



Matthew "Matt" Charles Watson

January 10, 1923 - April 25, 2021

Matthew "Matt" Charles Watson, age 98 of Albia, IA, died peacefully in his home, surrounded by his family on Sunday, April 25, 2021.

Matt was born on January 10, 1923, to Morris Lane and Mable Mary (Pollock) Watson on the family farm in Monroe County, IA. He grew up and attended school in Monroe County, graduating from the Albia High School with the Class of 1939. He later attended Iowa State University. On June 29, 1952, he was united in marriage to Donna Rae Thomas. To this union, 2 children, Michelle and Cameron were born. Matt and Donna shared nearly 66 years of marriage prior to her passing on June 27, 2018.

Matt moved to California where he worked for Phillips Aviation before he served his country in the Army Air Corps during World War II. Upon returning from service, Matt helped on the family farm before working for Willie and Alberta Friday at Friday's gas station. Matt then owned and operated Watson's Gas Company in Albia for many years.

Matt was a member of the Antique Airplane Association. He had a great love for aviation, building 3 different planes during his lifetime, an L1, a PJ, and an RV8. Matt was a mentor to many people not only introducing others to aviation, but also on many life skills. He opened up his home to many people that were flying through the area. One of his greatest joys in life was spending

time with his family and friends, especially his grandchildren.

Matt is survived by a daughter, Dawn “Michelle” (Roy) Hutcheon of Kansas City, MO; a son, Cameron (Tamie) Watson of Albia; their grandchildren and great grandchildren, Nathan (Deborah) Hutcheon and their son, Alec, of Greenville, S.C; Ariel Hutcheon of Norfolk, VA; Hunter Watson (Lauren Montgomery) of Oskaloosa and Caitlyn Watson (Curtis James) and their 2 children of Albia.

Matt was preceded in death by his wife, Donna; his parents, Morris and Mable Watson; and his siblings, Mary Lou, Tom, and Dave.

Per his wishes, Matt’s body has been cremated and a private family service will be held at a later date.

An open memorial has been established to the family.

Tribute Wall



“ *Matthew "Matt" Charles Watson*

January 30, 2023 at 05:06 AM



“ *Matthew "Matt" Charles Watson*

January 30, 2023 at 02:53 AM



“ *My condolences to the family. I had met Mr. Watson during college break with Cameron in the early 80's and remember seeing some of his airplane handiwork as well as daughters artwork thereon. Those were some good memories. All the best, Fred Weiser, Erie PA*

Fred Weiser - May 01, 2021 at 01:04 PM



Thank Fred hope you are doing well.

Cameron Watson - June 26, 2021 at 08:27 PM



“ *Matt, thanks for being there throughout the years and thanks for sharing so many stories about dad and you. Jana and I will miss you and your common sense approach to everything, laced with that wonderful sense of humor.*

John Simmons - April 29, 2021 at 08:30 PM



John He always enjoyed your Family and they meant a lot to him!

Cameron Watson - June 26, 2021 at 08:29 PM

JB

“ James O Brien lit a candle in memory of Matthew "Matt" Charles Watson



James O Brien - April 28, 2021 at 02:54 PM



Cameron Watson

:)

Cameron Watson - June 26, 2021 at 08:29 PM



“ Jim Wade lit a candle in memory of Matthew "Matt" Charles Watson



Jim Wade - April 27, 2021 at 09:46 PM

JS

“ I was one of many that Matt mentored in what turned into a life long passion for aviation. Matt taught me to land a conventional gear aircraft and turned me loose to practice with his plane. He also helped me to inspect my first two plane purchases and taught me a bit about aerobatics and formation flying. I learned a great deal about both aviation and life from him. He was a life long mentor that always had a sage word of advice with as few words as was needed to make the point. Blue skies and tailwinds Matthew. You will be sorely missed. -Jeff Scott

Jeff Scott - April 27, 2021 at 08:11 PM

SB

“ *State Bank Of Bussey lit a candle in memory of Matthew "Matt" Charles Watson*



State Bank of Bussey - April 27, 2021 at 07:46 PM

KS

“ *Kraig and Cissi Scott purchased the Sweetest Sunrise Bouquet for the family of Matthew "Matt" Charles Watson.*



Kraig and Cissi Scott - April 27, 2021 at 07:32 PM

KH

“ *Kim & Jaci Hansen lit a candle in memory of Matthew "Matt" Charles Watson*



Kim & Jaci Hansen - April 27, 2021 at 07:03 PM

BW

“ *Sending condolences to the family and my wonderful niece so sorry for your loss*



Brenda Wilson - April 27, 2021 at 03:15 PM



“ *Kim Church lit a candle in memory of Matthew "Matt" Charles Watson*



Kim Church - April 27, 2021 at 02:31 PM

LK

Rest easy now dear Matt. You touched a lot of lives in your 98 years on this Earth. Sure always enjoyed your airplane stories you shared to my girls and I at the airport, you called Holly your Pepsi "drink in' buddy" and she loved it! Memories will live on and on of your heartfelt tenderness and funny wit. Speaking for Holly, Natalie and myself you will be missed. Our sympathy, love and prayers to you all. Until we see you again. Lana Kaldenberg/Eells

Lana Kaldenberg/Eells - April 27, 2021 at 02:57 PM

CT

I cannot remember ever seeing Matt without a smile! He was truly a Gentle Man. I loved his laugh! He will truly be missed. God's Speed Matt. You are truly flying with the angels now!

Colleen McCombs Thomas

Colleen Thomas - April 27, 2021 at 08:49 PM

RG

Godspeed Matt! You took such good care of Mom and me after Dad died, and you told some things about my dad that I didn't know. I know that you are visiting with my dear Dad in heaven. You were indeed a gentle giant. May you rest in peace.

Rita Gergely - April 28, 2021 at 09:01 AM

BB

Michelle & Cameron & families:

Our sincere sympathy to all at the loss of your father. We have fond memories of visits to your house as kids when our dad, Bob Overmyer, drove the LP gas truck for Matt. Sending Prayers.

Bobbi (Overmyer) Bassett, Debbie, Peggy, Scott Overmyer

Bobbi Bassett - April 30, 2021 at 11:01 AM

CS

Michelle & Cameron, Lots of great memories of your dad going back many years. Your mom and dad were great friends of my parents before we even came along.

Mom tells the story of them having dinner one night at our old farmhouse on the Chariton River. My dad had a new hot water heater and had the plumbing ran but was a little uncertain about the wiring. Matt asked, "Bill do you have the parts?". Dad said yes and the dinner dishes were done with hot water from the new heater.

Lots of fond memories around airplanes, flying and checking on the latest airplane project. Matt was always helping someone out, he will be sorely missed.

Charlie Spaur - May 10, 2021 at 06:55 PM