



Richard Bratz

OCT 16, 1940 - NOV 24, 2018



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Richard Bratz

OCT 16, 1940 - NOV 24, 2018

Richard William Bratz, 78 of Centerville passed away Saturday, November 24, 2018 at Mercy Medical Center in Centerville while surrounded by family. Richard was born on October 16, 1940 in Centerville to Herman & Kathryn (Crist) Bratz. He received his education from Centerville High School graduating in 1958. On August 28, 1959 Richard was united in marriage to Lanna Forsythe at the Methodist Church in Mystic. To this union came four children: Mark, Mike, Todd and Michele. Richard began his working career at Thayne Bryant's Skelly Station, while working there, he also drove an Anderson Erickson delivery truck. In 1974 Richard purchased Mr. Bryant's Skelly station and operated there until Richard founded Bratz Skelly at the present location on Labor Day weekend in 1978. This station later transitioned to Getty, Texaco, and is now Bratz Shell. Richard worked daily at the station, surrounded by his family. He was a provider for his family and a staple of the community. Richard was a Mason and a member of Jackson Lodge #42 in Centerville. He was also a Kaaba Shriner. Richard enjoyed being a member of the Elks Club until its closing. Richard was an animal lover, he especially loved watching his birds at home and playing with Milo, his dog, and his grand-dogs Penelope and Watson. When summer arrived, Richard always grew a large garden and canned vegetables. Sunday's were spent at home with friends and family, often times with a little "garage therapy". He loved having friends and family out in his garage for relaxing conversation and NASCAR. Richard was best known for the two things dear to him in his life, working hard at his business and his family. He cherished the moments spent with his grandchildren. Survivors include his wife of 59 years, Lanna Bratz, four children; Mark Bratz (Marcia), Mike Bratz (Carrie), Todd Bratz (Anna), Michele Busch (Rob), grandchildren: Jenni Bratz-Kurzer (Jason), Brandon Bratz (Lynsey Winkel), Maddison Bratz-Stubblefield (Andrew), Tucker Bratz (Kaylee Stansberry) Johnny Wright, Brooke Bratz, R.T. Bratz, Courtney Campbell (Jeremy),



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Payton Busch, Katie Busch (Seth Hoeger), great grandchildren; Leighton Kurzer, Hayden Bratz, Treyton Bratz, Landyn Bratz, Rylee Campbell, brother; Tommy Bratz (Marilee), sister in law, Lona Bratz and numerous extended family. He was preceded in death by his parents, brother, Robert Bratz, grandson, Jonathon Bratz and by his wife's parents, Leighton & Flora Forsythe. Funeral service will be 2:00 pm, Wednesday, November 28, 2018 at Thomas Funeral Home with Rev. Brian Hargrave officiating. Interment will immediately follow at Oakland Cemetery. There will be a dinner following the service at The Majestic Theatre Ballroom. Visitation will be Tuesday, November 27, 2018 at Thomas Funeral Home with the family present from 5-8:00 pm. Memorials may be given to the Shriners Hospital for Children or FurEver Friends and condolences may be shared at www.thomasfh.com or facebook.com/thomasfuneralhome. To send flowers or a memorial gift to the family of Richard Bratz please visit our Sympathy Store. Cemetery Details Oakland Cemetery E. State St. & N. 21st St. Centerville, IA 52544 Visitation NOV 27. 5:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CST) Thomas Funeral Home - Centerville 501 North 18th StreetCenterville, IA 52544[(#)] Funeral Service NOV 28. 2:00 PM (CST) Thomas Funeral Home - Centerville 501 North 18th StreetCenterville, IA 52544[(#)]



Tribute Wall

Richard Bratz

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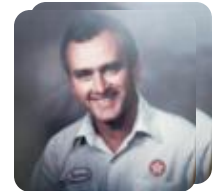


Thomas Funeral Home posted:

October 21 at 1:29 PM



Thomas Funeral Home shared an album called **Obituary Wall**.



October 13 at 1:25 PM



Rahil Merchant Toronto Canada posted:

REALLY VERY SAD AND HEART BROKEN TO READ THIS NEWS ABOUT DEAR RICHARD 5 YEARS TOO LATER.I.P AND SAY HELLO TO MY PARENTS AND SISTER, WILL ALWAYS REMEMBER YOU AND YOUR KINDNESS, REMEMBERING LAANA AMD THE KIDS TOO

January 5 at 7:00 PM



Rick Keilig Jr. posted:

Bless the family of this incredible business owner who started from nothing and built a fantastic business. He was a mentor to many and gave his best to serve his customers. He was great to talk to. Rick and Carol Keilig

February 8 at 7:00 PM



Father - Large Memorial Stone posted:

Father - Large Memorial Stone was purchased for the family of Richard Bratz.

