

John Orlan Ruff



John Orlan Ruff was born on the family farm in Aurora County, South Dakota, on August 26, 1940, to John Carl “Jack” Ruff and Laura Clara Henrietta (Borman) Ruff. He was baptized at the Pleasant Valley Lutheran Church and attended Beulah # 12 country school where he graduated from the eighth grade. He attended Stickney High School and at the age of 17, boarded a bus in Stickney, SD, for navy boot camp.

He mustered out of the Navy at the age of 21, after a tour as a Sea-bee in Gitmo Cuba and Puerto Rico. He returned to South Dakota and entered the construction trades, becoming a member of the International Iron Workers' Union. He worked on the Big Bend Dam and major construction projects across South Dakota and the Midwest.

In the mid-seventies, he moved to Custer, SD, where he engaged in various business ventures and decided to attend the South Dakota Police Academy in Pierre. He then became a Custer County Deputy Sheriff.

In 1981, he took a job becoming South Dakota's one and only Keystone Cop. In the late 80's, he attended the National College of Business in Rapid City, and graduated with an Associate's Degree at age 47. He spent the rest of his working years in the insurance, security, and gaming industries.

He shall be forever remembered for his love of animals, his willingness to help out those less fortunate, his admiration of his family, and his personal relationship with God Almighty and His Son, Jesus Christ.

John Orlan Ruff, 77, of Sturgis, died Saturday, April 21, 2018, at Rapid City Regional Hospital.

He is survived by his wife of 45 years, Kathy (Stam) Ruff; his sister, Deone Stredde; five children, John Srstka (Cindy), James Srstka (Jennifer), Charis Straatmeyer (Ken), Jonathan Ruff (fiancée, Sammy), Jodi Aga (Kevin), and special daughter, Julie Dobesh; sixteen grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Jack and Laura Ruff; one brother-in-law, Fred Stredde; and a godson and nephew, Brian Stredde.

In lieu of flowers, the family has decided that memorial monies will be given to Selah Youth Program at Believers Fellowship. This is a program to help kid's strengthen their relationship with Christ.

Condolences may be sent to the family at www.kinkadefunerals.com.

