



## Roger A. Gentzler

June 8, 1930 - November 10, 2021

NORFOLK -- Funeral service for Roger Allen Gentzler, 91, of Norfolk will be held at 10:30 a.m., Monday, November 15, 2021 at the St. John's Lutheran Church in Norfolk. Rev. Randy Rasmussen will be officiating. Interment will be at the Prospect Hill Cemetery, Norfolk. Visitation will be held 3:00-6:00 p.m., Sunday, at the Stonacek Funeral Chapel in Norfolk. Military rites will be conducted by the American Legion Post 16, V.F.W. Post 1644, and the United States Navy Honors Guard. Roger passed away on Wednesday, November 10, 2021 at the Faith Regional Hospital in Norfolk. Stonacek Funeral Chapel in Norfolk is in charge of the arrangements.

Roger Allen Gentzler was born June 8, 1930 in Homer, Nebraska to Gurney and Mable (Sorensen) Gentzler. When Roger was 9 his family moved to Creighton, Nebraska where he later attended high school and was known as a good athlete who was involved in many sports. While in high school Roger, along with his siblings, was expected to work at the Gentzler Cafe. The boys often found themselves waiting tables, washing dishes and even helping their mother flip burgers.

After high school Roger joined the Navy and served for a year. He was mainly stationed at the US Naval Air Station in San Diego but also served on a tail hook ship to Hawaii. The war was over but the ships still patrolled Pearl Harbor. Roger served as a log yeoman and worked on maintenance on the

ship. Roger's job included record keeping; keeping flight miles for pilots among other things. Due to Roger's initials being RAG, his nickname in the navy was "Rag."

After the Navy, Roger returned to Creighton and began to work for his cousin Jim Gentzler who had a plastering construction business. When Roger was 21, he had plans to go fishing over the 4th of July but a friend talked him into going to Neligh, Nebraska for the dance at Riverside Park instead. There he met Alice Timm. The following year, June 8, 1952 they were married at Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church in Neligh, Nebraska and made their home in Norfolk.

Throughout the years Roger was a hard worker using the skills he developed early on from his cousin Jim. Roger worked for his cousin until 1955 when he ventured out on his own in the plastering business. Not wanting to compete with his cousin, he did most of his work in Northeast Nebraska. As construction styles changed and the use of plaster in homes diminished, he began doing drywall. In 1964 he traveled to California to learn how to apply a new type of seamless flooring called Torginol. About the same time, he began laying ceramic tile.

In 1982 Roger took a job as Supervisor of Grounds and Maintenance for the Norfolk Public Schools. He worked at the schools until he retired in 1996. He continued to work as an independent tile layer and seamless floor installer until his mid 80's. Roger had a reputation for doing excellent work. He showed an artistic flare in his work as well as in his stained-glass hobby.

Roger was active in many organizations. He served in many capacities at St. John's Lutheran Church over the years and was a founding member of a men's group called "Men in Mission" later changed to "Men's Prayer Breakfast". He sang in the church choir and sang for funerals and weddings.

He enjoyed entertaining the residents at area care facilities with his music. Roger participated in Jaycee's, Lion's Club and was one of the original members of Norfolk Men's Chorus. He was on the board of directors that developed Fairplay Golf Course. Roger was School Board President for the District #3 school that his younger children attended. He enjoyed gardening and especially liked designing flower gardens. Roger and Alice kept busy attending their children's sporting, music and school events.

In 1968 Roger and Alice began square dancing with the 49'ers club. He later became the club caller and the two of them began teaching square and round dancing. Roger and Alice also started square dance clubs in Madison and Hartington. Northeast Nebraska Community College asked if they would teach ballroom and country dancing. It was something they did and enjoyed for 30 years.

In their retirement Roger and Alice have traveled extensively, seeing many states and places of interest. Their travels included visiting their children and grandchildren living in Minnesota and Nebraska and watching their grandchildren play sports and participate in other events.

