



Richard M. Hanson

June 11, 2022

Richard M. Hanson, 79, beloved Husband, Father, Grandfather, Brother, and Uncle passed away peacefully from this earth and entered into eternity with Jesus, June 11, 2022 in Fort Collins Colorado. Whether with his family, church, work colleagues, or students, his life was an overflow of delight in his deep God-given hope in Jesus, as evidenced by an outpouring of love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control, up to and through his final days. An amazing servant-leader, he consistently did nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility counted others more significant than himself, looking not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others.

Rich was born in 1942 to Obed and Myrtle Hanson in Story County, Iowa. He graduated from Roland Story High School in 1960, and Buena Vista College, Storm Lake Iowa, in 1964. He graduated with his master's degree from Drake University, Des Moines, Iowa. Rich married Juanita in 1965. He taught high school social studies, coached high school boys' basketball, and girls' softball, in Everly Iowa. Hansons moved to Guthrie Center Iowa in 1967, where he taught junior high, high school, and held the position of junior high principal. He was also the head girls' basketball coach with four state tournament appearances. Additionally, he coached the high school girls' softball team with a state-tournament appearance. Rich and Juanita become parents of two children, Doug and Debbie. In 1978 Rich and Juanita moved to Cambridge,

Iowa, where he was the elementary principal in the Ballard School District. In 1984, they moved to Clear Lake, Iowa, where they lived for 19 years. During this time, Rich served as the principal at Central Intermediate School. He played an integral role in opening Clear Creek Elementary, where he was the principal. Rich enjoyed officiating high school basketball, baseball, and softball games, including multiple state tournaments. He was inducted into the Iowa Girls State Athletic Union Umpire Hall of Fame. Following retirement in 2003, the Hansons moved to Fort Collins, Colorado. Rich worked part-time at Albertson's, bringing an exceptional work ethic and joy to every customer and team member interaction. He had a lifelong love for The Far Side, American Flyer Trains, and the L.A. Dodgers. He was an incredibly supportive husband to Juanita, and a loving and caring Father to Doug and Debbie. He was a wonderful Godly father to Margo and Hayden as well. His grandchildren enjoyed many hours playing on the floor with him and listening to him read with wonderful expression for hours on end. A big fan of sports, one of Rich's all time favorite coaches was John Wooden, who said, "Be more concerned with your character than your reputation, because your character is what you really are, while your reputation is what others think you are." Rich's beautiful character in Jesus Christ was revealed throughout his life, even in the face of a debilitating disease. We are grateful to God for the joy of knowing and loving him.

Rich was preceded in death by his father Obed Hanson, his mother Myrtle Hanson, and is survived by his wife Juanita Hanson of Fort Collins, Colorado, children Doug (Margo) Hanson of Lino Lakes, Minnesota, and Debbie (Hayden) Camp of Fort Collins, Colorado, and his sister Jan (Norm) Luiken of Huxley, Iowa, along with grandchildren Grace Hanson (Belo Horizonte, Brazil) and fiancé Pedro Siqueira, Grant and Denise Hanson (Eden Prairie, MN), Garrett Hanson (Lino Lakes, MN) and fiancé Kayla Wentland, Hannah Hanson (Lino Lakes, MN), Carolynne and Alex Telford (Hopkins, MN), Elizabeth and Katherine Camp (Fort Collins, CO).

There will be a Celebration of Life on Thursday, June 16, 2022, at 1:00 p.m., at Faith Church, 3920 South Shields Street, Fort Collins, Colorado. The service will be recorded and a link to watch will be uploaded after. Please check back to view.

Previous Events

Celebration of Life

JUN **16**. 1:00 PM (MT)

Faith Church
3920 S Shields Street
Fort Collins, CO 80526

Tribute Wall



“ *Goes Funeral Care & Crematory created a Tribute Video in memory of Richard M. Hanson*



Goes Funeral Care & Crematory - June 17, 2022 at 03:07 PM



“ *Richard M. Hanson*

October 25, 2022 at 06:14 PM

CC

“ I am saddened by Mr. Hanson’s passing. I had so much respect for him and the influence he has had on my life that I can’t bring myself to call him anything but Mr. Hanson. I think of him often and just a few weeks ago my sister and I talked about him. He was a great coach and a teacher of life. Two things stand out for me as a basketball and softball player that he said... the Lord’s Prayer before every game...and the words “dig deep!”. He knew we had more to give even when we thought otherwise. He made me a better person by expecting the very best and then a little more. He handled frustration with grace and stern patience. As a coach he was a critical and stable influence and for that I am forever grateful. He truly was a shelter in the storm. The many hours he put in to his teams were not in vain, for I doubt I’m the only player he profoundly influenced. Thank you Juanita and Debbie and Doug, for supporting your husband and Dad in his coaching career. It wasn’t all about winning, although he helped us believe we could, it was more about the kind of person we were becoming. I have been married 36 years to a coach and so I speak from experience. I wrote him a letter many years ago to thank him for everything he did to help me. Many years after that we spoke on the phone, catching up on you all. He was so proud of his family. Some years later he called me to tell me he was going to retire and move to CO. That was the last time I spoke to him. He was positive and always encouraging. I have thought about him many times and often refer to him and his plays and coach”isms” when talking to my husband. I’ll never forget my experience as a player and his friend. My heart aches for all of you. Thank you again Juanita, Debbie and Doug for sharing your husband and Dad with the Guthrie Center Tigerettes! I’m sending prayers for your comfort. ❤️💔