November 27 at 7:00 PM



Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum posted:

Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Richard Bratz.

November 27 at 7:00 PM



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RH

Rhonda posted:

Rhonda sent a virtual gift in memory of Richard Bratz

November 27 at 7:00 PM

JH

Jane Fox Hanneman posted:

I have known Richard& Lanna for along time. They will be missed by so many people. Thoughts and prayers gor the family. I would love to be at the funeral, but I'm back in OK. Jane Fox Hannemanpensivepray

November 26 at 7:00 PM

DR

Dianne Ranes posted:

We will miss Richard at the station. He was always polite and provided us with such reliable service. Our family extends our deepest sympathy to Lanna, Michele, Todd, Mike, Mark, Tom and their families at this sad time. Please know you are in our thoughts and prayers . May your wonderful memories of Richard guide you to a place of comfort and peace. Frank and Dianne Ranes

November 26 at 7:00 PM

MB

Marilyn Barber posted:

Richard was always so helpful and friendly. If he wasn't helping elsewhere, I would come in for gas and he would come out and visit. So sorry for your loss. May you find comfort in the memories that you have stored in your heart. I'm praying for your comfort and guidance throughout this time of sorrow. Marilyn Barber

November 26 at 7:00 PM

JR

Jackie Mccarthy Parham Richardson posted:

Mark and Todd I was so sorry to hear of your dad's passing. You are all in my thoughts and prayers.

November 26 at 7:00 PM



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BK

Brenda And Marlan Korthaus posted:

Brenda And Marlan Korthaus lit a candle in memory of Richard Bratz

November 26 at 7:00 PM

BK

Brenda And Marlan Korthaus posted:

Sorry for your loss.

November 26 at 7:00 PM

JM

Joyce Mitchell posted:

So sorry to hear.prayers to family and may he R.I.P.

November 26 at 7:00 PM

MD

Margery Davison posted:

Richard was a good man and he is going to be greatly missed. Our condolences to the family.
From the Ewing family Matthew, Margery and Marilyn

November 26 at 7:00 PM

AU

Autumn posted:

Autumn sent a virtual gift in memory of Richard Bratz

November 26 at 7:00 PM

TS

Tony Shriver posted:

Richard was a pleasure to talk to at Bratz's. He was always helping someone. My condolences to his family.

November 26 at 7:00 PM



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CA

Carter posted:

The Lee family sends their deepest condolences for your loss. One of my favorite people in Centerville!

November 25 at 7:00 PM

FC

Frank Christensen posted:

When we lived in Centerville we always went to his store and always we had great service and fair prices. He was a good man and will be missed.

November 25 at 7:00 PM

SZ

Scott Zaputil posted:

I worked for Richard when I was in high school. Some of lessons I learned at the station I still carry with me to this day - hard work, loyalty, integrity, and brutal honesty. You never had to wonder where you stood with him. I can truly say he was one of the more important mentors of my youth, and many others could say the same. The world could use more like him.

November 25 at 7:00 PM

DT

David Taylor posted:

I will never forget the many times he came out to tow me when I would get tuck with my car or tractor. He was a great guy, Dave Taylor

November 25 at 7:00 PM

KK

Kris Koestner posted:

I believe Richard was the hardest working man I ever knew...dedicated to his business and family...his work ethic was phenomenal...he was a one of kind in the Centerville business community ...may he finally rest in peace

November 25 at 7:00 PM

PB

Peaceful White Lilies Basket posted:

Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Richard Bratz.

November 25 at 7:00 PM



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RH

Ron Hamlin posted:

Richard was one of my first and best friends when we were in school. The alley between our houses was always busy with games and bike races.....God bless Lana and all the family as we all will miss him....Ron Hamlin.....(Ron & Jan)

November 25 at 7:00 PM

SA

Suzanne Abbott posted:

Lanna and family, please accept my deepest sympathy at this time of sorrow. I will always remember the good times we had when were were young. I hope Richard and John are renewing old memories in heaven, Suzanne Abbott

November 25 at 7:00 PM

ST

Sara Tait posted:

Lana and family. God will comfort you during this difficult time. Happy and loving memories of Richard will help you through the days ahead. Take Care. Sara Tait

November 25 at 7:00 PM

BH

Brian Harrington posted:

To the Richard Bratz Family, my thoughts and prayers go out to you during this time of the loss.

November 25 at 7:00 PM

PB

Paul Barnes posted:

Working the night shift as a police officer on many cold snowy nights like tonight, I always appreciated how quick Richard responded to the scene, many times more than once during a night. My thoughts and prayers are with the Bratz family.

