



## Ralph Dykstra

March 7, 1923 - September 23, 2019

Ralph Dykstra, age 96, of St. Anne, passed away Monday, September 23, 2019 at Miller Healthcare Center in Kankakee.

He was born March 7, 1923 in Wichert, the son of Henry & Kate Hoekstra Dykstra.

He married Alice Ahrens on January 23, 1947 in St. Anne.

Ralph retired from Armstrong World Industries after 30 years of service. He was also a Wichert area farmer. He was a member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars & The American Legion.

Ralph enjoyed golfing, reading, gardening, and working outdoors.

He served in the U.S. Army Air Corps in the European Theatre during WWII.

Ralph was a flight engineer and tail gunner, serving 50 missions in a B-24.

He was a member of the First Reformed Church of Wichert, where he served as an elder, a deacon, and a Sunday school teacher.

Surviving are his wife, Alice Dykstra of St. Anne; two sons and two daughters-in-law, Curtis & Connie Dykstra of Kankakee and Larry & Sandra Dykstra of Dallas, TX; one daughter and son-in-law, Janet & Don Logan of Van Horne, Iowa; seven grandchildren, Emily & Josh Hauschild, Paul & Paula Dykstra, Alicia & Todd Rausch, Andrew Dykstra, Jonathan & Amanda Dykstra, Charles & Molly Dykstra, and Evan Dykstra; thirteen great-grandchildren; one sister, Lillian DeBoer of Hudsonville, MI; one brother-in-law, Carl Ahrens of Houston, TX; one sister-in-law, Eunice Dykstra of St. Anne; and several nieces and nephews.

Ralph is preceded in death by his parents; three sisters, Rose, Mildred, and Johanna; and four brothers, Robert, Neil, Harold, and Richard.

Visitation will be held 9:30 a.m. until the 11:00 a.m. funeral service on Friday, September 27, 2019 at the First Reformed Church of Wichert. Rev. Randy Knoll will officiate the ceremony.

Interment will follow at Oakwood Cemetery in Wichert.

Memorials may be made to First Reformed Church of Wichert or Hospice of Kankakee Valley.

# Cemetery Details

## Oakwood Cemetery

7697 E. 4500 S. Rd.  
Wichert  
St. Anne, IL 60964

# Previous Events

## Visitation

SEP 27. 9:30 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

First Reformed Church of Wichert  
St. Anne, IL

## Funeral Service

SEP 27. 11:00 AM (CT)

First Reformed Church of Wichert  
St. Anne, IL

# Tribute Wall

BS

“ Alice, Ralph was such an interesting person. He always had something to say about any subject you would talk about. Love his book. He was a wonderful Christian person with a lot of wit! I will miss him but I know you will miss him even more. He's walking those golden streets today. Love you -- extend my condolences to your children and family. I'm sorry I couldn't make it, but you were in my prayers. Blessings Pastor Bobbi

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**Bobbi shultz** - October 03, 2019 at 01:56 PM

BZ

“ I worked with Ralph for over thirty years at Armstrong. I never tired of hearing of hearing about his Military Service. He was a great guy and will be missed. Our deepest Sympathy to his wife and children..



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**Bob Zirkle** - September 29, 2019 at 12:32 PM

WD

“ *He was the Best Friend and Neighbor anyone could have, we shared so many stories of growing up in Wichert ,*

*He was a living time capsule he knew so much about the community and those that lived there. we are so happy that we got to share all of those stories.*

*Are Hearts are broken at his passing but we also know that he is once again with all those that went before him. Our Love and Sympathy to Alice and the Family .*

*We will always think of Ralph with this poem*



Wayne & Gina DeYoung - September 24, 2019 at 05:41 PM

TE

“ *We were so sad to hear of Ralph's passing. I remember when we brought our son, Noah, over to visit with Ralph and Alice. Noah was interested in joining the Army, and he talked to Ralph about it. Ralph in turn told him stories of his time during the war. Ralph kept Noah's attention for some time. Noah is now a SGT in the US Army National Guard.*



*We love and miss you Ralph. Our prayers are with Alice and the family.*

*Mike and Tina Emerson*

Tina Emerson - September 24, 2019 at 03:16 PM



“ 34 files added to the album *Life Tributes*



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**Clancy-Gernon Funeral Homes** - September 24, 2019 at 02:44 PM