



## Phil Melvin

November 13, 1934 - November 10, 2022

Phillip (Phil) Lee Melvin, 87, lifelong farmer and steward of the land, loving son, idolized older brother, devoted husband, father, and family patriarch died at the Bloomfield Care Center on November 10, 2022 surrounded by family and friends. The cause of death was complications from kidney failure.

Phil was born on November 13, 1934 to James and Ethelyne Melvin and grew up as the eldest of three children on the Melvin family farm near Savannah, Iowa. After graduating from high school he continued the family farming tradition on nearby land that would become part of his own farm abutting the Iowa/Missouri border. In his mid-20s, Phil met a pretty young high school senior named Linda Kerby at the local roller skating rink. She would be the love of his life, and they began their 61-year marriage in the summer of 1959 shortly after Linda graduated from high school.

Phil and Linda made a life together on the farm, raising four children in two different houses, celebrating countless birthdays, holidays and family events, and enduring the hardships of failed crop years, a local bank failure and Phil's near-death mowing accident on the farm that took his right eye. Through these years, Phil was a steadfast leader in land conservation and was recognized by local and state authorities for his efforts. A little later, Phil and Linda took up country-western dancing and could be found listening and dancing to their favorite local bands on most Saturday nights.

When it came time for Phil to step back from the farm, he and Linda would spend most of their winters dancing, playing cards and enjoying time with friends at their getaway in Mesa, Arizona. Later, when Linda's dementia began to slowly steal her away from him, Phil almost never left her side, and was her devoted protector and companion until the end.

Phil is survived by his sister, Marilyn (Jim) Gould, his brother Stewart (Carol) Melvin, four children - Teresa (Glen) Adams, Robert (Pamela) Melvin, Tammy (Michael Morris) Miller, and Joe (Kevin Hunt) Melvin, three grandchildren - Jessica (Adam) Hootman, Nicholas (Mari) Melvin and Levi (Emily) Miller, and six great grandchildren - Rhett and Remi Hootman, Emery, Andi, and Jordy Melvin, and Presley Miller. He was preceded in death by his wife, Linda, and his parents, James and Ethylene.

Funeral services will be at 10:30 a.m. on Wednesday, November 16, 2022 at the Bloomfield Christian Church with Rev. Leslie Dotson officiating. Visitation will begin at 1:00 p.m. on Tuesday with the family present to greet friends from 5-7:00 p.m. at the Wagler Funeral Home in Bloomfield. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be sent to the Bloomfield Christian Church, where Phil was a Deacon and life-long member. A memorial has also been established to D.C. Dollars for Scholars.

# Cemetery Details

## IOOF Cemetery

620 North Madison Street  
Bloomfield, IA 52537

# Previous Events

## Visitation

NOV 15. 1:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Wagler Funeral Home  
304 West Jefferson Street  
Bloomfield, IA 52537  
(641) 664-3421  
<https://www.waglerfuneralhome.com/>

## Visitation with Family Present

NOV 15. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Wagler Funeral Home  
304 West Jefferson Street  
Bloomfield, IA 52537  
(641) 664-3421  
<https://www.waglerfuneralhome.com/>

## Funeral Services

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NOV **16**. 10:30 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

Bloomfield Christian Church  
107 N. Davis St.  
Bloomfield, IA 52537

# Tribute Wall



“ *Phil Melvin*

January 28, 2023 at 10:57 AM



“ *Enchanted Cottage was purchased for the family of Phil Melvin.*



November 14, 2022 at 04:18 PM



“ *Bruce & Jeri & family purchased the Medium Dish Garden for the family of Phil Melvin.*



**Bruce & Jeri & family** - November 14, 2022 at 09:53 AM



“ *Rebecca Coyne lit a candle in memory of Phil Melvin*



**Rebecca coyne** - November 11, 2022 at 03:46 PM

SK

“ Spent several days in the hay field picking up hay bales for Phil and his Dad Jimmy! A great neighbor and even better person. Phil will be missed by those who were his neighbors and friends.



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**steve kinnamon** - November 11, 2022 at 03:30 PM

JU

“ Melvin Family, We are so sorry for your loss. I have very fond memories of your dad growing up. Thinking of you.

Steve and Julie Augspurger

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**Julie** - November 11, 2022 at 02:39 PM

KH

“ Kathy Hartwick lit a candle in memory of Phil Melvin



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**Kathy Hartwick** - November 11, 2022 at 11:42 AM

KH

A dear man with the most infectious smile and wonderful family. I know Phil will be missed.

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**Kathy Hartwick** - November 11, 2022 at 11:44 AM

FH

*So sorry to hear of Phil passing. Many great memories of growing up in Savannah. Always enjoyed riding our bicycles up what seemed like a long hill to visit the Melvin family. My Mom Joy Campbell in later years helped Ethelyne keep house. Then I now ,Fran Harris babysat for Phil and Linda when they went out to have an enjoyable fun time together dancing. Time sure passes faster than we notice. More and more of our little village is changing with the passing of our parents and grandparents. May your memories give you comfort and God bless you all in your days ahead.*

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**Fran Campbell Harris** - November 12, 2022 at 11:30 AM

TF

“ *The Fournier Family purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of Phil Melvin.*



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**The Fournier Family** - November 11, 2022 at 11:24 AM