

Red Oak Grove Reporter

Issue No. 37

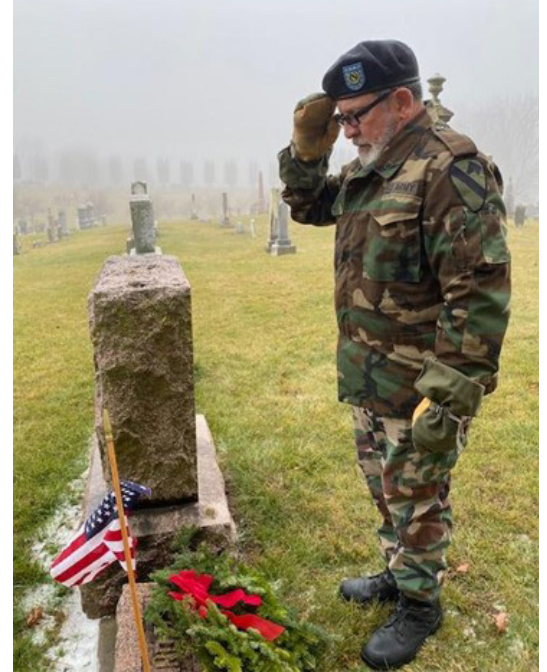
Red Oak Grove Church and Cemetery

Fall 2025

Wreaths Across America is on December 13, 2025

Red Oak Grove Church and Cemetery is proud to offer the 11th Wreaths Across America Service on December 13th at 11:30 am. This remembrance service is an extension of the national ceremony which takes place in Arlington National Cemetery on the second or third Saturday each December. We will start our celebration to honor Veterans indoors at Red Oak Grove Church. An Iowa Veteran will personally speak about firsthand experiences while serving in the US Military. The branches of the military will be honored with wreaths and military flags of their branches as they are displayed at the front of the church.

Names of all Veterans buried or commemorated at Red Oak Grove Cemetery will also be honored by having their names read aloud individually. The service will then move outdoors so that family and friends can place a live, Balsam fir wreath with a bright red bow on each Veterans' grave. Roy Morris (US Army) shown in the photo was saluting and thanking a local veteran during the 2024 Wreaths Across America gathering. The morning will end with cookies, cocoa, and conversation in the church basement. This is a wonderful way to remember and pay homage to Cedar County veterans this holiday season.



Activities Were Plentiful at Red Oak Grove in 2025

Spring began with a busy and productive cleanup day to kick off 2025. We truly thank all who donated their time and energy to make everything shine! Photos below show Scott and Diane Schroeder cleaning headstones and Sue Schroeder dusting in the church on April 19th. Over 25 volunteers worked hard and were ready for a hearty lunch together afterwards.

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Activities continued...



May 18th was a beautiful day for the Annual Celebration and Reunion. Once again, Bob Rickard (standing) welcomed all and Pastor Ron Lashmit (behind Bob) did the Call to Worship, prayers and benediction. Jeff Kaufmann (sitting on the left) gave the message, “Red Oak Grove Inspiration.” Lovely music was provided by the Kofmehl family. Bob, Ron, and Jeff have done this service since the inception of the Celebration Reunion in 2006. Their loyalty and dedication to Red Oak Grove Church and Cemetery is admirable. The annual meeting and a tasty potluck followed. Potluck servers were Carolyn Herring, Barb Rickard, Klaudia Hall, Sherry Hall (in the front row), and Kelly Lamb and Brenda Emick-Herring (in the back row).



A huge walnut tree blew over behind the church in early August. Mike and Brenda Herring and friends cut up the tree and removed debris over three hot days. Red Oak Grove was on the 100 Year Tipton High School Celebration tour schedule in August also. Over 40 people from various states viewed the updates that have taken place over the years. Interestingly, Joyce (Kimberling) Kuhnle, Marengo, IA was upstairs in the sanctuary and read signatures in the guest book. She was astonished to see the flower girl from her wedding, who lives in AZ and whom she had not seen in YEARS was there too. They just missed seeing one another at the Church but caught up at the school reunion banquet.



A true highlight of the year was the Pie and Ice Cream Social the first Sunday in October. The fundraising event was well attended and everyone raved about the tasty pies. Board member Daisy Wingert and her ‘worker bees’ cut and served pie all afternoon amongst the hungry crowd as they chatted away. Dwight Hughes and Kelly Lamb gave guests rides in their bright green wagon pulled by their beautiful Percheron horses Mike and Mark. The new elevator was greatly appreciated and put to good use. What a fun way to welcome fall!



