



Laurel Leo Rieck

April 29, 1939 - March 16, 2024

Laurel Leo Rieck was born on April 29, 1939 in Burwell, NE to Leo and Florence (Freeman) Rieck. He grew up on the family's farm outside of Primrose, NE and graduated from Primrose High School in 1958. In high school he played basketball, softball, and track. In May of 1961, Laurel joined the United States Air Force where he served in active duty until his honorable discharge in May of 1965. After this period of active service, Laurel entered into civilian service, working at Offutt Air Force Base as a heavy equipment mechanic for over 30 years. Laurel was blessed with three children: Loren, Lori, and Missy. On May 14, 1987 he was united in marriage to Brenda, and they spent 36 wonderful years together.

In his free time, Laurel enjoyed taking trips out to visit the family farm he had grown up on. He was an excellent gardener growing all kinds of vegetables including giant pumpkins. He also cared for plants, trees, and flowers, always keeping an immaculate lawn. Cooking was something Laurel developed a talent for later in life, he baked breads, cooked delicious lamb and prime rib, and even made his own Chokecherry wine. Laurel was a handyman who could fix anything that was broken; he made sure to have plenty of tools and materials on hand for when they were needed. Watching westerns and history shows and listening to classic country music were also pastimes Laurel enjoyed. At different times in his life, Laurel was involved in the Eagles, VFW and the Field Club.

Before Laurel developed an interest in cooking, his children have fond memories of going to Pizza Hut with him when they were young and eating barbeque pizza. Laurel and Brenda enjoyed taking trips to Adventureland Park every year and would come back with an armful of stuffed animals they had won. They also enjoyed going out to eat at Romeos. Laurel was a simple man who didn't need anything fancy, as evidenced by his enjoyment of beer that came in the white cans with just the word BEER written on it. Laurel was also very laid back, kind-hearted and soft spoken; he rarely got angry with people, but he could be very stubborn. He will be remembered for the love he showed to his family and his hardworking character.

Laurel was preceded in death by his parents, Leo and Florence Rieck; brother, Rick Rieck; and sister-in-law, Marty Rieck. He is survived by his wife, Brenda Rieck; children, Loren (Norma) Rieck, Lori (Steve) Classen, and Melissa "Missy" Cerny; stepchildren, Marshall (Angie) Hughes, Christopher (Michele) Hughes, and Barbara (Aaron) Birdeno; grandchildren, Damian, Dominik, Karissa, Nicholas, Kaiden, Shaunee, Clay, Blake, and Levi; step grandchildren, Alexandra, Abigail, Analiesa, Tricia, Creighton, Taylor, Jayden, and Brianna; brothers, Arlyn Rieck, Carl (Gay) Rieck, Marlin (Linda) Rieck, and Gale (Michaeline) Rieck; sister-in-law, Betty Rieck; nieces, nephews, and cousins.

A visitation will be held from 6-8 PM on Tuesday, March 19, 2024 at Reichmuth Funeral Home. A funeral service will be held on Wednesday, March 20, 2024 at Reichmuth Funeral Home. Interment at Omaha National Cemetery at 12:30 PM with military honors by the United States Air Force and Millard American Legion Post 374. Memorials may be directed to the family for later designation.

Cemetery Details

Omaha National Cemetery

14250 Schram Road
Omaha, NE 68138

Previous Events

Visitation

MAR 19. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

Reichmuth Funeral Home - Omaha / Elkhorn
21901 W. Maple Rd.
P.O. Box 711
Elkhorn, NE 68022
402-289-2222
services@reichmuthfuneralhomes.com
<https://www.reichmuthfuneralhomes.com/>

Funeral Service

MAR 20. 10:30 AM (CT)

Reichmuth Funeral Home - Omaha / Elkhorn
21901 W. Maple Rd.
P.O. Box 711
Elkhorn, NE 68022
402-289-2222
services@reichmuthfuneralhomes.com
<https://www.reichmuthfuneralhomes.com/>

Burial

MAR **20**. 12:30 PM (CT)

Omaha National Cemetery
14250 Schram Road
Omaha, NE 68138

Tribute Wall

AC

“ Angelo B. Codling

During my service in the US Air Force from 1983 to 1987, I had the opportunity and blessing to be assigned to vehicle maintenance at the 55th transportation squadron, Offutt AFB in early 1984. As a young recruit just out of technical school, I was fortunate to come under the mentorship of Leo Gallegos, a highly skilled technician who himself was under the supervision of Mr. Laurel Rieck. I read other memories of Mr. Rieck from those who knew him and worked with him and I fully agree that he knew how to treat people. He was fair and attentive to the needs of his workers. He was soft spoken, but firm and direct. He was friendly and approachable. Although my time at the Offutt AFB vehicle maintenance shop was brief, I will always treasure my experience working under the leadership of this magnificent gentleman.

Angelo Codling - March 22, 2024 at 12:34 PM

PH

“ Laurel was a great friend and a great boss, we had some good times at the base. Laurel and I would have a beer or two on Friday afternoons at the bowling alley. Prayers to Laurel and family. Sorry I missed the funeral was out of town because I have some good stories. Pat Hobscheidt

Pat Hobscheidt - March 21, 2024 at 01:43 PM

LG

“ I have great memories of Laurel! In 1974 I was hired on at 55th transportation SQ Offutt AFB as an apprentice mechanic. My first job was to help Laurel replace a clutch on a dumpster struck. I distinctly remember this because I was impressed with Laurels abilities as a mechanic and someone who was easy to work with. Later on Laurel was promoted and became my supervisor. The thing I remember about Laurel is He knew how to treat people, everyone liked and respected Laurel. When Laurel asked you to do something it was “do me a favor” I use this very approach I learned from Laurel to this day. Another great memory I have of Laurel was when I would ask him how to fabricate, he was genius at fabricating ,be it a special tool or making something. His advice was simply “use your imagination” best advice ever that I passed on to my own Son Ryan. Thank God for people like Laurel Leo! And Thank God for resurrection morning!! Thank You Jesus!!!

Leo Gallegos - March 20, 2024 at 09:58 AM

GP

“ Gary Perry purchased the Small Garden Dish for the family of Laurel Leo Rieck.



Gary Perry - March 19, 2024 at 04:01 PM



“ Small Garden Dish was purchased for the family of Laurel Leo Rieck.



March 19, 2024 at 02:36 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Laurel Leo Rieck.



March 18, 2024 at 09:58 PM



“ Sorry I won't be able to attend I extend sympathy to the family.



Leola (Blake) Ward a cousin. - March 18, 2024 at 09:02 PM



“ Capital Business Systems, Inc. purchased the Fa
irest of All for the family of Laurel Leo Rieck.



Capital Business Systems, Inc. - March 18, 2024 at 06:00 PM



“ Your friends at the MPS Business Office
purchased the Emerald Garden Basket for the
family of Laurel Leo Rieck.



Your friends at the MPS Business Office - March 18, 2024 at
04:18 PM



“ Your friends at the MPS Business Office planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Laurel Leo Rieck.

Your friends at the MPS Business Office - March 18, 2024 at 04:18 PM



“ Medium Dish Garden was purchased for the family of Laurel Leo Rieck.



March 18, 2024 at 12:14 PM



“ Mark & Andrea Schumacher & family purchased the Emerald Garden Basket for the family of Laurel Leo Rieck.



Mark & Andrea Schumacher & family - March 18, 2024 at 12:07 PM