Cindy Dickey Chidester - June 22, 2022 at 07:13 PM

DE

Thanks to something he said in Sunday to the class I live a great life ! He cared about me even though he had to suspend me from junior high for a few days ! I've never forgotten his words in Sunday school and am saddened by just finding out about his passing! My name is Derry Hick and I was born and raised in Guthrie County

Derry - February 25, 2023 at 08:53 PM

LR

“ *Mrs. Hanson I am so sorry to hear this. What a wonderful man! My thoughts and prayers are with you and your family. Leslie Rauk Clear Lake*

Leslie Rauk - June 20, 2022 at 05:50 PM

KB

“ *Juanita, Doug & Debbie, my heart is saddened to hear this news about Mr. Hanson. I completely agree with, Vanessa. He was truly one of my favorite teachers and coaches in junior high and high school. He was so respected by all of us and truly felt like he treated his basketball and softball players like his own! I so appreciated his love for his Lord, his family, and his profession! I can still hear him encouraging us and reminding us to always play with "reckless abandon" whenever we stepped onto the court or field! May God grant you all peace and comfort in the days ahead.*

Karen Benton - June 20, 2022 at 12:37 PM

VB

“ Can't put into words what Rich meant to Guthrie Center Basketball and Softball gals. He was the best. Some of us are celebrating our 50 year class reunion and have been reminiscing about our State Tournament basketball and softball games. Rich never raised his voice, only offered encouragement and good advice. Friendships made during those years have lasted a lifetime. My grandmother Minnie Cannon babysat for Doug and Debbie, so Juanita could come to the basketball games. I have so much respect for Coach Hansen and Juanita.



Vanessa Branson - June 18, 2022 at 11:17 PM

EK

“ Eric Kacer sent a virtual gift in memory of Richard M. Hanson



Eric Kacer - June 17, 2022 at 10:27 PM

AB

“ Mr. Hansen was my principal at Central. He always would bring a smile to my face if I was feeling down or having a bad day!!

April Denise Barnett - June 17, 2022 at 02:41 PM

SG

“ Mr Hanson was my principal at Central School. He always had a smile on his face & you knew he really cared about the kids. Such a kind person. Debbie, I'm thinking of you & your family.
Your classmate, Sheila (Barlow) Groeneweg

Sheila Groeneweg - June 17, 2022 at 12:11 PM

TK

“ Juanita and family...Praying for you all. Thirty-six years ago this upcoming fall, Mr. Hanson took a chance on hiring a brand new teacher fresh out of college. Little did I know what an incredible influence he would play in my life, and the lives of so many others, for years to come. Rich's door was always open. His patience, guidance, strength, and compassion was evident in everything he did. What a true servant leader. Words can't adequately express the gratefulness so many of Rich's teachers, students, and families feel for having Mr. Hanson in their lives. Heaven received a great man. We are lucky to have walked along side of him. In Christ, Miss Regel/Mrs. Kacer

Tammy Kacer - June 16, 2022 at 03:39 PM

SB

“ Mr. Hanson was a true blessing when it came to having a principal!!! He knew how to have fun and knew when we needed to be serious. Later in life I was blessed to be able to work and learn from some of the staff he hired. I am so beyond thankful for the guidance he gave me as a student, and them as teachers so they could later guide me. He will be missed by all who were blessed to know him. To his family, I pray the memories bring you comfort until you are all together again

Stefanie (Ball) Black,
CL Class of '96

Stefanie Black - June 15, 2022 at 07:37 PM

EL

“ Juanita, your Husband and Debbie and Doug’s dad will be missed. Mostly his precious calming smile and gentle ways. I am so very thankful

I was able to share a very special moment with him on Carolynne’s wedding day! What a memorable day. His memories will be cherished forever! Love you guys and your families. Hugs, hugs and more hugs, Elisabeth

elisabeth - June 15, 2022 at 11:30 AM

DL

“ Rich was a man of principle in every aspect of his life. He never deviated from his path. He truly lived a life of faith and great character. What a Husband, what a Dad, what a person!! He will have a fast pass through the pearly gates. My sympathies to Juanita, Doug, and Deb. God Bless. Dan Lawler

Dan Lawler - June 14, 2022 at 08:58 PM

DS

“ Dear Juanita and family, We were saddened to hear of the passing of Rich! What a beloved friend he was to Dave! Such a great person who was so caring as a principal... to kids, staff, and the families. We will continue to keep all of you in our prayers! Loving hugs coming your way!

Sincerely, Dave and Polly Suntken

Dave and Polly Suntken - June 14, 2022 at 01:43 PM

CY

“ Hayden & Debbie,
So sorry for the loss of your father. He was such a kind and gentle man. We loved watching him with your daughters. What an amazing grandpa!
Sending lots of love and prayers to you and your family.

Randy & Carol Yaussi

Carol Yaussi - June 14, 2022 at 01:35 PM



“ The day the 1991 ice storm started I had one daughter who had just had surgery & one who got sick at school. Mr. Hanson brought her home himself. Truly a servant's heart who loved kids! God comfort his family as they grieve.

Michelle LaRue - June 14, 2022 at 11:01 AM

BC

“ My mom was food service director at clear lake for many years .
Lucille Sears. She always talked highly of Mr Hanson . Very caring and helpful. So sorry for your loss.

Bev Currier - June 14, 2022 at 10:29 AM