In Memoriam: Red Oak Grove Cemetery

Ronald “Ron” Moreland, 88 passed away on September 21, 2025. He was born on June 14, 1937 in Olin, IA. A joint visitation for Ron and his wife Sandra (Reynolds) Moreland was held on October 2, 2025, at Stewart Baxter Funeral & Memorial Services in Mount Vernon. Their interment service was on October 8, 2025. They are survived by their son Tony (Karla) Moreland, three grandchildren, and one great-grandson. His sister, Nancy Marlette, nephew, Jeff Hollingsworth, and niece Sheila (Todd) Rouse also survive him.

Kevin Lee Klotz known as “Burno”, 69 of Rochelle, IL died on November 6, 2025. He was born on January 11, 1956 in Sandwich, IL. He married Esther Lucille Johnson in 1998 in Tipton, IA. Survivors include his wife, Esther Klotz, two brothers, Sid (Sue) and Roger (Shirley) Klotz, a sister Kristine (Dave Eng) McDonald, two sisters-in-law, several nieces, nephews and cousins. Bruno’s funeral service was Wednesday, November 12, 2025, at Unger Horner Funeral Home in Rochelle, Il, and his burial service was at Red Oak Grove Cemetery on November 12th.

Virginia Ann (Logan) Edens, 86, Tipton, died on November 14, 2025. Virginia was born in Clinton, IA on December 21, 1938. Her visitation and funeral service were at Fry Funeral Home in Tipton on November 23, 2025, and the interment followed at Red Oak Grove Cemetery. Survivors include husband, Dale Edens, daughter Myrna Frink, sons Roger and Brett Edens, and seven grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren.

Monetary Donors: Oct.21, 2024 through Oct. 20, 2025

Many thanks to all the donors who help keep Red Oak Grove a beautiful and extremely well-preserved place. Without your generosity, we could not do it, and you are appreciated! If you sent a gift and your name is not on the list, your gift must have arrived after this issue of *The Reporter* went to print in late November. Your name will appear on the 2026 list of monetary donors.

Steve & Mary Agne, Tipton

JoAnn Pearson Ahrendsen, Mechanicsville

Connie Albaugh, Cedar Rapids

In memory of Donald Albaugh

Angela Alsup, Austin TX

In honor of Hugh R Ferguson (Buddy) Alsup

In memory of Beverly Ferguson Stimson

Scott & Karen Anderson, Tipton

In memory of James R. Fulwider

Ric & Barb Aquilani, Clinton

In memory of Franklin Gault

John & Dianne Austad, Marion

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In memory of David Becker

Merlyn & June Beckler, Tipton

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In memory of Vernon & Mary Beckmann

Mindy Beekman, Tipton

Sue Behrle, Tipton

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Gwenda Booth, Peachtree Corners, GA

In memory of Darlene Penningroth Demaree

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Community Bridge Bank, Mechanicsville

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Diane Chambliss, Tipton

In memory of Ronald Chambliss

James & Mary Clark, Tipton

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Betty Coonrod, Ridgedale, MO

