



Howard Michael Engstrom

December 20, 1949 - May 3, 2018

Howard Michael Engstrom was born on December 20, 1949 to parents Carl Dean Engstrom and Delores Lena (Petersen) Engstrom. He had one sibling, his sister Vicky. He grew up in Urbandale, Iowa.

He worked as a general contractor while building three houses. He was a real estate agent, a deputy assessor, a loan officer, and an appraiser. He started his own business as a residential property appraiser. Howard was also a loving caregiver to his two children: Michael and Laura, his parents, his sister and in-laws.

He served in the U.S. Navy during the Vietnam War era from 1971-1973.

Howard enjoyed photography, fishing, bird-watching, organic gardening, traveling, reading, Christianity and the Bible. He had a real love and appreciation for all of God's creation and the great outdoors. He would often offer up a simple heartfelt prayer of, "Thank You, God!" whenever he would see a lovely sunset, twinkling stars, or an especially beautiful animal or flower.

He was an outspoken man of faith and prayer. He truly loved and believed with all his heart in his Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Howard passed away on Thursday, May 3, 2018 at the Good Shepard

Lutheran Care Center in Blair, NE. He was preceded in death by his parents. He is survived by his wife Kathy, his children: Michael (Heidi) Engstrom of New York City, NY, and Laura (Dermott Ferry) Engstrom of Council Bluffs, IA; three grandchildren: Zachary Engstrom, and Isla & Ada Ferry; and his sister Vicky Thomas.

He will be remembered as a true gentleman and for his kindness, love, encouragement, humility, and a delightful sense of humor. He will be genuinely missed by the many people who loved him.

Howard M. Engstrom, age 68, of Omaha died 5/3/18 at Good Shepherd Lutheran Home in Blair, NE. Preceded in death by parents Carl and Delores (Petersen) Engstrom. Survived by wife Kathy Engstrom of Omaha, daughter Laura Engstrom and her husband Dermot Ferry of Council Bluffs, IA, son Michael and his wife Heidi Engstrom of New York City, grandchildren Isla and Ada Ferry and Zachary Engstrom, sister Vicky Thomas.

Memorial service 11 AM Friday, May 11 at Community of Grace Church, Elkhorn. Private interment. Memorials to Community of Grace Church.

Previous Events

Memorial

MAY 11. 11:00 AM (CT)

Community of Grace Church
3434 N. 204 St.
Elkhorn, NE 68022

Tribute Wall



“ *Howard Michael Engstrom*

December 10, 2022 at 09:12 AM

TB

“ Kathy, Vicki, and Family---I was so sad to hear of Howard's passing. I had the pleasure of being one of Howard's dear friends in junior high, high school, and college. In the years from 1964 to 1974 we shared many great memories. His sense of humor, intelligence, friendship, creativity, and loyalty were traits I always admired in him. We were close pals and saw things in the same way, seems like we always were on the same page together. He was so generous with his time and honest advice, just like Carl was. I sure enjoyed those after school get togethers on 67th Street with his family, as well as on New York Ave with Vicki and Bernie.....



We had an unforgettable trip to Brainerd Minnesota in the Summer of 1968 in Vicki's new Camaro convertible, I felt so lucky that Howard asked me to go up there and see our mutual buddy Tom Hanks at his lake resort. Howard was always so easy to talk to about anything, there was never a dull moment. He had a great passion for life and new experiences. He bought a 4 wheel drive Jeep in 1971 and could not wait to try it out in the country mud with me to test the traction on the hills. It was so dirty when we finished, just caked with mud, we both had a good laugh!

When I needed a job to cover college expenses at Drake, Howard was able to get a position for me at the Skelly gas station in Urbandale where he worked, that was very generous. We studied together at the Grandview College library, he would come pick me up a couple of nites a week. When I needed a car, Howard made sure that I got first priority to buy Vicki's great 1964 Impala, my first car that I treasured and wish I still had! When Howard needed a job, I was able to get him a position where I worked at Land O' Lakes Dairy. What fun it was to work with him, we made such a great team there in 1970 & '71. He delivered a truckload of ice cream to Iowa State football games on those beautiful Fall Saturdays, I can still see him driving that big truck out of the plant headed to Ames and teasing him to be back before dark!