Roger is survived by his beloved wife of 69 years Alice Gentzler of Norfolk; children Debra Hutton (Kirk) of Blair, NE; Roland (Cindy) Gentzler of Austin, MN; Jeanne (Lon) Timperley of Norfolk; Craig Gentzler of Fordyce, NE; Tim (Jeanne) Gentzler of Blair, NE; and Janice (Ray) Hooker of Minneapolis. He leaves behind grandchildren Angie (Mitch) Schiltz), Brooke Gentzler, Andrew (Katie) Hutton, Annie (Kyle) Acre, Michael (Asha) Timperley, Alex Timperley, Bryan Timperley, Tad (Brooke) Pospisil, Jenna (Sam) James, Joey Gentzler, Brad (Emma) Gentzler, Chelsia (Michael) Reina, Brehana Hooker, Quinton (Julia) Hooker, and Amani Hooker. His great-grandchildren include: Blake, Cody and Tyson Schiltz; Lewis and William Hutton, Levi, Olivia and Lila Acre, Tyannah, Ayla, and Kaius Timperley, Easton and Walker Pospisil, Roger

James, Zavier and Sebastian Reina and Ezran Hooker. Also brother Stan Gertzler in Cozad Nebraska and sister-in-law Beverly Gertzler.

He was preceded in death by his parents Gurney and Mable Gertzler; brothers Clinton, Dale and Gordon and sister Leola; and granddaughter Katie Timperley. Roger was deeply loved by his family and was a friend to many. Memorials can be made out to St. John's Lutheran Church in Norfolk, Nebraska.

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

# Cemetery Details

## Prospect Hill Cemetery - Norfolk

1500 Maple Avenue  
Norfolk, NE 68701

# Previous Events

## Visitation

NOV **14**. 3:00 PM - 6:00 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

NOV **15**. 10:30 AM (CT)

St. John's Lutheran Church, Norfolk  
1300 W. Benjamin Ave.  
Norfolk, NE  
<http://www.stjohnsnorfolk.com/>

# Tribute Wall



“ *Stonacek Funeral Chapel created a Tribute Video in memory of Roger A. Gentzler*



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**Stonacek Funeral Chapel** - November 12, 2021 at 07:31 PM



“ *Roger A. Gentzler*

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October 05, 2023 at 03:46 AM



“ *Dear Aunt Alice and family,  
Beautiful video tribute. We are thinking of you. Uncle Roger was a special man. We send our love and prayers to you all.  
Love,  
John, Traci, Ryan, Nicole, Erik and Kyle Larson*

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**Traci** - November 15, 2021 at 05:13 PM



“ *Condolences to the family.*

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**John Campbell** - November 15, 2021 at 01:43 PM

DD

“ To the Gentzler Family - We were sorry to read of Roger's passing. On several occasions, we had worked with Roger at St. John's Church with the packing and delivery of the Good Neighbors' Christmas food boxes. All of you are in our thoughts and prayers.

Don & Betty Dammast - November 13, 2021 at 12:06 PM



“ Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Roger A. Gentzler.



November 13, 2021 at 09:44 AM

BB

“ Beth, Duane, Chris, Brenda & Bob purchased the Serene Retreat for the family of Roger A. Gentzler.



Beth, Duane, Chris, Brenda & Bob - November 13, 2021 at 09:25 AM



“ 97 files added to the album *Life Tributes*



**Stonacek Funeral Chapel** - November 12, 2021 at 07:30 PM



“ *Tom and Stephanie purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Roger A. Gentzler.*



**Tom and Stephanie** - November 12, 2021 at 05:33 PM



“ *Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Roger A. Gentzler.*



November 12, 2021 at 11:08 AM

SF

“ *Sincerely, Don Balfany and family purchased the Medium Dish Garden for the family of Roger A. Gentzler.*



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**Sincerely, Don Balfany and family** - November 11, 2021 at 05:41 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Roger A. Gentzler.*



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November 11, 2021 at 04:09 PM

SG

“ *Thoughts and prayers to the Gentzler family. I so enjoyed singing in church choir with Roger. His voice was like angels talking to us all. Rest in peace.*  
*Sarah Granquist*

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**Sarah Granquist** - November 10, 2021 at 06:39 PM