November 25 at 7:00 PM

SM

Shirley Morlan posted:

Shirley Morlan lit a candle in memory of Richard Bratz

November 25 at 7:00 PM



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TR

Tammy Rick posted:

Tammy Rick lit a candle in memory of Richard Bratz

November 24 at 7:00 PM

AM

Aleta Mckelvy posted:

Aleta Mckelvy lit a candle in memory of Richard Bratz

November 24 at 7:00 PM

RK

Roxan Kuntz posted:

So sorry to hear of Richard's passing. I could always depend on Richard helping with my car issues when I lived in Centerville. He will be missed! My thoughts and prayers are with Lana and his entire family. Roxan Kuntz

November 24 at 7:00 PM

MW

Megan Woodward posted:

So sorry for your loss. My thoughts and prayers are with you all

November 24 at 7:00 PM

MR

Melissa Ragan posted:

Sorry for ur loss.. he was good man..

November 24 at 7:00 PM

DM

Dan Mihalovich, Sr. posted:

We have known Richard since he started his business and before and have done business both personally and business wise. He always conducted business fairly and his family did also. He will be missed by all of us and by the community. We will remember him in our thoughts and prayers. Dan Mihalovich, sr.

November 24 at 7:00 PM



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LM

Lorrie Seddon Mathews posted:

Mike, Michelle, Todd and family, I am so very sorry for your loss. He was a very good and kind man!

November 24 at 7:00 PM

MA

Mike Ashby posted:

so sorry for you loss . i will keep all of you in my thoughts and prays. I will miss Richard , he was a good man.

November 24 at 7:00 PM

DS

Dianne Scott Strickler posted:

So sorry to see this. Many sympathies to all of you in the Bratz family.

November 24 at 7:00 PM

MS

Marianne Simons posted:

Am so very sorry for your loss. Richard was always so helpful and had a ready smile.

November 24 at 7:00 PM

MS

Marianne Simons posted:

Marianne Simons lit a candle in memory of Richard Bratz

November 24 at 7:00 PM

RM

Rita Montegna posted:

I'm sorry for the family's loss. Todd and Mike especially, praying God's comfort and peace. I always liked your dad.

November 24 at 7:00 PM



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PL

Pamela Jo Lageman posted:

Richard was like a second father to me, my brother Greg and my sister Peggy. I don't remember a single weekend or vacation we did not spend together growing up. He will be sadly missed by my entire family. John and Pam Lageman

November 24 at 7:00 PM

JW

Joe N Trish Walker posted:

Joe N Trish Walker lit a candle in memory of Richard Bratz

November 24 at 7:00 PM

JW

Joe N Trish Walker posted:

So sorry for your loss.

November 24 at 7:00 PM

KC

Kelly Starchevich Culver posted:

Our thoughts and prayers are with the family. Richard was always there for you if you needed gas, or a tow. I will always cherish those chats we had. He always asked how my dad was and always joked about getting old. Richard will be missed.

November 24 at 7:00 PM

BB

Billie Buban posted:

So sorry for your loss. We will keep you in our thoughts.

November 24 at 7:00 PM

JW

Justin And Corrie Wray posted:

Thinking of your family during this hard time.

November 24 at 7:00 PM



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JZ

James And Dorothy Zaputil posted:

We are so sorry for your family's loss. Richard was a great asset to our community. His full service station was available to our community 7 days a week. A hard working individual and great role model. Richard will be greatly missed.

November 24 at 7:00 PM

EC

Enchanted Cottage posted:

Enchanted Cottage was purchased for the family of Richard Bratz.

November 24 at 7:00 PM

DL

Dennis And Beverly Sisul Laurson posted:

Appanoose County has lost a member who always would go above and beyond what was expected of him. May your loving memories give you peace.

November 24 at 7:00 PM

WA

Wandajackson posted:

richard was a good guy .an helped people out.he will be really missed,sorry to hear todd.my prayers to you an family

November 24 at 7:00 PM

ES

Elaine Schweizer posted:

Just a few weeks ago needed a jump from across the street Went over to pay and they wouldn't accept anything. Richard did hundreds of acts of kindness we will all miss. Thankful for his great service over the years

November 24 at 7:00 PM

NT

Nellie Thomas posted:

Nellie Thomas sent a virtual gift in memory of Richard Bratz

November 24 at 7:00 PM



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Nellie Thomas posted:

So sorry for your loss. Richard will be greatly missed. Prayers to the family. R.I.P. Richard.

November 24 at 7:00 PM



Media

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Thomas Funeral Home shared 2 photos to the **Obituary Wall** album.

October 13 at 1:25 PM





Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Richard by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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