



## Gene H. Ebel

March 31, 1929 - April 2, 2022

NORFOLK -- Private family memorial service for Gene H. Ebel, 93, of Norfolk will be held on Thursday, April 7, 2022 at the Stonacek Funeral Chapel in Norfolk. Private family inurnment will be held at a later date at the Prospect Hill Cemetery, Norfolk. Military rites will be conducted by the American Legion Post #16, V.F.W. Post #1644, of Norfolk and the United States Army Honors Guard. Gene passed away on Saturday, April 2, 2022 at the Faith Regional Hospital in Norfolk. Stonacek Funeral Chapel is in charge of the arrangements.

Gene was born on March 31, 1929, at Scribner, Nebraska to William and Edith (Hall) Ebel. He was baptized and confirmed in the Lutheran Faith. He attended Scribner Public Schools and graduated in 1947.

Upon graduation Gene went to work full time for his father in the family-owned trucking business. He worked for him until inducted into the service in 1951. He served in the United States Army and spent 15 months in the Korean War in the 2nd Infantry Division. After discharge Gene and his brother Bill would form a partnership and take over the family trucking business calling it Ebel Transfer. The Ebel brothers purchased and had the first bulk milk pickup truck ever in the State of Nebraska.

On April 25, 1954, Gene married Bernita M. Meyer. In 1962 the couple moved

to Norfolk where the Nebraska-Iowa Milk Association would build its first ever large milk processing plant. Gene's first position there was office manager. He was given the directive to get rid of canned milk and have all dairy farmers changed over to bulk milk sale. He was promoted to supervisor of member services, was active in the American Dairy Association of Nebraska, helped to implement the first ever dairy producer check off for advertisement and promotion of milk in Northeast Nebraska. In 1971 he started and implemented the first ever Young Cooperators Program for the Central States Division of Mid-American Dairymen. In 1975 he was transferred to Omaha and was manager of member services for the central states division consisting of Nebraska, Kansas, Iowa, and South Dakota. Later, he was promoted to Director of Operations and a few years later to manager of the Central States Division including the same four state region. He held this position until he retired in May of 1994 and then moved back to Norfolk.

Gene was a member of St. John's Church Norfolk, Scribner Volunteer Fireman, the Elks organization, Scribner Chamber of Commerce, American Legion, Scribner Investor Club, Nebraska Cooperative Extension Association, American Dairy Association of Nebraska. He also served as President of Nebraska Institute of Dairy Technology, received Nebraska Pioneer Farm Award from Aksarben, received the Native Son Award of Scribner, served on the Advisory Committee for the Nebraska Department of Agriculture Bureau of Dairy Foods Division, lifetime member of Midstate's Milk Haulers Association. He was so proud to be an avid Nebraska Husker season ticket holder during his lifetime.

Gene enjoyed golfing, fishing, and hanging out with his coffee friends, but most of all he cherished and loved his family dearly. His smile and love will be forever missed.

He is survived by his spouse, Bernita, two daughters, Cinda (Dan) Sanders

and Cathy (Tom) Wilke, four grandchildren, Courtney Kenny, Dana (Dan) Nickeson, Chad Wilke and Amy Wilke; along with four great grandchildren who were the light of his life, Collin Kenny, Paisley Schwartz, Riley Wilke, and Davaney Nickeson; one brother Jim (Georgene) Ebel, sister-in-law JoAnn Ebel, and numerous nieces and nephews.

Gene was preceded in death by his parents, William and Edith Ebel, two brothers Bill Ebel and Vern Ebel, grandson Ryan Wilke, his father and mother-in-law Alfred and Margaret Meyer.

