



## Richard Alan Petersen

September 10, 1926 - June 14, 2020

Richard Alan Petersen, age 93, loving Husband, Dad, Grandpa, Great-Grandpa, and Great-Great-Grandpa passed away June 14th, 2020 at home in Sabula. A funeral and celebration of life will be held 10:30 am Saturday, June 20, 2020 at the Sabula Methodist Church. Burial will be in Evergreen Cemetery, Sabula. Social distance guidelines will be followed. Memorials may be made to the Sabula Ambulance or the Sabula Methodist Church.

Richard was born September 10, 1926, the fourth son of Ludwig "Lou" and Kathleen (Horan) Petersen. Richard graduated as valedictorian of the class of 1944 from Sabula High School. He served in the US Navy and was honorably discharged in 1946. He married Ellen Ann Moritzen on November 6, 1949 in the Sabula Methodist Church. They raised three children and celebrated almost 71 years of marriage.

Richard was a 42-year veteran of the Milwaukee Railroad and retired as a Locomotive Engineer in 1986. In 2003, he published a book titled "Hogger, A Locomotive Engineer Remembers." At the age of 92, he published his second book, a historical novel titled "Promise," depicting the perseverance of a Civil War era town. He was an avid reader of books, a lover of dogs, a fan of Big Band music and a Chicago Cub hopeful.

Richard will be dearly missed by his beloved wife Ellen; three children, Jeff Petersen of Sabula, Doug (Carol) Petersen of Walton, Nebraska and Claudia (Mike) Abbott of Clinton, Iowa; three grandchildren, Chrissy, Nick and Dustin; four great-grandchildren, Demri, Sydni, Caden and Kyzen, and one great-great grandson, Dawson. Richard is preceded in death by his parents, three brothers, Robert, Donald and James; and a granddaughter, Sarah.

# Cemetery

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## Evergreen Cemetery - Sabula

Sabula, IA,

# Events

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**JUN 20** **Celebration of Life** 10:30AM

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Sabula United Methodist Church  
716 Elk St, Sabula, IA, US, 52070

# Comments

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“ Ellen and Family,  
I'm sorry for your loss. I always considered Dick a mentor and good friend. We made many trips together and he was a true gentleman and always a pleasure to work with.  
Jesse L. Bundy

**Jesse L. Bundy** - June 19, 2020 at 07:16 PM

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“ Ellen n family we are so sorry for the passing of Dick. I know you will hold him forever in your heart .Carroll n Vicki Curboy



**Vicki Curboy** - June 18, 2020 at 10:43 PM

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“ Pink Tribute Spray was purchased for the family of Richard Alan Petersen.



June 18, 2020 at 04:32 PM

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“ If we had a few more 'Pete' Petersen's, what a wonderful world this would be. I revered his friendship and knew I could rely upon anything he told me. I also enjoyed "Hogger" and pleased he took the time and effort to write it down for posterity. I also experienced many of the co-workers, Etc., he wrote about. I still recall our visit to the Sabula, Ashley & Dakota (SAD) RR before parts (maybe all) of it ended up in Savanna. Well done, good and faithful servant. My heartfelt condolences to his wife, family and friends. Gene Knol (The Claim Agent).

Eugene F Knol - June 18, 2020 at 01:44 PM

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“ Very sorry about Richard. It's a little strange, but I just read his book "Hogger" last week! I had purchased the book years ago and read it then, but randomly pulled it off the shelf last week to read again. It seems so coincidental now with his passing. Even though I didn't know him personally, I so enjoyed that book. I'm sure my folks (Harriett and Wayne Mackeprang) knew your Dad as they were members of the Miles Methodist Church and would attend in Sabula occasionally. Our sympathy to you. Peggy Mackeprang Kedley

Peggy Kedley - June 17, 2020 at 08:04 AM



“ Ellen and family. So sorry to hear about Dick. Duck could find the good in most everything. Loved visiting with him. You and your family have my sympathy!

jan fulrath - June 19, 2020 at 08:58 PM

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“ Kerry Kuhl lit a candle in memory of Richard Alan Petersen



Kerry Kuhl - June 16, 2020 at 02:15 PM

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“ Ron And Sue Johnston lit a candle in memory of Richard Alan Petersen



**Ron and Sue Johnston** - June 16, 2020 at 11:44 AM

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“ I m so sorry for your loss. Pete was my friend and helped me with a lot of questions about the Milwaukee Road. I grew up in Marion where he once ran through. His book is one of the best first person Railroad books ever. I always enjoyed my correspondence with him via email. Thank you Pete for your friendship You have a high green to heaven now.

**Dave Kroeger** - June 16, 2020 at 10:44 AM



“ I just read about the demise of Pete Petersen. My heart felt sympathy toes out to all his family members

I do remember him but only slightly. I am also from Sabula but living in "Bangkok for the past 50 plus years. I am the youngest son and youngest brother of Hazel and Fred Knapp respectively/

**Roger Knapp** - June 18, 2020 at 05:54 AM