

*Record*  
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 3, 2023

**RAYMOND LEWIS  
WATSON**

**June 3, 1937 - July 29, 2023**

Raymond Lewis Watson, 86, of rural Montezuma passed away at his far home July 29th, 2023, in the care of family and Unity Point Hospice. Private graveside services will be held at a later date.

Raymond was born June 3, 1937 to Lewis and Lucile (Bryan) Watson in Grinnell. He was graduated in 1955 from Searsboro High.

Raymond was united in marriage to Mary Jo Hasley September 2, 1955. The couple farmed around the Searsboro and Montezuma area for many years. They were blessed with four children, Ann, Karol, Brian and Mark.

Raymond's passion was farming. He enjoyed every aspect from working the land to caring for the livestock. He was concerned about conservation of the land.

For many years he and Mary Jo rode a Harley, traveling to many states including Washington, Florida and Canada, with friends. Raymond was kind and unselfish and was always ready and willing to help others. He will be remembered for his kind and gentle nature.

Raymond is survived by his four children and their spouses, Ann Marie Watson, Karol Kay Watson, Brian and Dawn Watson, and Mark and Vonna Watson; his 13 grandchildren Rachel Perez, Rebekah (Ben) Fogt, Derek Ebert, Andy Rockwell, Josh (Laura) Rockwell, David (Taylor) Rockwell, Brianne Watson, Paige Watson, Camden (Brittany) Watson, Ryan Watson, Jacob (Samantha) Watson, Abigail (Lance) Johnston, and Samantha Watson; and 15 great grandchildren. He is also survived by his sister-in-law, Mary Lu Watson, brother Bill (Diane) Watson, sisters Rilla (Ronnie) Baker, Martha (Don) Vos, LuAnne (Mike) Dean, sisters-in-law Barb (Gene) Long, Carolyn Jontz, brother-in-law Wayne (Ruth) Hasley, and many nieces, nephews and friends.

He was preceded in death by his wife of 67 years, Mary Jo Watson, his parents Lewis and Lucile Watson, brother Robert Watson in infancy, brother Freddy Watson, brothers in law, Ray (LeAnn) Hasley, David Jontz, and sister-in-law Eleanor Hasley in infancy.