



## Philip K. Lack

October 12, 1937 - November 23, 2021

Philip Keith Lack of Orchard, Iowa, died November 23, 2021, at Mercy One in Mason City, Iowa. Services will be held Wednesday, December 1, 2021, at the First Congregational Church in Orchard at 11:00 am. Visitation will precede the service at 10:00. Masks are recommended. Officiating will be Pastor Jan Tjaden and Rev. Bill Griffee. Burial will be in the Orchard Cemetery.

Philip was born in Osage, Iowa, October 12, 1937, to Julian and Doris (Morse) Lack. He was baptized at the First Congregational Church of Orchard, his church for 84 years. His elementary education was in Orchard, and he graduated from Orchard High School in 1956. He continued his higher education at Wartburg College, continuing at what was Iowa State Teachers College, then State College of Iowa for his BA and MA degrees and now known as UNI. His education continued in more advanced studies at the University of Iowa. He taught English and writing for some 30 years, starting in St. Ansgar, then, Riceville, North Iowa Area Community College in Mason City, and finishing his teaching career at Iowa Central College in Fort Dodge. He was a 50 year member of the Osage Masonic Lodge 102 A.F & A.M.

Philip is survived by his aunt, Marilyn Lack Larson of Ankeny, Iowa; his niece, Deborah Benson of Long Beach, California; his niece, Denise (James) Lynch of Lomita, California and children, Mike Lynch and family and Megan (Austin) Wesevich and daughter, Isabel. His grandnephew, Michael (Bridget) Huss and

children, Javier, Rowan, and Soleil of Pawcatuck, Connecticut.

Surviving Lack cousins are Robert (Jackie) Lack, Judy (Dale) Schimpf, James (Helen) Lack, John (Ruth) Tresemer, Richard (Cindy) Lack, Alan (Nancy) Larson, Gene (Sandra) Larson, and Margaret Lack (Stewart) Levine and Helen (Virgil) Counsell.

Surviving Morse cousins are Trudel Morse, Doreen (Robert) Shepherd, Terry (Gloria) Morse, Michael (Carolyn) Morse, Rebecca Morse, Sarah Morse, Craig (Catherine) Morse, Jeffrey (Maryann) Morse, Cindy Ackerman, and John (Amy) Tharp.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Julian and Doris; his sister, Nedra; his Morse cousins, Gwendolyn Morse, Derald Morse, Ann Johnson, and Stanley Morse; his Lack cousins, Craig Lack and Gary Lack.

Philip loved his community of Orchard, and his death is a loss to the whole community, a vacancy that cannot be filled. One of his greatest joys was being clerk and sexton of the church, singing in the choir and teaching Sunday School. He was always teaching.

In his leisure time he enjoyed reading, watching television, and talking to his friends on the phone. He loved to engage in conversation. He was interested in what was going on in the world.

He once said that his obituary could be one word. "Vixit!" "He Lived!"

Fullerton Funeral Home, 123 2nd ST SE, Mason City, Iowa 50401 641-423-8676 [www. Fullertonfh.com](http://www.Fullertonfh.com) [Facebook/Fullertonfuneralhomes](https://www.facebook.com/Fullertonfuneralhomes)

# Cemetery Details

## Orchard Cemetery

Orchard, IA 50460

# Previous Events

## Visitation

DEC 1. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

First Congregational Church  
2421 320th ST  
Orchard, IA 50460

## Funeral Service

DEC 1. 11:00 AM (CT)

First Congregational Church  
2421 320th ST  
Orchard, IA 50460

# Tribute Wall



“ *Cyndymccomas66@gmail.com lit a candle in memory of Philip K. Lack*



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**cyndymccomas66@gmail.com** - April 03, 2025 at 08:41 PM



“ *Philip K. Lack*

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January 28, 2023 at 12:08 PM



“ *Florist Choice Bouquet was purchased for the family of Philip K. Lack.*



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November 30, 2021 at 02:06 PM



“ *I had Mr. Lack for English at Iowa Central Community College during the 1971-72 school year. I had never done particularly well in English class in earlier years, but for some reason he sparked a desire that made me want to succeed. I have often wondered where his journey led him. My deepest sympathies to his family and friends.*

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**AI Cloud** - November 30, 2021 at 11:55 AM

RM

“ Philip was a soulful man looking after his community. He always thanked me for doing little items around Orchard. He kept the Orchard post office open and running to this day. He took great pride in the Orchard church. The building always looked so nice with the help of Jim Kramer. Blessings, good friend.

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**Ron Muhlenbruck** - November 30, 2021 at 11:50 AM

JL

“ I am Phils cousin, Jim Lack. The world has lost a good and caring man. Philip and I grew up 1/2 mile from each other on farms near Orchard and spent time together along with Nedra, Phils older sister. I was the tag along youngster. I loved them both and will miss Phil, as He transfers to his eternal Resting place.

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**james lack** - November 29, 2021 at 11:40 AM

SF

“ Some of your many Iowa Central friends. purchased the Basket of Memories for the family of Philip K. Lack.



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**Some of your many Iowa Central friends.** - November 29, 2021 at 07:54 AM

LW

“ Philip played a very meaningful role in my adolescence. My first job, at age 13, was cleaning the Orchard church. He believed that I could do work that I didn't even know I could. He had me repair concrete, clean the eaves and plant bulbs at his family home. He saw potential in me, that was essential as a youth trying to build confidence. I am forever grateful for Philip and all that he taught me.

*My condolences to his family and friends,*

*Lora (Halbach) Williams*

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**Lora Williams** - November 28, 2021 at 08:52 PM



“ Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Philip K. Lack.



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November 28, 2021 at 05:36 PM

RN

“ We have lost a fine teacher and a dear friend. I have had the good fortune of teaching with Phil most of my thirty plus career. He has blessed many of us, not only friends and relatives in Orchard but also fellow teachers and students.

*Roger Natte*

*I am so sad about the loss of an Iowa Central legend. Phil was one of my favorite teachers ever; not only a great teacher but a really good person. I was doubly blessed by being able to work with him as a fellow teacher.*

*Mindy Natte Hadjis*

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**Roger Natte** - November 28, 2021 at 05:26 PM

IF

“ *Iowa Central Retired Staff and Friends purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Philip K. Lack.*



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**Iowa Central Retired Staff and Friends** - November 28, 2021 at 05:01 PM

PJ

“ *Dear Judy and Dale and Karl; We were so saddened by the news of Philip's passing. I know you will miss your best friend and cousin. Philip was so very kind and good to give us a wonderful tour of the church and all the history when we visited one Thanksgiving and we'll never forget him. Be blessed.*

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**Pam and Bob Johnston** - November 26, 2021 at 07:12 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Philip K. Lack.*



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November 26, 2021 at 07:07 PM

LM

“ My sincere sympathy to Phil's family at this sad time. I taught with Phil for many years at Iowa Central Community College in Fort Dodge. I have fond memories of our friendship. In her book, *Healing After Loss*, Martha Whitmore Hickman said, "In the weeks, months and years ahead you may find qualities and action in your own lives that surprise you until you smile and think, 'I wonder. Yes, maybe that's part of Phil living in me.'" I share in your sadness at this time.

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**Linda Moen Muth** - November 26, 2021 at 08:12 AM