

Richard F. Fruhling was born February 2, 1945, in Hastings, Nebraska, to Frederick and Agnes (Fouts) Fruhling. He was raised on the family farm near Hildreth, Nebraska, where he attended school. He graduated from Hildreth High School in 1963.

He attended the University of Nebraska at Kearney and later attended business college in Lincoln, Nebraska where he earned his business degree.

On January 12, 1967, Richard joined the United States Air Force and was stationed at Lachland Air Force Base in San Antonio, Texas, where he completed his basic training. Following his basic training, Richard completed advanced training in Inventory Management in Amarillo, Texas. His first assignment was at Osan Air Force Base, South Korea, during the Vietnam War from 1967 to 1968. Richard was later transferred to the Minot Air Force Base, Minot, ND, and worked in Inventory Management there. While stationed at Minot Air Force Base, Richard was sent on a temporary assignment to Kadena Air Force Base at Okinawa, Japan, for six months. He returned to Minot and served another year before being honorably discharged January 11, 1971.

Following his service to his country, Richard attended college at Minot State University. During this time, he met his wife of 37 years, Claudette Pfau. They were married in August of 1971 at Christ Lutheran Church in Minot, ND. They made their home in Minot, where they raised their three children. Richard worked for Sears Roebuck & Co., for eight years. In 1979, he started selling insurance for Ohio National through the Pankow Agency. While working for Pankow Insurance, he also did some work for Rued Insurance. He later worked for Aid Association for Lutherans (now known as Thrivent Financial) as a sales representative and investment representative. During the time he was selling insurance; Richard was a member of Life Underwriters and served as president for one year. After a number of years, Richard decided to work at ING, so he could spend more time at home and with his family. Richard was then offered a job at Rehab Services to work as a trainer, counselor, and shift leader for the homeless people at Third Avenue Housing. This was a fulfilling job that Richard enjoyed doing. He enjoyed helping people.

During his spare time, he was a member of PTO of Nedrose School, where he served as president during his children's grade school years. He also was a member of the Optimist Club. Richard enjoyed helping his Christ Lutheran Church and was a member of the church council. He had also served as president of the Christ Lutheran Church Men's Club.

As a loving husband, father, and grandfather, Richard loved and enjoyed spending time with family and going fishing, hunting, camping, and sports. He was an avid Nebraska Cornhusker Football fan and in recent years enjoyed collecting and finding old John Deere tractors.



*In Loving Memory
Of
Richard F. Fruhling
1945 ~ 2009*