



## Irvin E. Faber

August 23, 1934 - October 30, 2010

Irvin E. Faber, 1934-2010, formerly of Cedar Rapids, owner and operator of Soap Creek Tree Farm, Moravia, IA, passed away suddenly Saturday, October 30, on the farm he so loved.

Irvin is survived by his wife, Marilyn Worcester Faber (married June 12, 1959 at Olivet Presbyterian, Cedar Rapids, Iowa); his four daughters, Anne (Mark) Seidl of Cedar Rapids, Susan (Michael) Campfield of St. Paul, MN, Joan (Jon) McAlister of Indianola, IA, and Karen (Joseph) Bovenmyer of Ames, IA; and six grandchildren, Amelia, Daniel, Ellery, Joseph, Georgia, and Theron. Irvin's parents were Richard Andrew Faber and Inez McAlister Faber, and he is also survived by his three elder brothers: Vaughn (Blakesburg, IA), Charles (Lexington, KY), and Richard Bruce Faber (Des Moines, IA) and numerous nieces and nephews and grand nieces and nephews.

He was an alumni of Moravia High school ('52), Coe College (where he met Marilyn), and University of Iowa ('59, Electrical Engineering). He worked for the Iowa Electric Light and Power Co. for 32 years.

Tree farmer, expert woodworker, forester, and prairie preserver; he was a Rook player and humorist. On his farm he was a familiar sight for families looking for fresh cut Christmas trees.

He was selected Iowa Tree farmer of the year 2003.

In 1968 he established Soap Creek Tree Farm, returning to the land where he spent his childhood, and retired there where he spent 19 years enjoying full time farm life. He particularly loved sharing his knowledge of nature. However, his greatest joy was his family; to whom he was a devoted husband, father, and grandfather.

Memorials may be given towards Echo Hill Presbyterian Church, Cedar Rapids, Iowa or Trees Forever, Marion, Iowa.

Funeral services will be held at 11:00 A.M., Friday, November 5, 2010, at the Winfield Funeral Home in Albia, with Rev. Gene Kubli officiating. Burial will follow services at Hillcrest Cemetery in Moravia.

Visitation for Irvin will be held from 6:00 P.M. to 8:00 P.M., Thursday, November 4, 2010, at the Winfield funeral Home in Albia, with Irvin's family present.

# Tribute Wall



“ *Irvin E. Faber*

January 30, 2023 at 05:06 AM



“ *Irvin E. Faber*

January 30, 2023 at 02:53 AM



“ *Blessings to all the family. A couple of us teachers from the Putnam County Missouri Elementary School made the annual trek to the Soap Creek Christmas Tree Farm to choose a 14 footer for our hallway. Mr. Faber was always so very helpful and a lot of fun. I always took my full size conversion van with a trailer behind. One year Irvin told us there was a good tree in an adjoining field. There was five or six inches of snow on the ground at the time. We drove through the gate only to find ourselves headed down hill and straight toward the pond. The Good Lord had to be with us, I cranked the steering wheel hard right and gave it the gas, not wanting to get stuck, nor be fish food. I don't know how, but the van and trailer plowed on through and up to the top of the ridge right in front of the tree we needed. What a joy and an adventure we had there for several years. God's blessings to you all. Walter Griffen and Jim Dover.*

Walter Griffen - Unionville, MO - Tree Shopper - November 13, 2011 at 12:00 AM



“ *Our sympathy goes out to you and your family at this time of sorrow*

Pat Edwards Howes - November 05, 2010 at 12:00 AM

CL

“ Dear Marilyn and family, our prayers and thoughts are with you. Irv was a wonderful person to work with. His love of the outdoors and others was always present. God's peace be with you.

*Chris Lindell*

---

**Chris Lindell** - November 05, 2010 at 12:00 AM

DR

“ Our condolences, thoughts and prayers go out to the Irv Faber family. We are saddened to hear about Irv's passing. Sincerely, Dave & Carol Rogers, Cedar Rapids, IA.

