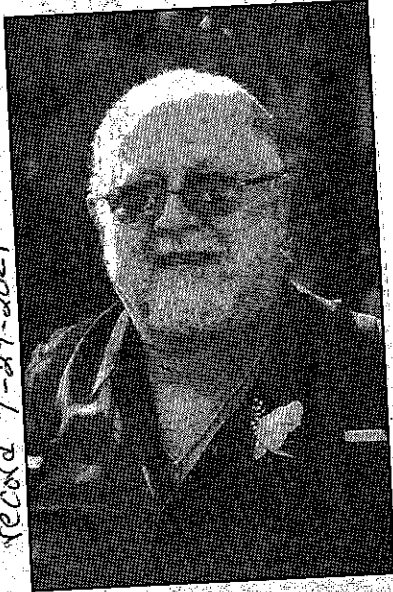


**MERLIN "MERT"
VAN WYK**

Feb. 21, 1953 - July 19, 2021



Merlin "Mert" Van Wyk, 68 of Lynnville passed away July 19, at t Unity Point Iowa Lutheran Hospital, Des Moines. Funeral services were held July 23, at Taintor Community Church. Burial was in Highland Cemetery, New Sharon. Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements. Memorials may be directed to the Taintor Community Church or the Lynnville Fire Department.

Merlin "Mert" Dean Van Wyk was born February 21, 1953 in Mahaska County to Guysbert and Esther Van Gent Van Wyk. He attended school at Searsboro and Lynnville Sully.

Mert married Linda Van Kooten in 1972 and to this union three children were born, Melissa, Marlo and Marty. Mert married Deb Holdsworth on August 6, 1988 and to this union four children were born, Rhonda, Emily, Jess and Jessica.

Mert worked part-time at Kruseman Implement before going full-time at the age of 17. He worked as a mechanic for 37 years before going to Diamond Life in Montezuma and working in maintenance retiring in 2019.

All the residents called him Papa. Mert enjoyed fishing, woodworking, camping, the State Fair, Good Guys, Old Threshers and his 1965 Chevy truck. His family and grandkids were very important to him. He was a member of the Taintor Community Church and a long-time member of the Lynnville Fire Department.

He was preceded in death by his parents, his son, Jess Dean Van Wyk, and mother-in-law Grandma B.

He is survived by his wife and sole mate, Deb; his children, Melissa (Greg) Schooley of Solon, Marlo (Stefanie) Van Wyk of Sully, Marty (Daminika Vander Weerd) Van Wyk of Lynnville, Rhonda (Paul) Carpenter of Lynnville, Emily (Josh) DeWitt of Lynnville, and Jessica (Austin) Hudson of Newton; 15 grandchildren; his siblings, Bev (Dale) Flander of Lynnville, Donavon (Ruth) Van Wyk of Sully, Mark (Marylou) Van Wyk of Lynnville and Randy (Jeanie) Van Wyk of Lynnville, as well as many other relatives and friends.