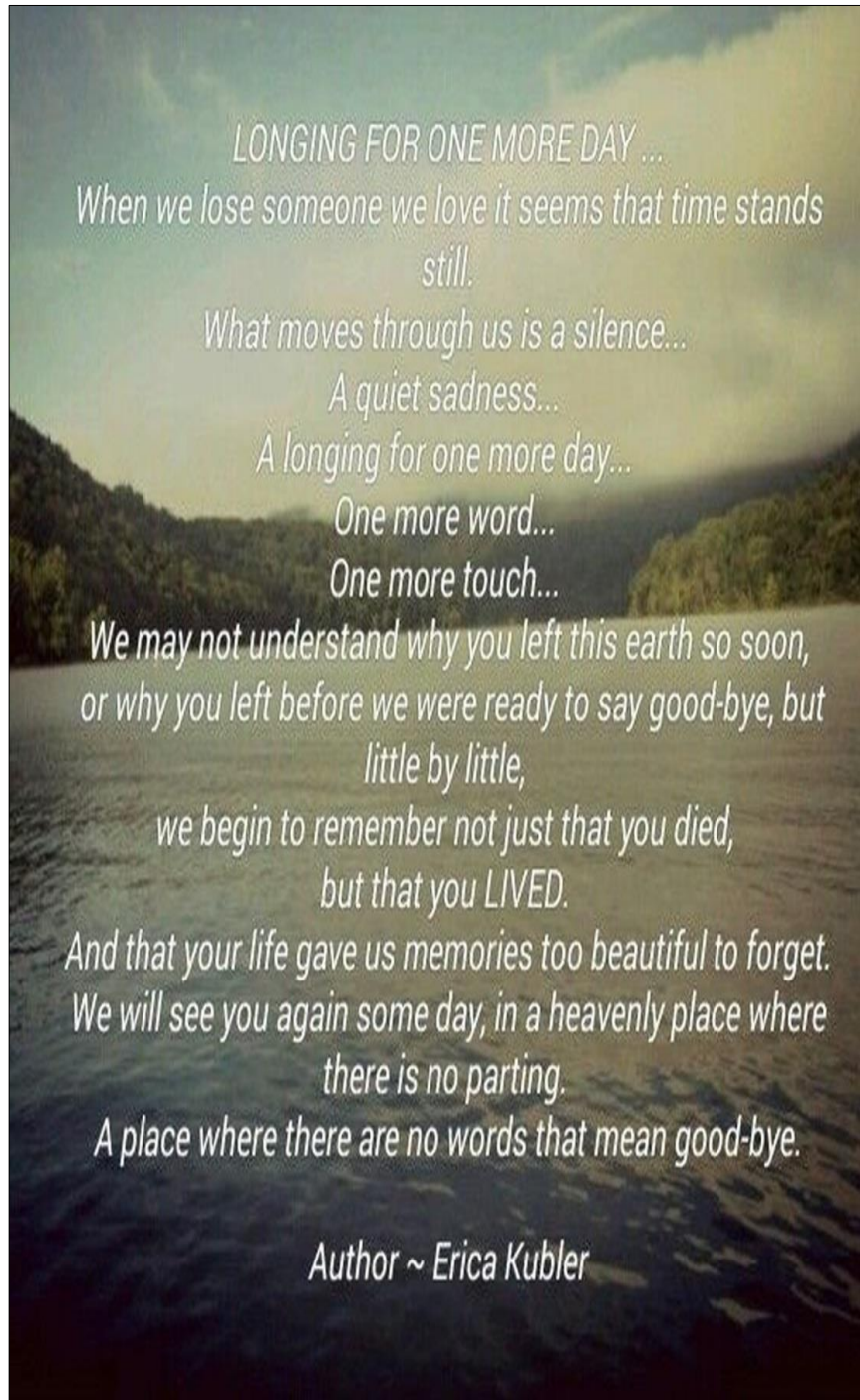
In Loving Memory Of



John Orlan Ruff

1940 ~ 2018

The family would like to invite you to join them for fellowship and lunch at the West Stock Shelter at City Park in Sturgis. We thank you for your presence and condolences.



LONGING FOR ONE MORE DAY ...

When we lose someone we love it seems that time stands still.

What moves through us is a silence...

A quiet sadness...

A longing for one more day...

One more word...

One more touch...

We may not understand why you left this earth so soon,
or why you left before we were ready to say good-bye, but
little by little,

we begin to remember not just that you died,
but that you LIVED.

And that your life gave us memories too beautiful to forget.
We will see you again some day, in a heavenly place where
there is no parting.

A place where there are no words that mean good-bye.

Author ~ Erica Kubler

In Loving Memory Of

John Orlan Ruff

Born

August 26, 1940
Corsica, South Dakota

Died

April 21, 2018
Rapid City, South Dakota

Memorial Services

Friday, April 27, 2018, at 10:00 a.m.
Believers Fellowship Church
Sturgis, South Dakota

Officiant

Pastor John Williamson

Musician

Ted Seaman

Musical Selections

“Big John”
“Precious Lord, Take My Hand”

Urn Bearers

Grandchildren

Madison Ruff ~ Bailey Ruff ~ Christian Ruff
Brayden Ruff ~ Caleb Ruff ~ Sebastian Ruff
Ian Srstka ~ Jackson Srstka ~ Eli Srstka ~ Erin Srstka
Megan Srstka ~ Hailey Srstka ~ Ethan Srstka
Adeline Straatmeyer ~ Elaura Straatmeyer ~ Harm Straatmeyer

Inurnment

Black Hills National Cemetery
Sturgis, South Dakota