

**K**enneth Richard “Dick” Edwards, age 91, of Storm Lake, Iowa and formerly of Alta, passed away on February 25, 2017, at the Methodist Manor Retirement Community in Storm Lake where he resided.

Dick, the son of Russell and Helen (Renshaw) Edwards, was born on April 26, 1925 in Storm Lake, Iowa. He grew up on a farm near Storm Lake and attended the Storm Lake High, graduating in 1943.

After graduation, he was drafted into the United States Navy on July 23, 1943. He trained to be an Aviation Electrician, serving during World War II in Hawaii and San Diego, California, being honorably discharged on April 4, 1946.

Dick attended Buena Vista College in Storm Lake and Iowa State University at Ames, Iowa in 1946 where he studied electrical engineering. He also served as a volunteer fireman for the Storm Lake Fire Department during this time.

In 1948, Dick was united in marriage to Celesta Allen of Storm Lake, and this union was blessed with four children: Carol, Bruce, Janet and Joan. Following their marriage they moved to a farm northwest of Storm Lake and were engaged in farming until his retirement in 1987.

Dick was a faithful member of the Storm Lake United Methodist Church and later became a member of the Alta United Methodist Church where he served on several committees. Church and family were an important part of Dick’s life. He had also belonged to the Truesdale Farmer’s Club.

Throughout his lifetime, Dick enjoyed being in the outdoors, fishing, camping and gardening. When he wasn’t outdoors, you could find him playing cards, doing jigsaw puzzles, collecting stamps and coins, square dancing, and spending time with his family.

On September 6, 2008, Dick married Arlene Raveling. They enjoyed traveling and spending the winter months in Apache Junction, Arizona where they made new lifelong friendships. One of Dick’s most favorite pastimes was visiting with his many friends and family.

Left to cherish his memory are his children: Carol (Doug) Lee of Knoxville, Tennessee; Bruce (Diane) Edwards of Alta, Iowa; Janet (Jon) Johnson of Petersburg, Minnesota; and Joan (Ed) Downey of West Des Moines, Iowa; 13 grandchildren: Richard (Patty), Kirsten (Chris), Kerry (Susan), Kurt (Leah) Kris (Rachel), Kyle (Sheila), Jenny (Neil), Jason, Jasmond (Taia), Christine (Brandon), Katie, Anna, and Elizabeth; 19 great grandchildren: Coraline, Sabastian, Matthew, Miles, Adley, Hannah, Heidi, Hope, Liam, Cameron, Griffin, Audrey, Marissa, Trenton, Alex, Amelia, Emma, Coulton and Isabel; sister-in-law, Viola Allen of Aurelia, Iowa; other extended family and many friends.

Dick was preceded in death by his parents; wife, Celesta and his wife, Arlene (Raveling) Edwards; and grandson, Stephen Downey.

Memorials may be given in Dick’s name to the Alta United Methodist Church.

# In Loving Memory



*“Well done thou good and faithful servant...  
enter thou into the joy of thy Lord”  
Matthew 25:21*

## Kenneth Richard Edwards

### *“Dick”*

1925 — 2017



### *Close the Gate*

For this farmer the worries are over,  
lie down and rest your head,  
Your time has been and struggles enough,  
put the tractor in the shed.  
Years are not easy, many downright hard,  
but your faith in God transcended,  
Put away your tools and sleep in peace,  
the fences have all been mended.  
Your raised a fine family, worked the land well,  
and always followed the Son,  
Hang up your shovel inside of the barn,  
your work here on earth is done.  
A faith that few possess, led your journey through life;  
often a jagged and stony way,  
The sun is setting, the cattle are all bedded,  
and here now is the end of your day.  
Your love of God's soil has passed on to your kin;  
the stories flow like fine wine,  
Wash off your work boots in the puddle left,  
by blessed rain one final time.  
You always believed the good Lord would provide,  
and He always had somehow,  
Take off your gloves and put them down,  
no more sweat and worry for you now.  
Your labor is done, your home now is in heaven,  
no more must you wait, Your legacy lives on,  
your love of the land, and we will close the gate.  
By Nancy Kraayenhof

**W**e wish to express our sincere gratitude for the many kindnesses evidenced in thought and deed, and for your attendance at this service. You are invited to join us for lunch and a time of fellowship at the church immediately following the burial.

— **The Family of Dick Edwards**

# **IN MEMORY OF**

## **Kenneth Richard “Dick” Edwards**

*April 26, 1925 — February 25, 2017*

### **FUNERAL SERVICE**

**Tuesday, March 28, 2017 at 1:00 p.m.**  
**United Methodist Church — Alta, Iowa**

### **CLERGY**

**Pastor Kim Dewey**

### **PIANIST**

**Jon Johnson**

### **SOLOIST**

**Hope Downey**

**“Give Me Jesus”**

**“God Be With You Til We Meet Again”**

### **CONGREGATIONAL HYMN**

**“Victory In Jesus”**

### **HONORARY CASKET BEARERS**

**Stephan Downey (In Memoriam), Jenny Downey**

**Kirsten Sewall, Christine Neal, Katie Downey**

**Anna Downey, Elizabeth Downey**

### **CASKET BEARERS**

**Jason Johnson, Jasmond Johnson, Kurt Edwards**

**Kerry Edwards, Kris Edwards, Kyle Edwards, Richard Lee**

### **INTERMENT**

**Buena Vista Memorial Park Cemetery — Storm Lake, Iowa**

*Arrangements by*

**SLIEFERT FUNERAL HOMES**

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