



Richard James Drudik, 83

December 7, 1942 - March 13, 2026

Sutton, NE, resident Richard James Drudik, 83, passed away Friday, March 13, 2026, at Mary Lanning Health Care in Hastings, NE.

A Rosary will be prayed at 10:00 a.m., Wednesday, March 18, 2026, at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Sutton, NE. Mass of Christian burial will be conducted at 10:30 a.m., Wednesday, March 18, 2026, at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Sutton, NE, with Father Lee Jirovsky officiating. Interment will follow at Calvary Cemetery in Sutton, NE. Visitation will be Wednesday, from 9:00 a.m. until 10:00 a.m., at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Sutton, NE.

Services will be live-streamed from the Sutton Memorial Chapel Facebook page. <https://www.facebook.com/suttonmemorial>.

Memorial contributions may be directed to the family to be designated later.

Richard J. Drudik was born December 7, 1942, on a farm south of Deweese, NE, to Anton and Helen (Mazour) Drudik. He attended a small country school and graduated from Nelson High School in 1961. His love for auctioneering started in high school and continued throughout his life. He took a correspondence course in auctioneering and held his first household auction when he was only a junior in high school.

After high school, he served in the Army National Guard. Richard was united in marriage to Bonnie June Alberding on June 25, 1966, at Our Lady of Assumption Catholic Church in Deweese, NE. This union was blessed with four children: Paul, Renee, Janelle and David.

He farmed and managed livestock sale barns for several years in Hastings and Franklin, NE, and purchased the old sale barn in Sutton, NE, in 1969. Richard and his wife, Bonnie, built the new sale barn that is standing today in 1974. He owned and managed the Sutton Livestock Sales Commission for 30 years. During that time, he attended many World Auctioneer contests throughout the United States and Canada. He was most proud of his achievement when he became one of the top 15 finalists in 1985. While farming, Richard also raised cattle, purebred Spotted and Chester White hogs for several years. He would proudly show his livestock at the Nebraska State Fair and won several awards.

Richard was a member of St. Mary's Catholic Church and the Knights of Columbus in Sutton, NE; he also served as an acolyte for St. Mary's Catholic Church. He was a member of the Sutton American Legion Post #61 and throughout his many years of farming, he was a member of the South-Central Pork Producers and Clay County Feeders Association.

Richard loved his polka music, Czech cooking and a good kolache. He will always be remembered for his jokes and ornery behavior at family gatherings and Sunday dinners at his parents' home in Lawrence, NE. He was a family man and loved his grandchildren very much and always made them special pancakes when they came to visit.

Left to treasure his memory are his wife of 59 years, Bonnie of Sutton, NE; children, Paul (Sheryl) Drudik of Saronville, NE; Renee (Phill) Miller of Nelson, NE; Janelle (Lee) Nuss of Sutton, NE; and David (Shannon) Drudik of Sutton,

NE; 18 grandchildren; several great-grandchildren; brother, Tom Drudik of Grand Island, NE; sisters, Verena (Robert) Reiman of Hastings, NE; Mary Kendall Lafayette, IN; and numerous nieces, nephews and cousins.

He was preceded in death by his parents, mother-in-law and father-in-law, Gladys and Arthur Alberding; sisters-in-law, Betty Drudik and Darlene Kauk; brother-in-law, Don Kauk; and nephew, Don Darrel Kauk.

Cemetery Details

Calvary Cemetery

316530-31677 Road X
Sutton, NE 68979

Previous Events

Visitation

MAR 18. 9:00 AM - 10:00 AM (CT)

St. Mary's Catholic Church
312 S. Saunders Ave.
Sutton, NE 68979

Rosary

MAR 18. 10:00 AM (CT)

St. Mary's Catholic Church
312 S. Saunders Ave.
Sutton, NE 68979

Mass of Christian Burial

MAR 18. 10:30 AM (CT)

St. Mary's Catholic Church
312 S. Saunders Ave.
Sutton, NE 68979

Tribute Wall



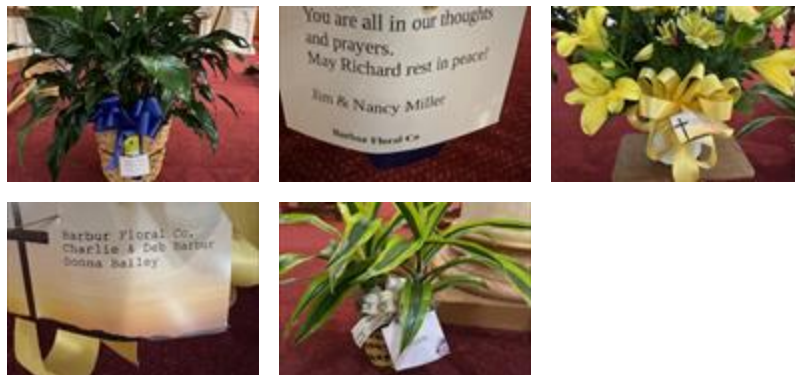
“ Sutton Memorial Chapel and McLaughlin Funeral Chapel created a Tribute Video in memory of Richard James Drudik, 83



Sutton Memorial Chapel and McLaughlin Funeral Chapel - March 14 at 01:19 PM



“ 26 files added to the album Floral Tributes



Sutton Memorial Chapel and McLaughlin Funeral Chapel - March 18 at 01:42 PM

CS

“ I have a lot of great memories of stories that dad used to tell when he would come home from the sale barn dad thought a lot of Richard!
I just wanted to let you know that we're thinking of you and you have our deepest sympathies

Clint Schwartz - March 18 at 07:53 AM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Richard James Drudik, 83.*



March 17 at 03:08 PM



“ *Milligan Insurance Agency purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Richard James Drudik, 83.*



Milligan Insurance Agency - March 17 at 09:42 AM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Richard James Drudik, 83.*



March 16 at 04:12 PM



“ *Brant and Brianna Beam purchased the Emerald Garden Basket for the family of Richard James Drudik, 83.*



Brant and Brianna Beam - March 16 at 12:47 PM

DD

“ David Drudik purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of Richard James Drudik, 83.



David Drudik - March 15 at 06:30 PM

DD

“ David Drudik planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Richard James Drudik, 83.

David Drudik - March 15 at 06:30 PM

JM

“ Jim and Nancy Miller purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Richard James Drudik, 83.



Jim and Nancy Miller - March 14 at 04:12 PM

JM

“ Jim and Nancy Miller planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Richard James Drudik, 83.

Jim and Nancy Miller - March 14 at 04:12 PM