



## Richard A. Otjen

March 31, 1934 - December 1, 2024

BATTLE CREEK – Funeral service for Richard A. Otjen, 90, of Battle Creek, will be held at 10:30 a.m., Thursday, December 5, 2024 at the St. John's Lutheran Church in Battle Creek. Pastor Lee Weander will be officiating the service. Interment will be at the St. John's Lutheran Cemetery, rural Battle Creek. Visitation will be 4:00-7:00 p.m., Wednesday, Dec. 4, at the Stonacek Funeral Chapel in Norfolk. The service will be live-streamed on the Stonacek Funeral Chapel Facebook Page at <https://www.facebook.com/stonacekfuneralchapel/>. Richard passed away with his family at his side on Sunday, December 1, 2024 at the Community Pride Care Center in Battle Creek. Stonacek Funeral Chapel in Norfolk is in charge of the arrangements.

Richard was born on March 31, 1934 in Meadow Grove, NE to Albert and Anna (Zohner) Otjen. He was baptized April 22, 1934, and confirmed March 30, 1947 into the Lutheran faith at St. Peters Heights Lutheran Church, Battle Creek. Richard graduated from Battle Creek High School in 1952. He married Joan Ruth (Preusker) on November 15, 1953 at the St. John's Lutheran Church, Battle Creek.

After marriage, Richard worked at Dobsons Construction for six years then went into farming. He then worked at the Battle Creek Coop for 20 years until he retired. After he retired, Richard worked at the Ever-Green golf course while it was being built and he also drove school bus for Battle Creek Public

School. He enjoyed gardening, lawn work, and golfing. He was a member of the St. John's Lutheran Church in Battle Creek and served on several boards at St. John's Lutheran Church.

Survivors include his wife of 71 years, Joan R. Otjen, their five children, Steven (Tami) Otjen, Jodi (Barry) Stueve, Jami (Gary) Frederick, all of Battle Creek, Tina (Robb) Schnitzler of Central City and Linda (Patrick) Pelc of Norfolk, 14 grandchildren and their spouses, 24 great-grandchildren, and sister Sharen Wragge of Pierce. He was preceded in death by his parents Albert and Anna, and brother-in-law Aaron Wragge.

Casket bearers will be Richard's grandsons Derek Pelc, Joshua Schnitzler, Jordan Otjen, Aaron Schnitzler, Levi Stueve, Tyler Frederick, Luke Stueve, and Payton Frederick. Honorary casket bearers will be his granddaughter's Natasha Onnen, Tonya Hoff, Nicole Ferguson, Kayla Petersen, Shelby Schnitzler, and Lexi Stueve.

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

# Cemetery Details

## St. John's Lutheran Cemetery

Battle Creek, NE

# Previous Events

## Visitation

DEC 4. 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Stonacek Funeral Chapel - Norfolk

1200 N.13th St.

Norfolk, NE 68701

(402) 371-7676

[info@stonacekfuneralchapel.com](mailto:info@stonacekfuneralchapel.com)

<https://stonacekfuneralchapel.com/>

## Funeral Service

DEC 5. 10:30 AM (CT)

St. John's Lutheran Church -- Battle Creek

308 South 2nd Street

Battle Creek, NE 68715

<http://www.stjohnbc.net/church/>

# Tribute Wall

PR

“ *Payton and Renee purchased the Enchanted Cottage for the family of Richard A. Otjen.*



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**Payton and Renee** - December 04, 2024 at 03:47 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Richard A. Otjen.*



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December 04, 2024 at 12:09 PM

DH

“ *Our sympathies to Joan and family on the passing of Richard. You can take Comfort knowing Richard is now with his Savior, Jesus. Richard and Joan were good friends with my parents, Herman and Dorothy Hartner. God's Peace to you all!!*

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**Doug Hartner** - December 04, 2024 at 10:22 AM



“ *Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Richard A. Otjen.*



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December 03, 2024 at 05:54 PM

CS

“ Richard and my father Orlin Stolle were best friends growing up. I remember all of the 10 point pitch card parties in Battle Creek. Rest in peace. Cal Stolle

Calvin Stolle - December 03, 2024 at 05:10 PM

TF

“ The Gabriel family. purchased the Enchanted Cottage for the family of Richard A. Otjen.



The Gabriel family. - December 03, 2024 at 11:48 AM

BD

“ Our sincere heartfelt sorrow for the loss of another major branch of our extended family tree. As we reflect on eternal life, we all realize that earth as we know it, is not all there is ~ the best is yet to come! SHALOM <<>><

Brian and Marcia Davis - December 03, 2024 at 08:03 AM

M&

“ Matt,Aly,Curtis&Amy &Zach planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Richard A. Otjen.

Matt,Aly,Curtis&Amy &Zach - December 02, 2024 at 08:04 PM

M&

“ Matt,Aly,Curtis&Amy &Zach purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Richard A. Otjen.



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**Matt,Aly,Curtis&Amy &Zach** - December 02, 2024 at 08:04 PM

DF

“ Dahlheim Family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Richard A. Otjen.

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**Dahlheim Family** - December 02, 2024 at 05:08 PM

DF

“ Dahlheim Family purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of Richard A. Otjen.



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**Dahlheim Family** - December 02, 2024 at 05:08 PM

RM

“ Richard and I golfed a few times together and had a few beers together , he was a lot of fun

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**Ronald Miller** - December 02, 2024 at 03:09 PM