



Rev. Conrad Earl Rolland

June 15, 1934 - January 21, 2024

Conrad (Connie) Earl Rolland passed away at Mercy Hospital in Des Moines, Iowa, on January 21, 2024 from complications after a fall in November.

Connie was born on the home farm in Humboldt County, Iowa on June 15, 1934 to Leo and Gladys (Olson) Rolland. Connie attended school at Delana #9. In 8th grade he started school in Bode, Iowa graduating in 1952. He was a great athlete in basketball & baseball. He continued his education at Luther College in Decorah, Iowa where he majored in Greek! He excelled in both basketball & baseball (as a pitcher). He was being scouted by the Brooklyn Dodgers but chose the seminary instead. He graduated from Luther College in 1956. He continued his education at Luther Seminary in St. Paul, Minnesota. He did his internship in Detroit, Michigan. & graduated in 1960. On Pentecost Sunday he was ordained into the Lutheran Ministry at his home church at St. Olaf Lutheran Church in Bode, Iowa where he was baptized, confirmed and married.

He served his Lord at 4 parishes in Iowa; Emmanuel & North Prairie Lutheran in Scarville 1960-1965, Bethlehem & Our Savior's Lutheran in Inwood, Iowa 1965-1970. In 1970 he answered the call to Belmond, Iowa to serve 3 congregations; Trinity, St. Olaf & St. John's in a team ministry with Pastor Harris Hostager. In 1980 he accepted the call to Bergen Lutheran Church in Roland, Iowa & served for 20 years until his retirement in 1999. Well done thy good & faithful servant.

Connie met his wife, Mary Helen (Kraabel) at Bode High School & they were married on August 14, 1954. This year would have been their 70th wedding anniversary. They did everything together; inseparable !

To this union 5 beautiful children: Kim Suzanne, Kari Lynn, Steven Paul, Kristen Marie & Sonia Kay.

Connie & Mary followed their children in all activities thru high school & college.

As a family, annual trips to Colorado in our camper were the greatest highlight.

Connie's love of youth showed in his teachings of confirmation. He also organized 9 congregational retreats to Colorado for a week at several different campgrounds. He also loved photography which led to taking many pictures of both the Belmond & Roland-Story sporting events.

His love of farming drew family & friends into the popcorn world where he loved every aspect of the popcorn harvest. Among family circles it is known as "Connie Corn".

Connie & Mary enjoyed winters in Arizona after retirement.

Connie is survived by his wife, Mary and 4 children;

Kim of Roland, Iowa. Kari (Chuck) Burgin of Indianola, Iowa. Steven of Belmond, Iowa. Kris (Randy) Dougherty of Belmond, Iowa.

9 grandchildren: Jason (Holly) Burgin, Jacki (Brandon) Knight, Chelsey Dougherty, Shelby (Dane) Askelsen, Bruce (Hilary) Rolland, Markaya (Kyle) Rodgers, Michael Rolland, Taylor (Shon) Olson and Gavin (Natalie) Burgin.

Also 8 great-grandchildren: Ryker, Jaxon, Kate, Chloey, Quinn, Isaac, Lakyn, Cash & Wren ...and many nieces & nephews & other relatives & friends.

Connie is preceded in death by his parents, Leo & Gladys; his brothers Paul & Garmon & sister-in-law Joyce; Daughter Sonia, son Bruce (infancy), grandson Ryan Conrad (infancy) & parents-in-law Maynard & Helen Kraabel.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to Luther College, Luther Seminary, Bergen Lutheran Church or Bethany Life Communities.

The service will be live streamed on Bergen Lutheran Church Facebook page.

Cemetery



ROLAND CEMETERY

59168 130th St.,
Roland, IA 50236

Events



SERVICE

10:30 AM - 11:10 AM

Bergen Lutheran
Church 101 W. Maple,
Roland, IA 50236 The
service will be live
streamed on Bergen
Lutheran Church
Facebook page



VISITATION

2:00 PM - 4:00 PM

Bergen Lutheran
Church 101 W. Maple,
Roland, IA 50236

Tribute Wall

A Anonymous



Tribute Store
A memorial tree was planted in memory of Rev. Conrad Earl Rolland.

B Bob & Mary Sieger

Good times, good friends and good travel! And good popcorn!



R Roberta Rosheim

My sisters and I all loved and admired Connie. He is our first cousin. He officiated at Rogene's wedding in 1963. Rogene held a Cousin's reunion at her home in California in 2014 that I got to attend. Rogene and Ray had enjoyed going to reunions in Arizona for several years and always enjoyed seeing Connie and Mary. I enjoyed hearing Connie tell about the Norwegians that helped the resistance in WWII. The photos are of people at Rogene's in April 2014 and also one of my sisters and I: Roselyn, Ruth, Roberta and Rogene, daughters of Norman and Bernice Rolland.



Melissa, David and Lisa Riggs

Steve and family, With all the love in the world, please accept our most heartfelt sympathies for your loss... Love and hugs,



"Sweet Tranquility Basket"
was purchased for the family of Rev. Conrad Earl Rolland

[Tribute Store](#)

Show your support with flowers



The Dormans

Our thoughts and prayers are with you.



"Florist's Choice Bouquet"
was purchased for the family of Rev. Conrad Earl Rolland

[Tribute Store](#)

Show your support with flowers



Nancy (Wellen) Rivers

For: Pastor Conrad & Mary Rolland From: The Wellen & Rivers' Families



"Beautiful in Blue"
was purchased for the family of Rev. Conrad Earl Rolland

[Tribute Store](#)

Show your support with flowers



Anonymous

With Deepest Sympathy,



"White Florist's Choice"
was purchased for the family of Rev. Conrad Earl Rolland

[Tribute Store](#)

Show your support with flowers



Dave & Linda, Don & Cathy, Mark & Janice and families

"Well done, my good & faithful servant." With love & fond memories.



" Secret Garden Basket "
was purchased for the family of Rev. Conrad Earl Rolland

[Tribute Store](#)

Show your support with flowers



Gracia & Steve; Matthew, Deb & family; Sara, Jerry & fami

We remember your husband and Father as a committed servant of our Lord, his community and family. He has blessed us all with his service and love.



"Beautiful in Blue"
was purchased for the family of Rev. Conrad Earl Rolland

[Tribute Store](#)

Show your support with flowers



Nick and Kristi Followwill Walker and family

You will be greatly missed. Thank you for being an incredible role model to so many of us.



"Florist's Choice Bouquet"
was purchased for the family of Rev. Conrad Earl Rolland

[Tribute Store](#)

Show your support with flowers

N

Ned Bohach

I recall coaching against his outstanding daughter athletes when they played at Belmond. I was coaching at Sheffield-Chaplin at the time. He was a very cordial man always with a camera around his neck. Sending our thoughts and prayers to the family. Ned & Bev Bohach

K

Kent Smith

I didn't know Conrad personally. I moved to Bode in 1954. But the Rolland's and the Kraabels were well implanted. I will pray for the families. Thank you for being from the BEST little town in Iowa!

J

Jay D Harmon

Connie and Mary were my neighbors in Roland for a few years. I was the beneficiary of his love of passing out popcorn. He was a very kind man and always was willing to spend a few minutes talking in the yard.

F

Funeral Home Owner