In memory of Edna Ehresman and Walter Nelsen

John Crowley, Tipton

In memory of Harold & Dorothy Harmsen,

Maryann Harmsen and Jack Crowley, Carolyn Crowley

Pat Crowley, Tipton

In memory of Jack Crowley

Lisa Davies, Tipton	John Hegarty, Swisher
Wayne & LaVonne Deerberg, Tipton	<i>In memory of Donald & Frances Hegarty</i>
Diane Densmore, Johnson	William Heick, Williamsburg
<i>In memory of H Lee & Muriel Miller</i>	<i>In memory of Rebecca Heick</i>
Roger & Jany DeWulf, Tipton	Carolyn Herring, Tipton
Duke & Carolyn Dusheck, Anamosa	<i>In memory of Kenneth Herring</i>
<i>In memory of Marshal Dusheck</i>	Robert & Glenda Holets, Tipton
Dennis Dykstra, Tipton	Velma Huebner, Clarence
<i>In memory of Linda Dykstra</i>	<i>In memory of Orval Huebner</i>
Brett Eggert, Tipton	John & Hillary Hughes, Cedar Rapids
<i>In memory of our Veterans</i>	<i>In memory of Dwight & Hazel Hughes</i>
Shirley Ehlers, Tipton	Merlin Hulse, Tipton
Lynn Penningroth Emrich, Marion	Mark & Susan Johnson, Tipton
<i>In memory of William Penningroth</i>	<i>In memory of Virtus Reiling & Chris Troupe</i>
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<i>In memory of W.C. Hall</i>	<i>In memory of Mike Boyle</i>
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<i>In memory of Craig Ruchotzke</i>	<i>In memory of Max Keller</i>
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Herbert & Terry Flory, Stanwood	Cathy Knepper, Kensington, MD
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David Fulwider, Tipton	<i>In memory of Walter Chappell</i>
<i>In memory of Jim & Nora Fulwider</i>	Karl & Cheyanne Kofmehl, Tipton
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<i>In memory of Franklin Gault</i>	Calvin & Kris Kuehl, Tipton
Shirley Geadelmann, Clarence	Bob & Joyce Kuhnle, Williamsburg
<i>In memory of Bill Geadelmann & Ron</i>	Jeff & Tari Laing, Tipton
Jeff & Michele Gipson, Bennett	<i>In memory of Mearl W Laing</i>
<i>In memory of Ed & Jo Dietz</i>	Ronald Laing, Tipton
Dwight & Dianne Glenney, Muscatine	Mark Laing, Stanwood
Mike & Denise Goetz, Tipton	<i>In memory of Bill, Mary, James & Lilly Laing</i>
<i>In memory of Rick Rochau & Leo Carney</i>	Marlo Laing, Riverside
Ann Penningroth Goodman, Clive	<i>In memory of Veterans of Unknown Descendants</i>
Charles Gough, Tipton	Danny & Kathy Laing, Tipton
Dick Hall, Tipton	<i>In memory of John Laing</i>
<i>In memory of Ron Wingert</i>	Rodney & Sharon Laucamp, Tipton
John & Julianne Hall, Clinton	Dennis & Karen Licht, Carmel, IN
<i>In memory of Harold & Dorothy Harmsen</i>	Cal Lilienthal, Solon
Julia Hargrave, Tipton	Cedar Masonic Lodge 11, Tipton
Steve & Beverly Harmsen, Papillion, NE	Molly Lurth, Cedar Rapids
<i>In memory of Harold, Dorothy & Maryann Harmsen</i>	<i>In memory of Bill & Peg Adams</i>
Dennis Harmsen, Iowa City	Ron & Carol Mathias, Davenport
<i>In memory of Harold, Dorothy & Maryann Harmsen</i>	<i>In memory of Cecil, Norma & Randy</i>
Richard & Karen Hass, Cedar Rapids	

Nancy Mathias, Tipton <i>In memory of Randy Mathias</i>	Don Schroeder, Olin <i>In memory of Carol Schroeder and Max & Mary Schroeder</i>
Larry Mathias, Saint Charles, IL <i>In memory of Cecil, Norma, & Randy Mathias</i>	Bill & Deb Schwitzer, Tipton <i>In memory of Ken Herring</i>
Doug & Tamara Meixner, Tipton <i>In memory of Rosalyn Hill and Harry & Anvy Spear</i>	Craig Smith, Stanwood
Wally & Pat Moeller, Tipton <i>In memory of James Stolte</i>	Patty Sorgenfrey, Tipton
Roy Morris, Lisbon	Mack & Mary Staton, Santa Barbara, CA <i>In memory of Arthur Rigby, Grace Tunnickliff Rigby, Alice Rigby</i>
Lora Morrison, Lexington, KY <i>In memory of Betty Shoemaker Harris</i>	John Sternberg, Urbandale <i>In memory of Safley Ancestors</i>
Mark & Kim Nelson, Greenfield <i>In memory of John Tholen</i>	Ken & Nancy Stewart, Tipton <i>In memory of John Tholen & Nelson Meyers</i>
Open Prairie NSDAR Chapter, Tipton <i>In memory of all brave Veterans who served with honor</i>	Sharon Stiff, Tipton <i>In memory of Don Stiff</i>
Donna Oldorf, Cedar Rapids <i>In memory of David Becker</i>	Mark & Karen Stueland, Tipton <i>In memory of Paul Stueland & Cletus Steffen</i>
Susan Olseen, Tipton <i>In memory of Gordon D. Olseen</i>	Ron & Bonnie Stutzel, Tipton
Don Parker, Cedar Rapids <i>In memory of Patricia A Parker</i>	Frank & Lorraine Tauber, Iowa City
Mark Penningroth, Iowa City	Karen Taylor, Springville
Camille Penningroth, Nipomo, CA <i>In memory of my beloved husband Kent</i>	Steve & Dawn Thofson, Northwood
Ed & Jane Pini, Mechanicsville	Kathy Tholen, Tipton <i>In memory of John D. Tholen</i>
Correy & Kellie Rahn, Mt Carroll, IL <i>In memory of John Tholen</i>	Michael & Carol Thomann, Clarence <i>In memory of Don & Mary Challis and Linda Eliason</i>
Bob & Barb Rickard, Tipton <i>In memory of Betty Rickard</i>	Margaret Thomson, West Des Moines <i>In memory of Richard & Anne Thomson</i>
Sharon Rife, Simi Valley, CA <i>In memory of Marvin Rife</i>	Joanne Thomson, Newhall
Caryn Ringoen, Albert Lea MN <i>In memory of the Yule Family</i>	Bev Tripp, Tipton <i>In memory of J. David Tripp</i>
Kirk & Babetta Ruchotzke, Overland Park, KS <i>In memory of Clarence & Dora Tenley</i>	Jack & Janice Troop, Green Valley , AZ
Tana Sabourin West Branch	Doug & Wendy Vincent, Tiffin <i>In memory of Paul & Clarice Buchmayer</i>
Sherry Schmidt, Clarence	Keith Whitlatch, Stanwood
Roger & Gloria Schmidt, Clarence	Daisy Wingert, Tipton <i>In memory of Ron Wingert</i>
Pam Schmidt, Norway <i>In memory of Clarence Koontz</i>	Jessica Wiskus, Lisbon
Jim & Deborah Schneider, Cedar Rapids <i>In memory of John Schneider</i> <i>In honor of Richard Smith</i>	Roger & Tina Woode, Lake Mary, FL <i>In memory of Mearl & Marvel Woode and Marv Woode</i>
Rusty & Jody Schroeder, Mechanicsville <i>In memory of Paul & Ruth Campbell</i>	Richard Woods, Mechanicsville
Scott & Diane Schroeder, Mechanicsville	Garry Worby, Solon
Perry & Julie Schroeder, Bennett	Juliet Wurr, Long Beach, CA <i>In honor of Anne Wurr</i>
	Ann Wurr, Petaluma, CA <i>In memory of Alice Rigby</i>