I was very concerned for his safety when he went in the Navy in '71 and sailed on the Ranger carrier to Vietnam, so glad to see him well

upon his return. He came to visit me in Chicago in 1974 and we stayed in touch for a while. I was so looking forward to seeing Howard at our Urbandale class reunion in September, as were many of our 1968 classmates. Take comfort in knowing that Howard touched many lives, it was so obvious that he had a Christian, loving and giving heart. I will always remember and cherish those special ten years we had together. Bless you and your Family for a distinctive life well lived. Sincerely, Tom Brackett, Dallas, Texas 972-527-3167

tom brackett - May 30, 2018 at 06:49 PM

TB

Kathy, I hope you are able to share my thoughts with Vicki, I would enjoy speaking with you or her anytime. Howard's entire family was such a blessing to me during my younger years.

tom brackett - July 05, 2018 at 03:47 PM

SS

“*I am so sorry to hear of Howard's passing. I grew up across the street from him and have many childhood memories of him and his family and graduated from HS with him in 1968. He rode bicycles and sledged with my brother and me. We had endless games of foursquare. I remember one summer he had acquired a selection of creepy critters. He had fried grasshoppers, chocolate covered assorted bugs and was very convincing in getting a person to try a bite. I remember his cars--he and his dad fixed up old MGs, Fiats, Triumphs. He always had the best car in school. I always enjoyed the occasional ride to school in one of those cars. Howard was a really nice sweet boy. It sounds like he was a wonderful man. You have my deepest sympathy. I am happy to know that he was a Christian man and is resting with his Maker now. Sincerely, Sherri Woods Saul*

SHERRI SAUL - May 13, 2018 at 10:56 AM

KE

*Dear Sherri,
Thank you for your kind condolences. It is wonderful to hear of some things you remembered about my dear Howard's younger life that I didn't know. What a comfort to me...May God bless you!*

Kathy Engstrom - May 19, 2018 at 10:32 AM

TB

Thanks Sherri for your comments, Howard's passion for cars rubbed off on me, and I always enjoyed it when he gave me a ride in one of his numerous cars! Tom Brackett

tom brackett - May 30, 2018 at 06:54 PM



“ *Enchanted Cottage was purchased for the family of Howard Michael Engstrom.*



May 10, 2018 at 11:11 AM



“ *Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Howard Michael Engstrom.*



May 10, 2018 at 08:57 AM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Howard Michael Engstrom.*



May 07, 2018 at 05:57 PM



“ *Dear Kathy and family, I have wondered about you and Howard many times since I first met you down at the Senior Adult Conference in Branson a few years ago. I was sorry to see Howard's obituary this morning on TV. When Howard first started going down to Branson with us, his mother was still living. It was sweet the way he honored and took care of his mother. I knew he was hoping to marry someday - and after I met you I KNEW he had found a nice girl - the right one! God bless you and comfort you through this troubling week and give you peace and strength to reorganize your life in the months and years that will follow. Friend in Christ, Jean Provines, Minister of Sr. Adults (retired)*

Jean Provines - May 07, 2018 at 12:49 PM

KE

Thank you, Jean. So nice to hear from you. May God bless you.

Kathy Engstrom - May 08, 2018 at 03:21 PM

DH

Sorry for your loss. I'd lost touch with Howard over the past 10-20 years, but before he and Dee divorced, we stayed in touch. I always tried to visit whenever I'd return to Urbandale from some Army posting to see my parents. He and I were close friends in high school. He used to pick me up almost every morning in his Austin Healy Sprite to drive me to school. And I think I first learned to drive a 4-on-the-floor with him in his brother-in-law's muscle car. We hunted together. We started a little portrait photography business together. We painted his neighbor's house together. He always had some new venture he was excited about. I marveled at the effort he put into a house he built with all the best energy saving features. He loved his kids and took great pride in their accomplishments. Always had a VERY positive outlook. My condolences to Vicky, Michael and Laura.

Douglas Hoon - May 13, 2018 at 12:36 PM

KE

Doug, thank you for your condolences. Thank you for telling me more about my dear Howard's life. I remember him mentioning you to me and a few memories that he shared with me. Thank you for being his friend. May God bless you! Kathy Engstrom

Kathy Engstrom - May 19, 2018 at 10:36 AM