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

# Tribute Wall



“ *Stonacek Funeral Chapel created a Webcast in memory of Gene H. Ebel*



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**Stonacek Funeral Chapel** - April 07, 2022 at 11:00 AM

GS

*Cinda and Kathy, We are so sorry to hear of the loss of your father, treasure the memories you have of him! You and your families are in our thoughts and prayer!*  
*Gary and Chris Smith*

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**Gary and Chris Smith** - April 10, 2022 at 09:40 PM



“ *Gene H. Ebel*

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October 05, 2023 at 03:46 AM



“ Dear Cinda and Family, I'm so sad to learn of Gene's passing. Although I never met your father, I feel a connection through the many stories you have shared with me, most of which had to do with his incredible zest for living. I know how much you all loved him, and reading about his many accomplishments and associations throughout his time on earth gave me a sense that his was indeed a life well-spent! Please accept all my love and sorrow for your great loss.

Yours,  
Susie Baer Collins

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**Susie Collins** - April 09, 2022 at 12:38 PM

BR

“ Bernita and Family,  
We are saddened to hear of Gene's passing. He was a great friend and co-worker of my Father Gene Denker years ago at Mid America Dairyman.

Our thoughts and prayers are with you.  
Sincerely,  
Beth Denker Rogers and Family

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**Beth Rogers** - April 09, 2022 at 11:39 AM

KF

“ Bernita, Sending prayers and love to you in the loss of your husband, Gene. I am Katy Flynn, widow of Gene Flynn, who worked with the dairy industry tirelessly alongside of your Gene. Don't know if you remember me but I sure do remember Gene Ebel and how hard he worked for dairymen! Katy

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**Katy Flynn** - April 08, 2022 at 04:03 PM

RD

“ Sorry to hear about Gene’s passing. We worked together for a very long time. Gene was a fun guy....Ron Dahlke

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**Ron Dahlke** - April 07, 2022 at 06:18 PM

CM

“ Bernita and family, Thoughts and prayers are with all of you. Gene was always happy, wearing a smile and didn't know a stranger. He could strike up a conversation and make you feel good. He will be missed by all who knew him. Sincerely, Curt and Karol Meyer

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**Curt and Karol Meyer** - April 06, 2022 at 07:30 PM

DD

“ Bernita & Family - We were sorry to read of Gene's passing. Gene always had a friendly hello when we would see him. Betty and I still remember the summer night a number of years ago when we were out on a walk and we walked by your home. Gene and you were out in front and found out we were interested in moving into a townhome and the two of you so graciously asked us in and gave us a tour of your townhome. I think Gene was headed out to an Elks meeting that night, but you continued with the tour. All of you are in our thoughts and prayers.

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**Don & Betty Dammast** - April 06, 2022 at 04:50 PM

NW

“ Lots of good memories thru the years. Remembering the SHS Class of 1947 and the reunions since then. Great Memories!  
Nona Wiese

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**Nona J. Wiese** - April 06, 2022 at 12:06 PM

KE

“ Ken and Ivani Ebel purchased the Days of Sunshine Bouquet for the family of Gene H. Ebel.



Ken and Ivani Ebel - April 05, 2022 at 04:16 PM



“ Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Gene H. Ebel.



April 05, 2022 at 01:53 PM

GB

“ Heaven has certainly gained one of the very best men I've known! Uncle Gene never missed an opportunity to give me a kiss and tell me “I love you” when he'd see me. I absolutely know who had to be one of the first to welcome him Home and probably with...what took you so long 🌀 My love and prayers are with all my Ebel family. No doubt, Uncle Gene will help prepare the way for us. May the perpetual light shine upon him. I will miss you, dearly, Uncle Gene! You're tucked in my heart forever 🙏❤️🙏

Gayle (Ebel) Bousek - April 05, 2022 at 01:32 PM

PM

“ Phylis Mooney purchased the Fiery Lily and Rose for the family of Gene H. Ebel.



Phylis Mooney - April 05, 2022 at 11:28 AM

MD

“ *Cinda Dan and family we have fond memories of your dad when you were our neighbors. You are all in our thoughts and prayers during this difficult time love Tim and Mary David*

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**mary david** - April 04, 2022 at 06:18 PM