



Samuel M. Ruge

January 5, 1948 - March 18, 2016

NORFOLK — Services for Samuel M. Ruge, 68, Norfolk, will be at 4:30 p.m. Wednesday at Stonacek Funeral Chapel in Norfolk. The Rev. Travis Wright will officiate. Private burial services will be at a later date. Military rites will be conducted by the U.S. Navy, American Legion Post 16, VFW Post 1644 and the American Legion Riders.

Visitation will be 5-7 p.m. Tuesday at the funeral chapel.

He died Friday, March 18, 2016, at Faith Regional Health Services in Norfolk.

The son of Melvin and Marie (Faust) Ruge was born Jan. 5, 1948, at St. Edward. He graduated from Burns High School (Norfolk Catholic) in 1967.

Sam served in the U.S. Navy during the Vietnam War from Feb. 26, 1965, to May 22, 1969. After retiring from the service, Sam lived and worked in Norfolk. He then moved to New Jersey before moving back to Norfolk in 1982.

He married Caroline Hetrick on Aug. 2, 1982, in Yankton. After marriage, he worked with his father at Dugdale Beef Plant. In 1985, he started driving truck for Norfolk Iron & Metal for numerous years. In 1990, he then purchased and operated his own truck until retiring in 2005.

Sam loved riding his Harley Davidson motorcycle, hunting and fishing. He loved cooking for all his friends and having a good time with them. No one ever left Sam and Caroline's house hungry. Sam also loved his family and spending time with them, especially his grandchildren and great-grandchildren. He always made sure they were happy and well taken care of. He was a member of the Eagles Club and Sacred Heart Parish.

Survivors include his spouse, Caroline Ruge of Norfolk; his children, Tina Miranda of Lewisville, Texas, Kendra and spouse Bo Bennett of Tyler, Texas, Benjamin Ruge of Lincoln, Lynette and spouse George Likakis of Hazlett, N.J., Dana and spouse Carrie Moore of Battle Creek; his mother, Marie Ruge of Norfolk, three brothers, Ronald Ruge, and wife Barbara, of Oakland Park, FL; Timothy G. Ruge, and wife, Jean, of Plainview, NE; James Ruge, of Norfolk, NE; and one sister, Shirley Schiffbauer, and husband, Robert, of Lincoln, NE. 14 grandchildren and a great-grandchild; and numerous nieces, nephews and his many friends.

He was preceded in death by his father, Melvin Ruge.

Casketbearers will be Benjamin Ruge, Tim Ruge, Jim Ruge, Ron Ruge, Rick Lytle, Tom Mechaley, Joe Hastings, Chad Paulsen and Chuck Alder (God's Angel). Music will be provided by guitarist and soloist, Dennis Lewchuck. Condolences may be expressed to the family online at www.stonacekfuneralchapel.com.

Previous Events

Service

MAR **23**. 4:30 PM (CT)

Stonacek Funeral Chapel - Norfolk
1200 N.13th St.
Norfolk, NE 68701
(402) 371-7676
info@stonacekfuneralchapel.com
<https://stonacekfuneralchapel.com/>

Visitation

MAR **29**. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Stonacek Funeral Chapel - Norfolk
1200 N.13th St.
Norfolk, NE 68701
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Tribute Wall



“ *Stonacek Funeral Chapel created a Tribute Video in memory of Samuel M. Ruge*



Stonacek Funeral Chapel - March 21, 2016 at 03:03 PM



“ *Samuel M. Ruge*

October 05, 2023 at 03:46 AM



“ *Sorry to hear about Sam. How are you Carolyn. This is Rick up in Oregon now call me at 541 995 9354*

Rick Lydic - November 30, 2016 at 09:21 PM



“ *My deepest sympathy to you Carolyn, and family of Sam Ruge. Sam was a classmate of mine and was a big "teddy bear" and sweet kid. Our freshman year of high school, Sam greeted me at the front door of Burns High School the day I returned to school following the death of my father. He was genuinely concerned about me and he told me how sorry he was for me. It meant a lot to me and it was a gesture I've never forgot. Sam, may you rest in peace. Signed: Maxine (Unger) Bauermeister. Class of 1966*

Maxine Bauermeister - March 22, 2016 at 08:14 PM

LS

“ *Kendra, I was so very sorry to hear about your dad passing away. Please know you and your family are in my prayers. I pray the Lord give you all peace and comfort not only today but everyday. - Lisa Sipes*

Lisa Sipes - March 22, 2016 at 06:37 PM

LF

“ *Love from Peggy and Van Freed purchased the Emerald Garden Basket for the family of Samuel M. Ruge.*



Love from Peggy and Van Freed - March 22, 2016 at 01:44 PM

MH

“ *Caroline, Ron and family. I was so sorry to hear of your loss. May God give you peace & blessings of comfort now and in the months to come! From New Mexico way! Love to all Marilyn Vawser Harig.*

Marilyn Harig - March 22, 2016 at 10:55 AM

FT

“ *From everyone at Next Step Community Solutions - Tyler, TX purchased the Enduring Grace for the family of Samuel M. Ruge.*



From everyone at Next Step Community Solutions - Tyler, TX
- March 22, 2016 at 10:54 AM



“ 1 file added to the album *Life Tributes*



Stonacek Funeral Chapel - March 22, 2016 at 09:38 AM

CJ

“ *I met Sam as a caregiver. What a joy he was to be around. We knew so many of the same people. We had some good talks! I was amazed at how well he could cook! He will surely be missed. Carol J*

Carol Janke - March 22, 2016 at 08:41 AM

AJ

“ *B4 I had the chance to meet Sam he would call our kids at Christmas and play Santa clause and the smiles he put on the kids face is priceless*

Adam Johnson - March 22, 2016 at 07:38 AM

AB

“ *A lot of years on the kill floor thats not ever forgotten. Love and miss you Sam. You were always good to me. Arland Borgmyer.*

arland borgmyer - March 21, 2016 at 05:19 PM



“ 1 file added to the album *Life Tributes*



Stonacek Funeral Chapel - March 21, 2016 at 03:50 PM



“ 90 files added to the album *Life Tributes*



Stonacek Funeral Chapel - March 21, 2016 at 12:46 PM

KB

“ *My daddy is gone but will never be forgotten. One of the last things he told me was "never cover your face. You are beautiful just the way you are." He taught me to love and be loved and I could not have hand picked a better father than him. In my heart forever.*

Kendra Bennett - March 20, 2016 at 07:51 PM

MJ

Your dad was a great man. So many of my happiest childhood memories was when we was with ur dad n mom. I'm so sorry for your loss. I'll be thinkin and praying for you n ur mom today.. Your dad Will be truly missed... May he fly in heaven with the angels to his everlasting paradise to watch upon u n Carol...

Mari (Mechaley) James - March 21, 2016 at 09:06 AM