



## Melvin Reed

December 25, 1928 - October 14, 2019

Melvin Reed, 90, of Cedar died Monday, October 14, 2019, at the MHP Hospice Serenity House in Oskaloosa. He was born December 25, 1928, in Sharon, Pennsylvania, the son of Rev. Russell and Theresa Schaffer Reed. Following his birth, the family lived in several places including, Youngstown, Ohio, St. Petersburg, Lakeland and Tallahassee, Florida. Melvin eventually came to live with his grandparents in Fremont. He graduated from Fremont High School with the class of 1946. Following graduation, he furthered his education at Iowa State University studying agriculture. In July of 1948, Melvin joined the United States Marine Corps. He shipped off to San Diego, California where he completed boot camp. The Marine Corps. allowed Melvin to see the world. He spent time on Kodiak Island, Alaska, and then shipped out to Korea. He was a part of the 5th Div. Marines, his unit was involved in three amphibious landings on the front lines and was attached to the Republic of Korea Army for a short time. Melvin was honorably discharged from the Marine Corps. in 1952, for the remainder of his life he was grateful to the Lord for his safe return home. He returned to the Fremont and Cedar area where he continued farming his family's farm. On September 19, 1954, he was united in marriage to Shirley Ann Cowman at the Fremont Baptist Church in Fremont. The two of them raised their family and farmed that home farm their entire married life. Shirley died on September 19, 2017. Following her death Melvin stayed on the farm and continued to offer guidance to his son Ron. He was looking forward to this year's harvest and just last week was questioning

Ron about the combine being ready to go to the field. He was a member of the Wright Union Church until it was closed. He regularly attended the Fremont Baptist Church. He enjoyed hunting, fishing, mushroom hunting, gardening, and camping. He was a talented handyman and was always willing to help his neighbors with projects. He also enjoyed watching sporting events especially if the Iowa State Cyclones were playing. He delighted in spending time with his family.

His family includes his two children and their spouses, Ron and Becky Reed of Fremont, and Rhonda and David Simms of Oskaloosa; six grandchildren, Brad Simms, Angie Simms, Derrick (Megan) Simms, Jessica (Isaac) Brehmer, Megan (Brian) Powell, and Caitlin (Justin) Oilar; nine great grandchildren, Liam, Clayton, Emersyn, Hadley, Taya, Weston, Nolan, Remington, and Kinsley; a sister in law, Betty Handy of Oskaloosa; and many nieces and nephews.

In addition to his wife Shirley, Melvin was preceded in death by his parents; and a son, Bradley Scott Reed.

Funeral services will be held Friday, October 18, 2019, at 10:00 a.m. in the Fremont Funeral Chapel in Fremont with Reverend Robb Bruns officiating. Burial will be in the Cedar Township (North) Cemetery. Graveside Military Honors will be given by members of the Oskaloosa American Legion and V.F.W. The Fremont Funeral Chapel is in charge of the arrangements. Visitation will begin Thursday after 11:00 a.m. in the Fremont Funeral Chapel and the family will be at the funeral chapel from 5-7 Thursday evening to greet friends and relatives. Memorials may be made to Fremont Baptist Church, Cedar Township Fire and Rescue, or MHP Hospice Serenity House.

# Cemetery Details

## Cedar Township Memorial Cemetery

Fremont, IA 52561

# Previous Events

## Open Visitation

OCT 17. 11:00 AM - 5:00 PM (CT)

Fremont Funeral Chapel  
Walnut and Main Street  
P.O. Box 276  
Fremont, IA 52561  
(641) 673-7366  
[ffc@iowatelecom.net](mailto:ffc@iowatelecom.net)  
<https://www.fremontfuneralchapel.com/>

## Family Visitation

OCT 17. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Fremont Funeral Chapel  
Walnut and Main Street  
P.O. Box 276  
Fremont, IA 52561  
(641) 673-7366  
[ffc@iowatelecom.net](mailto:ffc@iowatelecom.net)  
<https://www.fremontfuneralchapel.com/>

## Funeral Service

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OCT 18. 10:00 AM (CT)

Fremont Funeral Chapel  
Walnut and Main Street  
P.O. Box 276  
Fremont, IA 52561  
(641) 673-7366  
ffc@iowatelecom.net  
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# Tribute Wall

DC

“ Sorry to hear the loss of your loved one He was a true farmer to the heart. Our thoughts and prayers will be everyone now and the days ahead. In Christ Love Gary and Delores Morgan Cundiff of Kirckville la

Delores Morgan Cundiff - October 17, 2019 at 11:17 PM

SA

“ Very fond memories of Melvin and Shirley from my youth at Wright Union Church with their family and my Grandmother Alveta Boggess . Teachings , Fellowship and Friendship that have and will always be with me in my heart. Many Thanks. May God hold Family tight in his Arms at this time. You were/are so Blessed to of had a Matriarch as Melvin. My condolences.

Sandra - October 17, 2019 at 06:09 AM

SA

*Patriarch as Melvin*

Sandra - October 17, 2019 at 03:11 PM

BT

“ Brenda Todd lit a candle in memory of Melvin Reed



Brenda Todd - October 16, 2019 at 11:55 AM