---

**Dave & Carol Rogers** - November 04, 2010 at 12:00 AM

JM

“ Our thoughts and prayers go out to you. I have very fond memories of our camping weekends from when I was young. Irv and his family would share their tree farm, horses, Mulligan stew, a toy for all the kids around the campfire and beautiful star-filled skies with my parents and siblings at least one fall weekend every year. My Dad worked with Irv, and he shared his wonderful "retreat" with us all. I am saddened to hear about your loss but feel very blessed to have known all of you and share in your wonderful family. Blessings to you all. Jenny (McElmeel), Cary & Morgan Bryant

---

**Jenny McElmeel-Bryant** - November 04, 2010 at 12:00 AM

JW

“ I am the husband of Deborah Faber Webb, who is the oldest child of Charles Faber.

*I had the pleasure of meeting Irvin during the summer of 2004 when Deb and I had a short visit with him and Marilyn. Although our stay was only a couple of days, there are two things that stand out in my mind and will always be etched, "Irvin" to me:*

*the number of trees he manged and gave loving care to, and...*

*the number of deer skulls he had nailed to the barn.*

*I share in your grief.*

---

**Jay Webb** - November 04, 2010 at 12:00 AM

CR

“ Dear family of Irvin Faber, especially Susan, Mike and Joe, We are sad with you at this time of loss and wish we could be there. However, we continue to lift you up in our prayers and hold you close in our hearts and thoughts. What a rich and wonderful life and memories he has left for you all. We love you -  
Carol & Jay Rosengren

---

**Carol & Jay Rosengren** - November 03, 2010 at 12:00 AM

MF

“ What a beautiful obituary and testimony to the one and only Irvin Faber. I have so many fond memories of my Uncle that i will hold and treasure forever. He was a character! And what rich and beautiful things he and Marilyn created together, including his four amazing daughters and a beautiful farm that remains in testimony to his love of land, community, history and family.

*May you rest in peace dear Uncle Irvin,  
Mindy and family*

---

**Mindy Faber** - November 03, 2010 at 12:00 AM

TJ

“ Laura, Emma, Jonah, and I wish to extend our deepest sympathy to Irvin's family. What a fabulous uncle he was to me over the years! Man did he love to tease me when I was a little boy, but in the best kind of way. And the way he make those funny noises as I picked up his cards while playing Rook (especially when I picked up a bad hand for him). Later in life, we had the pleasure of attending some Faber family reunions and stay on the Soap Creek free farm. What a special time that was for all of us! I can never forget Irvin taking us for the tour ride of the farm and looking at his prairie restoration project. The pride he felt in this work was obvious to all, and well-deserved. And how great it felt to sit down as a grown man to some fierce Rook playing with Irvin and the "brothers" (cousins too). Exchanging competitive banter with Irvin was always the best of fun (and he knew it). And it always continued well after the games were over, which made for some good humor. I also reflect on the kindness and warmth that Irvin showed toward Emma and Jonah on that visit. What a wonderful big "uncle" he was to them. And the handmade wooden trivet of walnut from his own stock that he made for Laura and myself (not to mention the homemade beer and maple syrup). His attention to all those little details was so sweet. I always carried a deep appreciation of him for that. So, we are profoundly sad and in a state of grief here in Massachusetts. Our thoughts are with you all. We will miss him in the worst kind of way. And he will always be remembered with a special fondness by this particular nephew.

---

**The Kurman-Faber Family : Danny, Laura, Emma, and Jonah** - November 03, 2010 at 12:00 AM

RL

“ Susan, Mike, Joe and extended family~

*Our hearts go out to you. We are saddened from your loss. He sounds like he was a fabulous man - the obituary was well written/gave wonderful details about Irvin's life.*

*Please know that you are in our thoughts and prayers. And though we cannot attend the visitation or the funeral service, we will be with you in spirit.*

*With all our love,  
Rachel, Tim, Nicholas and Luke*

---

**Rachel Tessman, Tim Jandro, Nicholas and Luke** - November 02, 2010 at 12:00 AM