



## Roger Lynn Kruger

July 23, 1956 - December 23, 2009

Event Webcast

Roger L. Kruger

Presented by: Reichmuth Funeral Home

Broadcast Date: 12/29/2009

Broadcast Time: 10:00 AM

Time Zone: Central Time

Title: Roger L. Kruger

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Event ID: 093-581

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Roger Lynn Kruger was born July 23, 1956 in Norfolk, NE, to Max and Betty (Raubach) Kruger. Roger attended a one room grade school prior to attending the Plainview Public Schools. He graduated from Plainview High School in 1975. He attended Wayne State College where he earned a Bachelor's degree in Education.

While at Wayne he met Kathy Mittelstaedt whom he married September 10, 1980. At this time they both lived in Omaha, NE and worked at the American Red Cross, he as a dispatcher and she as a Medical Technologist.

In 1981 they moved to York, NE where Kathy worked at the York Hospital Lab and Roger worked at the York County Ambulance and got involved with the York Volunteer Fire Department. After spending a short time at the Norfolk Fire Department, Roger moved to Omaha and joined the Millard Fire Department, first as a volunteer and later as a paid firefighter. During the 12 years he spent at Millard Fire, he became a Paramedic and reached the rank of Captain. When the Omaha and Millard Fire Departments merged in 1998, he dropped back to Firefighter/Paramedic status. During his 11 years at Omaha Fire, Roger first reached the rank of Fire Apparatus Engineer and then Captain and had recently applied to take the Battalion Chief test. Roger spent many hours on rescue squads and was a mentor and trainer for new Paramedic students.

During this time, Roger also had an EMS Training Agency and taught many CPR, First Aid, CPR Instructor and EMT classes. He put together continuing education classes for many area volunteer departments. He served on the State EMS Board and served on committees that reviewed state regulations for EMS workers. During the first quarter of 2009, he assisted in setting up and running CPR Saturday in March 2009 where over 300 people were taught

basic CPR in one day.

In April he got involved with the last two Heartland Honor Flights. He helped run both of them and enjoyed spending time with his uncle Willis Kuchar on the flight, April 23. He said it was one of the best times of his life and also one of the most rewarding.

Roger was always a collector. He started with old medicine tins, then began collecting antique fire extinguishers and other collectibles. He also found many other treasures at the antique malls including Pepsi products, turtles, small hand held games and puzzles, and, of course, more fire collectibles!

Roger and Kathy were married 29 years and have three sons, Dustin (23), Kyle (20), and Corey (17). Roger was a kind, generous, loving, caring man who was always willing to help when asked. He was a wonderful father to his sons and enjoyed spending time going hunting with them and giving them great advice for life. He will be missed by many.

Honorary Pallbearers: Mike Mulholland, Brian Arps, Stan Smith, Dan Wiley, Chris Hatcher, Frank Holmes, Joe Dekker,

# Tribute Wall



“ *Roger Lynn Kruger*

December 10, 2022 at 09:12 AM



“ *I met Roger in 1981 in York also when I was there working for York county ambulance. Roger actually took my spot on York county ambulance, when I left there. We stayed in touch and I always enjoyed hearing him talk about old times and his family, which was important to him. He will be missed by many. Kim Wolfe*

**KIM WOLFE** - February 15, 2018 at 12:00 AM



“ *Extending our deepest sympathies on your loss.*

**John and Cami (Stenglein) Reardon** - January 07, 2010 at 07:30 AM



“ *To Roger's family: I was one of the WWII veterans on Honor Flight #6, and deeply appreciated Roger's kindness and efficient manners. May the peace beyond human understanding keep your hearts and minds, especially during these grief heavy days. I am a Lutheran Pastor, Retired.*

**Rev. Dr. Paul L. Rowoldt** - December 29, 2009 at 08:09 AM

BD

“ To Roger's family,  
My heart goes out to you. Please accept my deepest sympathies. I knew Roger through EMS and had many dealings with him as an instructor. I was always impressed by his kindness and desire to teach in a practical and very accurate manner. He loved teaching and made the world of EMS a better and safer place because of his dedication.

*I pray for comfort and peace for all of Rogers's family and friends.*

*Barb Dodge*

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**Barb Dodge** - December 29, 2009 at 02:44 AM

DA

“ Kathy & Family,  
My deepest sympathies to you and your family especially during this holiday time. You and your family are in my prayers.

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**Darcy Mittelstaedt, Chandler, AZ** - December 28, 2009 at 01:46 PM

CD

“ I was saddened to hear of Rogers' passing. I had him as an EMT instructor and learned a great deal from him. Not only was he a great teacher he was also a great man who will missed by many. My thoughts and prayers are with his family as they are dealing with a huge loss.