In-kind Volunteers, Dec. 2024 through Dec. 2025

The following individuals gave Red Oak Grove their work, time, effort, knowledge, and expertise, loan or gifts of supplies or equipment, and enthusiasm. A hearty thanks to all!

Katie Abel	Reece and Klaudia Hall	Leila Kofmehl	Schroeder
John Barnum	Race Hall	Kris Kuehl	Sue Schroeder
Sue Behrle	Jim Hansen	Kayla Kuehl	Nancy Stewart
Denny & Marilyn Carney	Kelli Haught	Kelly Lamb	Eric Storjohann
Bob Crawford	Brian and Mary Jo Heil	Ron Lashmit	Mark Thumma
Family Foods	Mike and Brenda Herring	Kevin Lurth	Boy Scout Troop 76
Scott Fridely	Carolyn Herring	Andy and Bridgett Owen	Rich Urban
American Legion Honor	Dwight Hughes	Mark Penningroth	Wendy Vincent
Guard 123	Jeff Kaufmann	Shelly Quinn	Kayla Wagner
VFW Honor Guard 2537	Debbie Kinney	Bob and Barb Rickard	Wanda Whitmer
Sherry Hall	Cheyenne, Karl, and	Scott, Diane and Noah	Daisy Wingert

Pass the Word That Red Oak is a Lovely Venue for Weddings

There is already one wedding booked in the church in August 2026. The pretty grounds, numerous photography op sites, vintage sanctuary, balcony and new bridesmaid/groomsmen changing rooms create a unique country site for weddings. The church is now air conditioned, has an elevator and will have new carpet in the sanctuary soon. To book a wedding, please contact board member Mike Herring at 563-357-2668 by phone or woodland@netins.net by email.



Mark Your Calendars for These Upcoming Events

- **Wreaths Across America – Saturday, December 13, 2025, at 11:30 am**
(cookies/coffee/cocoa afterwards)
- **Spring Clean Up – Saturday, April 18, 2026, at 9 am**
(email Bob's address below to help, all hands welcome so bring a friend if you wish)
- **Annual Celebration/Reunion/Potluck and the 135th ROGcem's annual meeting**
Sunday, May 17, 2026, at 11 am
- **Pie and Ice Cream Social – Sunday, October 4, 2026, at 1 pm**
- **Wreaths Across America – Saturday, December 19, 2026, at 11:30 am**

For information about purchase of plots, church rental, the wedding venue, or other matters pertaining to the church or cemetery, contact Bob Rickard, Red Oak Grove Cemetery Association President

Phone: (563) 886-6018

E-mail: bbrickiowa@gmail.com

Mail: P.O. Box 452, Tipton, IA 52772

Our web site is: **www.redoakgrovecc.com** • Find us on Facebook: **redoakgrovechurchandcemetery**

Please consider making a lasting legacy to Red Oak Grove Cemetery Association, Inc. by asking your attorney to include, in your will, a final gift to the Red Oak Grove Association.