



## Laurence Anthony Raether

October 2, 1934 - December 18, 2019

In Lieu of flowers, Memorials to the family for later designation

### OBITUARY OF LAURENCE (SHEP) RAETHER

Beloved husband of LaVerne Raether, Shep was born in Valley, NE on October 2, 1934 and died in his home in Yutan, NE on December 18, 2019.

He was a man who made an impact wherever he went and with whoever he met. He was “larger than life” and full of loyalty, generosity, stories and grit. Shep never met a stranger. All were welcome into his family. He took any situation and could make it something positive, something better. He was smart and full of “Yankee Ingenuity”. There wasn’t an engine he couldn’t figure out. He loved to be on the river with his airboat, fishing, giving rides and just enjoying the beauty of the Platte. He loved golfing with his son and son-in-laws and he loved attending his grandchildren’s sporting events and “helping” the refs out when they made a bad call. Shep will be missed and there will be a huge void in this world but we are all looking forward to seeing him again in heaven.

Laurence is preceded in death by his father, Albert, his brothers, Dick and John and his sister, Mary. He is survived by

his wife, LaVerne, his children, LaRon (Mike) Putjenter, Randy (Julie) Raether, Staci (Jerry) Bell and Christi (Matt) Kubat; his grandchildren, Jason (Joy), Tony (Jennifer), Nick, Angela (Jonathan), Nick (Jenny), Mady, Jordan, Hannah, Riley, Carson, Sam and Noah and great-grandchildren; his sisters, Ann (Paul) Spilman, Georgia (George) Daily, and Kathy (Arlo) Jensen; his many nieces and nephews and his many, many friends.

# Cemetery Details

## Prospect Hill Cemetery of Elkhorn

21901 W. Maple Road  
Omaha, NE 68022

# Previous Events

## Visitation

DEC 27. 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

United Faith Campus

## Service

DEC 28. 10:30 AM (CT)

United Faith Community Church  
218 West Gardiner Street  
Valley, NE 68064

# Tribute Wall



“ *Laurence Anthony Raether*

December 10, 2022 at 09:12 AM



“ *We are so sorry to hear of Shep's death. I remember the good times we had playing softball in the church league. Never saw anyone hit a softball so far. Shep was a good friend to brother Jim. Jim spoke of the fun they had playing golf. Shep will be missed by all who knew and loved him. All our love and sympathy to the Raether Family. Bob and Jo Ann Willmer*

**Bob @ Jo Ann Willmer** - December 30, 2019 at 11:08 AM



“ *So sorry for your loss. I spent alot of time in the pool at the Y with Shep and LaVerne. Our crazy relay races were a great time. He will be missed by everyone.*

**Pam Stier** - December 27, 2019 at 06:34 PM



“ *LaVerne and LaRon, my sympathy to you and all your family at this difficult time. May God's love and comfort surround you.*



**Patty Sholtz Hopkins** - December 27, 2019 at 03:33 PM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Laurence Anthony Raether.*



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December 27, 2019 at 10:52 AM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Laurence Anthony Raether.*



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December 26, 2019 at 04:34 AM



“ *LaVerne and family We are so sorry for your loss. Please know our thoughts and prayers are with you all. Mike and Aggie Jayne (Julie's Aunt)*

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**Aggie Jayne** - December 25, 2019 at 01:41 PM



“ *The Graber Family purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Laurence Anthony Raether.*



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**The Graber Family** - December 23, 2019 at 10:58 AM



“ *Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Laurence Anthony Raether.*



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December 22, 2019 at 03:56 PM



“ *Randy, LaVerne, LaRon, Staci, Christj;*

*Very sorry for your loss, especially around the holidays. If I am unable to make it down for the funeral, please know my thoughts are with you despite it being many years since we've seen each other. It seemed as kids, if Randy & I got in to a normal level of trouble, LaVerne would handle it. If it ever escalated to get Laurence involved, we knew we were in big trouble. Yet, he was always pretty easy on us, because, he knew we were just boys being boys. We only had a few near death experiences between motorcycle obstacle courses we'd create, barn basketball epic challenges, bumper skiing on the highway, and many dates and crazy adventures in the Dodge Dart!*

*Ron Nelson*

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**Ron Nelson** - December 21, 2019 at 01:43 PM



“ I spent a lot of time at the Raether family home in my growing up years. I played basketball in their barn and built forts in the adjacent woods with my friend Randy.

Once Randy and I drove my old 1964 Ford Falcon to visit friends in Grand Island or Kearney. When my car stopped running, without hesitation or too many questions, Shep drove the two hours to rescue us, towing my car back home, as sparks randomly flew out from underneath the car as the loose tailpipe scrapped the highway.

Condolences to Shep's wife LaVerne Rather--from my Sunday School Days at Baptist-Presbyterian Church--my friend Randy, and the three girls, LaRon, Staci, and Christi.



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**Curt McLey** - December 21, 2019 at 01:28 AM

NH

“ So very sorry for your loss. Thoughts and prayers to the Raether family

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**Nancy Sullivan Hardey** - December 20, 2019 at 09:55 PM

WG

“ My deepest condolences to the extended Raether family. Dear people and fondest memories from Valley Baptist-Presbyterian days.

*Wendy Fisher Grimm*

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**Wendy Fisher Grimm** - December 20, 2019 at 02:28 PM

JN

“*Laurence was a good friend to me and my family. He was someone you could rely on to get the job done. He helped look out for my parents, Mable and Art Nelson, over the years. He helped during the floods at Valley, by using his airboat and trucks to fill the dike breach. He will be solely missed.*”

*John Nelson*

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**John A. Nelson** - December 20, 2019 at 10:14 AM



“*Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Laurence Anthony Raether.*”



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December 19, 2019 at 07:00 PM

NR

“*One of my favorite things to do with Grandpa was running set lines on the weekends and helping him work on things. I can't wait to see him in heaven and fish the rivers up there with him*”

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**Nick Raether** - December 19, 2019 at 09:40 AM