



## David Lee Ruge

October 17, 1955 - August 31, 2025

PIERCE -- Funeral service for David L. Ruge, age 69, of Pierce, will be held at 11:00 a.m., Friday, September 5, 2025 at Zion Lutheran Church, Pierce. Officiating the service will be Reverend Leon Rosenthal. Visitation will be from 10:00 a.m. to service time on Friday at Zion Lutheran Church in Pierce, NE. Interment will be at Prospect View cemetery rural Pierce, NE. David passed away on Sunday, August 31, 2025 at Faith Regional Health Services in Norfolk, NE. Stonacek Memorial Chapel in Pierce is in charge of arrangements.

David L. Ruge was born October 17, 1955 in Norfolk, NE. He was the youngest of four children born to Walter and Beata (Kortje) Ruge. He grew up on a farm northeast of Pierce and he attended country school District 60 and then Pierce High School graduating in 1974. David helped his dad on the farm as he was growing up.

David was baptized and confirmed at Zion Lutheran Church in Pierce, NE. Around 1976 David and his brother Delbert started working at the Norfolk Livestock Sale Barn where he worked for 30 years. Later he worked for Pizza Hut in Norfolk delivering pizzas. He loved that even though he had health issues with his legs which made it more difficult.

David loved football and in years past, he could be seen on Friday nights at

the Pierce Bluejay football games, sitting on the top bleacher cheering for Pierce. He loved to play cards, mostly sheephead and five point pitch, and going fishing.

He enjoyed family gatherings and all the food. But there was a lot of foods he thought he wouldn't like, so he wouldn't even try no matter how much you encouraged him to take a bite. One of his favorites foods was cherry pie.

David struggled with health issues and mobility in recent years. He had been a resident of Accura the Pierce Nursing Home, for the past six months.

David is survived by his sister Doris (Marvin) Wragge of Pierce, Delbert Ruge of Pierce, nieces and nephews Allen and Susan Rinkel, Kevin Wragge, Lori and Steve Davis all of Pierce, Michael and Kandace Ruge of Pound, Virginia. There are also many great nieces, nephews and cousins that were part of David's life.

He was preceded in death by his parents Walter and Beata Ruge, brother Kenneth Ruge and his wife Betty.

Hymns for the service will be "What A Friend We Have In Jesus", "Abide With Me".

Casket Bearers will be Allen Rinkel, Kevin Wragge, Branden Ruge, Ron Kortje, Tim Kortje, Steve Davis.

Condolences may be expressed to the family on-line at [www.stonacekfuneralchapel.com](http://www.stonacekfuneralchapel.com).

# Cemetery Details

## Prospect View Cemetery - Rural Pierce

Pierce, NE

# Previous Events

## Visitation

SEP 5. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

Zion Lutheran Church - Pierce  
520 East Main Street  
Pierce, NE 68767  
<http://www.zionlutheranpierce.com>

## Funeral Service

SEP 5. 11:00 AM (CT)

Zion Lutheran Church - Pierce  
520 East Main Street  
Pierce, NE 68767  
<http://www.zionlutheranpierce.com>

# Tribute Wall

PR

“ At Accura HealthCare of Pierce, we were blessed by David's presence and were honored to have him as a part of our Accura family. As you mourn the loss, remember that the memories that you have of David in your heart will remain as a reminder of all the cherished times you were with him, praying for you all during this season. God bless you all!



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**Pastor Ricky A. Rohrig** - September 05, 2025 at 11:09 AM

TD

“ I was sorry to hear of Davey's passing. I met Davey through my sister Laurie Buckendahl. Every visit made to Nebraska, Davey was there to play cards and enjoy a meal. Davey never referred to me by my name, to him I was a “pain in the ass”. His laugh was infectious and his garden produce, especially his sweet potato's, the best. He was thoughtful, caring and good soul.

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**Tricia Davis** - September 05, 2025 at 08:02 AM

AH

“ So sorry for your family!! David was a good one! I worked with him with monthly visits and he always gave me the business! He had a remark and if he didn't I knew something was wrong! God took a good one! He is pain free walking along Gods side in Heaven! We are so blessed to know his promise!

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**Amy Hall** - September 03, 2025 at 08:21 PM

SN

“ *Deepest Sympathy To All Of David’s Family. I was blessed to do Home Health through CHI, Plainview with David & Delbert. What an ornery, fun character. We always had a good time. Thinking of You with lots of prayers & hugs.* 🧡🙏🏻 🧡🙏🏻 🧡🙏🏻 🧡🙏🏻



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**Sherrie L Smith, Bloomfield, NE** - September 03, 2025 at 12:18 PM

DP

“ *I always enjoyed David’s laugh and smile! He was truly a kind soul! Deepest sympathy to his family and friends*

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**Deb Praeuner** - September 02, 2025 at 08:57 PM