

Richard Van Ee, 61, Pella

Richard Van Ee, 61, of Pella passed away June 7, 2006. Funeral services were held June 12, at the Heartland Reformed Church in Pella. Interment was held at Oakwood Cemetery. Military honors by the Van Veen-Van Hemert,



R. Van Ee

American Legion Post No. 89 of Pella. Memorials can be given to Hospice of Pella Comfort House.

Richard Lee Van Ee was born at Oskaloosa on June 24, 1944. He was the first of four children that were born to Wilbur Lester and Johanna Stoffolina Meulpolder Van Ee. Wilbur and Johanna had rented a farm northeast of Pella until the spring of 1946 when they bought a farm a couple of miles closer to Pella where Richard was raised. Richard received his grade school education at the Flint Ridge Country Grade School near there and then attended Pella Public High School for two years. At the age of 12 years Richard learned to run a bulldozer, an occupation his father began pursuing in 1950. Then in 1964 he enlisted in the Iowa National Guard. Richard served during the Vietnam War with the 184th Military Police.

On June 30, 1979, he was united in marriage with Doris Faye Zamora at the First Baptist Church in Pella. Faye, as she was known, and her son, Danti John Kirby, became a blended family. Richard remained a farmer and dozer operator the remainder of his life and also worked for Brackin Land

Development and with Paul Vande Noord dozing. He had a total of 22 motorcycles during his lifetime. His favorite, The FLH 1972 "sparkling burgundy rum" chopper was the bike he had purchased prior to his marriage and was the one he was riding at the time of his fatal motorcycle/truck accident on June 7, near his birthplace at Oskaloosa. Richard enjoyed spending time with his family. They are his wife, Faye; his step-son Danti J. Kirby; three special grandchildren: Brooke, Stoyne and Skylar Kirby all of Pella; his younger, brother, Verlan Ray Van Ee and his wife, Marijo of Pella and their five children: Brad Van Ee and his wife, Leslie and their son, Teddy, of Woodenville, Washington, Brent Van Ee and his wife, Mara of Cummings, Bridget Van Ee and her fiancé, Jeff Chapman of Clinton, Missouri, Doug Van Houwelingen of Leon, Teri Van Houwelingen of San Clemente, California; a sister, Colleen Ruth Benes of Galesburg, and her two children: Larissa and her husband, Alan De Bruin of Pella and Chandra Benes of Galesburg; and one brother-in-law, Jerry D. Loynachan of Pella.

Richard was preceded in death by his father, Wilbur L. Van Ee; his oldest sister, Kathleen Joan Loynachan; two infant brothers who died two years apart; his maternal grandparents: Stoffel and Johanna Zweedyk Meulpolder; his paternal grandparents: Albertus (Bert) and Cornelius (Kate) Brack Van Ee; and his paternal step-grandmother, Nellie Dingeman Blum Van Ee.