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**Chris Dickes** - December 28, 2009 at 01:25 PM

CD

“ I was saddened to hear of Rogers' passing. I had him as an EMT instructor and learned a great deal from him. Not only was he a great teacher he was also a great man who will missed by many. My thoughts and prayers are with his family as they are dealing with a huge loss.

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**Chris Dickes** - December 28, 2009 at 01:23 PM

LH

“ *To the Kruger Family*  
Our sincere condolences to your family during this most difficult time. Our entire family is keeping all of you in our thoughts and prayers. From Radonda's siblings: Leeann Petersen, Dale and Antoinette Petersen, and Larenda and David Hershey.

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**Larenda Hershey** - December 28, 2009 at 12:49 PM

DM

“ *Dear Kathy Dustin Kyle and Corey*  
Roger was a Great friend and he will always live on in our hearts made work enjoyable to me and many other Omaha Firemen. His happy heart was always ready to enjoy the best of every moment. He looked for the good in life and enjoyed it when he found it. One thing I will always remember about Roger was he loved to laugh. If you got him started he would laugh until he cried. I really loved that guy. I am sure you have heard this allot but he saved allot of lives. I can think of a couple of codes that he worked where the pt. actually came to the station with their families to say thanks. I always made sure that they knew that it was Roger who was in charge when it came to running a code. He will always be with us. Call me if you ever need a hand with tree work or any other projects. David Mann

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**David Mann** - December 28, 2009 at 11:57 AM

DO

“ Kathy & Family:

*I first met Roger when I was on Millard Fire and Rescue, and kept in touch with him always. Roger and I taught CPR class together. We would always find each other in emergency rooms where we would be dropping off patients when our medic units would come into. I will really miss Roger, He was best of friends to me!! Dave Oswald  
NREMT-P Supervisor*

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**David P Oswald** - December 28, 2009 at 09:20 AM

MP

“ We were just checking the weather for Norfolk and came across Bear's (Roger's) obituary when viewing the Norfolk Daily News. I just wanted to let you know how very sorry we are - I can't begin to understand how difficult this must be for you and your family. I'll be praying for you.

*Nanci Pelc  
Columbia, MO*

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**Michael and Nanci Pelc** - December 28, 2009 at 06:48 AM

LM

“ I am deeply saddened by Roger's death. I have many wonderful memories of him! My prayers and those of my family are with you! I wish I were closer. I am 1200 miles away and very thankful for the internet giving me an opportunity to let you know how much I will miss a really great cousin. I am Doris' daughter in Tennessee.

*Lee Weber Miller*

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**LeeFee Weber Miller** - December 28, 2009 at 04:38 AM

C1

“ Our thoughts and prayers are with your family at this time

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**Columbus Firefighters Local 1575** - December 28, 2009 at 04:08 AM

JA

“ When a loved one dies, family and friends feel a great loss. It is my hope as a volunteer in the community to bring a comforting thought to all. In the Bible book of Job 14:7,14,15 a large door of hope is opened. It says, " For there exists hope for even a tree. If it gets cut down, it will even sprout again...If an able-bodied man dies can he live again?... You (God) will call and I myself shall answer you. For the works of your hands you will have a yearning." Yes, the Creator longs to bring back to life those who have died. What a wonderful promise and sure future for those asleep in death. Please accept our deepest sympathy.

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**Jackie** - December 27, 2009 at 01:22 PM

AF

“ Our son Austin is in the John Deere tech program at SCC Milford and told us of your families loss. Our deepest sympathy to you all. Sincerely, Brian, Jamie and Austin Zink Claflin, Kansas

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**Austin Zink Family** - December 27, 2009 at 12:04 PM

DS

“ Kathy & family: Our prayers and sympathy are with you at this time. Don & Janet Snodgrass, Wood River,NE

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**Don and Janet Snodgrass** - December 27, 2009 at 10:34 AM

SO

“ Pam and I just heard tonight about Roger and we are deeply saddened.  
I worked with Roger in the "early" E.M.T. years back in York, Nebraska for York County Ambulance Service. One thing of many that stood out with Roger even then was "Professional" He was true to his job, family and God. Kathy, Dustin, Kyle, and Corey. Please know he is sitting up in Heaven looking down from that great Firehouse #1 and smiling !!!  
Scott & Pam Owens , Avondale, Arizona

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**Scott & Pam Owens** - December 27, 2009 at 02:03 AM

BW

“ Roger was a tremendous asset to the success of the Heartland Honor Flights. He was one of the best guardians we ever had. In October, the Central Iowa Honor Flight asked us to help them and Roger jumped at the chance to go.  
All of us involved with the flights are deeply saddened by his death.

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**Bill and Evonne Williams** - December 24, 2009 at 12:28 PM