



Wesley G. Peterson

April 8, 1945 - November 22, 2025

Wesley G. Peterson, age 80, of Riverdale, passed away Saturday, November 22, 2025, at Hilltop Estates in Gothenburg. Graveside memorial services will be 3:00 PM, at the Fridhem Lutheran Cemetery on Saturday, April 25th, 2026. Wesley “Wes” Peterson, a man who embodied love and goodness, was born in Hordville, Nebraska, in 1945, and peacefully departed this world on November 22, 2025, surrounded by his daughters, their mother, and loving friends. He raised his family in Kearney, Nebraska, and was living in Riverdale, Nebraska, at the time of his passing. A devoted father, cherished husband, proud grandfather of three, and guiding star to his great-grandson, Wes’ life was a beautiful tapestry woven with strength, kindness, and unwavering compassion.

Wes had a deep love for his family, consistently proving himself to be a dedicated worker who would do anything for them. Despite his commitment to providing for his loved ones, he always made time for his family, ensuring that each and every member felt valued and special. His unwavering dedication led to many exciting and magical family vacations, where unforgettable memories were created and cherished. Whether exploring new places or enjoying quality time together, Wes’ devotion to family shone brightly, making every adventure special and filled with love.

Wes’ childhood family faced many struggles, yet through it all, he developed an incredibly close bond with his mother and siblings. As the only boy of four children, he shouldered the weight of loss early in life, losing his father just as

he was becoming a man. He, later in life, experienced the profound sadness of losing his beloved mother, who resembled him both in demeanor and appearance. She had always been a source of strength and love in his life. Wes kept her joy alive for many years, sharing her light and laughter with those who never had the chance to know her.

The passing of his middle sister left a deep impact on him, and though he is survived by two loving sisters who hold him dearly, his passing will bring a profound loss to all of their hearts. The bond they shared is truly irreplaceable. Navigating life's currents with determination and resolve, Wes faced challenges with the resilience of a fisherman casting his line into uneasy waters. He referred to the years after the War as his "drifting years," during which his daughters became the light of his life. The experiences of the Vietnam War and his time stationed in Korea shaped his journey, yet they never diminished his extraordinary spirit. His radiant smile and sparkling eyes were a source of warmth, spreading laughter and joy to everyone around him. With remarkable charisma, Wes had the ability to charm a room, fostering deep connections and lifelong friendships.

Wes had a passion for sports, singing, art, woodworking, and tractors, taking pride in making repairs around the house and often involving his children and grandchildren in these projects. He loved hunting with his family, chosen brothers, and his hunting dogs, finding joy in their companionship.

Wes crafted beloved memories that will be cherished for generations. Always full of surprises, he revealed hidden talents that delighted those who knew him best, with each new discovery sparking excitement and showcasing the depth of his character.

For many years, Wes battled a heart condition, but faced each challenge with an unwavering determination that often led us to wonder if he would outlive us all. He held a powerful belief that everything would be alright, instilling in his children the assurance that things would ultimately work out in the end.

With a hearty appetite for good Nebraska beef, Wes appreciated every meal, often sharing stories around the dinner table. One of his regrets was a freezer

full of steaks left uneaten, a reminder of the feasts that might have been. He was also a true go-getter and unwavering Nebraska Cornhusker Football fan. Wes had everything from flags to clothing in Husker Red. He held season tickets and attended every game, proudly cheering on his team, creating cherished memories that showcased his love for the sport.

Wes was not only a pillar of support for his family but also a loving husband, whose devotion was deeply felt by all who knew him. Though not particularly patient, he possessed remarkable tolerance, embracing life's challenges with resilience and grace. His legacy endures in the hearts of all he touched, inspiring us to embrace life with the same spirited tenacity he exemplified, blending determination with passion—much like a fisherman stringing on the stories of our lives together to ensure we make the biggest catch.

GO BIG RED!

Cemetery Details

Fridhem Lutheran Cemetery

Hordville, NE

Previous Events

Graveside

APR 25.

Fridhem Lutheran Cemetery
Hordville, NE

Tribute Wall

RS

“ Rhonda Smith lit a candle in memory of Wesley Peterson



Rhonda Smith - November 26, 2025 at 01:14 PM

RS

“ So sorry for the loss of Wes. Our families go way back especially with Leslie and Kara being best friends for years and still now. Many memories on Avenue G. I cherish them all. Wes was one of a kind and will be greatly missed. My thoughts and prayers are with you all. With much Love and Sympathy. ❤️❤️

Rhonda Smith - November 26, 2025 at 01:14 PM

KA

Rhonda, thank you for thinking of us. We have such wonderful memories to hold in our hearts and cherish. It was wonderful to sit and visit with you. Hugs to you!
Love, Kara and Krista

Kara - December 04, 2025 at 11:17 AM

CW

“ Wes and Andy were good friends. They both worked at Eaton Corp. In Kearney. When we moved to Franklin after retirement, Wes moved to a beautiful country acreage close by. The two of them did a lot of fishing together and golfing. There are good memories of times together. My sincere sympathy to Kara and the family.

Connie Wilson - November 25, 2025 at 09:10 AM