snowmobiling, snowboarding, scuba diving, fishing, bow fishing and spending time with his family at the cabin hunting deer and turkey. Curt was one of those people who could fix or build anything. When he was young, Curt would carry a screw driver with him to tear apart his toys and put them back together. This continued on in all aspects of his life including his masonry and taxidermy work. In addition, Curt was an avid sportsman. He loved hunting deer, turkey and pheasants and anything else he was allowed to hunt. Family meant everything to Curt. He was a loving son, brother, and uncle. Curt will be missed by his entire family including his parents, Mike & Marcia Terpstra, his brothers, Chad and Chip (Lauren) Terpstra, and his niece and nephew, Addison & Mason Terpstra. Also mourning his loss are his maternal Grandmother, Janet Van Hall, several aunts and uncles, and cousins. Those preceded him in death are his grandfathers, Robert Terpstra and Wilbur Van Hall and his grandmother, Mary Terpstra-Biggs, and aunt, Judy Hamilton.
Locals Killed in Plane Crash

A small plane carrying four Iowans crashed into a wooded area in Southern Illinois on New Years Eve. The crash left no survivors.

Johnson County, Ill., Coroner David Rockwell identified the four victims as Jordan Linder, 35, of Keswick; Jasmine Linder, 26, of Barnes City; Krista Green, 37, of Altoona; and Curt Terpstra, 34, of Pella.

Terpstra was the pilot and owner of the aircraft.

The plane, a single-engine Piper, crashed in woods near the southern Illinois town of Vienna Saturday night.

The coroner said the crash is believed to have occurred around 5:30 p.m on Dec. 31.

When authorities arrived at the scene, the plane's tail number was recovered and they were able to match that with records identifying Terpstra as the owner.

Online federal records show the plane was a Piper model PA-28R-200, built in 1969.

The wreckage is in the process of being moved into an enclosed facility so they can take a closer look into the cause of the crash.

The crash happened in a heavily wooded area outside of Vienna, between St. Louis, Mo.; and Nashville, Tenn.

Terpstra, a North Mahaska graduate, used the plane for his crop dusting business.

Two of the passengers were siblings and Montezuma graduates, Jordan Linder (MHS '99) and Jasmine Linder (MHS '08).

Jordan and Jasmine are the children of Jim and the late Joni of Barnes City. Other surviving siblings are Jesse (Amber) Linder of Gibson, Jenny (Travis) Bos of Montezuma, Joe (Amanda) Linder of What Cheer, and Jamie (Charles) Hiner of Barnes City.
Four Iowans killed in Illinois plane crash

A small plane that slammed into southern Illinois woods on New Year's Eve was carrying four Iowans, the local coroner confirmed Monday evening.

All four died at the scene. One of them was identified as the plane's owner, Curt Terpstra, 34, of Pella.

Johnson County, Ill., Coroner David Rockwell said Terpstra was the pilot. Rockwell identified the other three victims as Jordan Linder, 35, of Keswick, Jasmine Linder, 26, of Barnes City, and Krista Green, 37, of Altona.

The plane, a single-engine Piper, crashed in woods near the southern Illinois town of Vienna Saturday night.

Eric Weiss, a spokesman for the National Transportation Safety Board, said other officials gave his agency the plane's tail number, N2806R. That number corresponds to a plane owned by Terpstra. Online federal records show the plane was a Piper model PA-28R-200, built in 1969.

Weiss said investigators hope to have the wreckage moved into an enclosed facility by Tuesday, so they can take a closer look into what caused the accident.

The crash happened in a heavily wooded area outside of Vienna, which is between St. Louis, Mo., and Nashville, Tenn. The crash happened in a heavily wooded area outside of Vienna, which is between St. Louis, Mo., and Nashville, Tenn. A nearby resident, Tim Oliver, told WPSD-TV that the plane flew low near his house.

"Ten or 15 seconds later, we heard the crash," he said. Oliver said it took rescuers a substantial amount of time to find the wreck in the darkened woods.

Terpstra's sister-in-law told the TV station he co-owned a crop-dusting business and a masonry company with his brother.