



Reverend David John Sterk

March 19, 1958 - April 5, 2013

Reverend David John Sterk of Lucas passed into Glory peacefully Friday, April 5, 2013 at Mercy Hospital in Cadillac with his wife Karen at his side. He was 55. He was born March 19, 1958 in Grand Rapids, Michigan to Frank and Lois Mae (Hendrickson) Sterk.

Dave graduated from Ottawa Hills High School in Grand Rapids in 1976. He graduated from Hope College and later went on to earn his Master's of Divinity Degree from Western Theological Seminary in Holland, Michigan. Dave served as a Reformed Pastor in: DeMotte, Indiana; Fulton, Illinois and Orange City, Iowa. He had currently been serving as the Pastor of Rehoboth Reformed Church in Lucas since 2001. Dave loved his family and was a proud parent to his five sons. He enjoyed reading, running and visiting with friends.

On November 18, 1988 he married the former Karen Zylstra and she survives him along with their sons: Randy of Wabash, Indiana; Garrett and Brian of Orange City, Iowa and Tyler and Craig of Lucas; Mother, Lois Sterk of Zeeland; brothers, Doug (Jenny) Sterk of Tokyo and Steve Ann) Sterk of St. Joseph; parents- in- law, Bob and Kathryn Zylstra; in-laws: Cindy (Dave) Hamstra, Steve (Joy) Zylstra, Dave (Jane) Zylstra, Dan (Sandra) Zylstra, Val (Brent) Dykhuizen and Tim (Joni) Zylstra and many nephews, nieces and cousins.

He was preceded in death by his father, Frank Sterk.

Funeral services will be held 11:00 a.m. Tuesday April 9, 2013 at Rehoboth Reformed Church in Lucas with Reverend David Brower officiating. Friends may meet the family Monday from 2-4 and 6-8 p.m. at the church. Burial will take place at Holland Cemetery in DeMotte, Indiana. In lieu of flowers memorial contributions may be made to the Rehoboth Reformed Church Building Fund. An online guestbook is available at www.petersonfh.com.

Tribute Wall

LB

“ Karen and boy'
s I just found out from Scott that Dave'
s Passing I'
m really sorry about that Hope the family is keeping hope alive in
your hearts and i will always miss you guys sign larry de boer!!!

larry d. de boer - September 08, 2013 at 03:50 PM

S(

“ We are all connected in one way or another. My thoughts and
prayers are with the family. The STERK surname means STRONG
in dutch. RIP brother.

Steve Sterk (California) - August 05, 2013 at 03:27 PM

BJ

“ Karen,
You and your family have our deepest sympathy. Our son Mark
sends his sympathy to Garrett (NW friends) and my husband and I
pray for your whole family as you carry on with life. We remember
Dave well as someone who was so kind to us and to my mother,
Elizabeth Paekel, during her illness and passing. God bless you all!

Beth Johnson - April 28, 2013 at 07:17 PM

RS

“ Dave was my predecessor at First Reformed Church in Fulton, IL.
My prayers are with Karen and the family.

Rev. Phillip Sneller - April 19, 2013 at 06:06 PM

SD

“ Karen & Family- Dave was such a blessing to us. So many amazing and special memories of him and his contagious smile. Please know that we are sharing in your sorrow and lifting you up in prayer. May you feel God's comfort and grace all around you. Sending love and hugs.

Stephanie & Randy DeYoung - April 11, 2013 at 04:03 PM

DD

“ We are so sorry for the loss you and your family are experiencing, Karen. Dave was a strong Christian influence to a lot of people, and that will live on in his legacy. I am thankful to have known him, and that he had a part in John's growth in his walk with God.

Dona Davis - April 10, 2013 at 01:31 PM

KF

“ What an awesome and Godly man. God bless you and yours, Karen and Family. We're praying for you.

Kara (Zylstra) Wynn and Family - April 09, 2013 at 10:09 PM

KM

“ Pastor Dave had a great ministry at FRC in Fulton, IL. Karen my mother has fond memories of your visits out to the farm with the boys! We all live out in Northwest Iowa near my sister Kathy and her family. Our prayers are with you and the boys in the difficult days ahead.

Kevin Muur - April 09, 2013 at 08:47 PM

DS

“ *dave was a true blessing for my brother and i growing up in demotte*

dan and annie swart - April 09, 2013 at 05:53 PM

TR

“ *Karen & Family...no words to adequately express the loss....but to say my heart is with you and I rest in the peace that God's faithfulness is real*

Twila Rossmanith-Hartmans - April 09, 2013 at 04:12 PM

BS

“ *Karen and Family,
I am sorry for your loss. You are all in my prayers*

Bill Sytsma - April 09, 2013 at 02:53 PM

PM

“ *Karen,
We have been holding you close in prayer since last fall. It was so good to visit with you in Orange City. Please know we are holding you close again during this time of incredible grief and hope. Jill loves getting to know her cousins, BJ and Garrett again. We love you dear one...we are praying for all of you. We are so sorry Karen...we just love you guys so much. Lean hard on Jesus...*

Pastor Mike and Kathy Jo McInnis - April 09, 2013 at 01:58 PM

DC

“ Karen and boys: My deepest condolences on the loss of a great, great man. Pastor Dave's impact on my growth as a man of God is immeasurable, and his contribution to the city of Fulton, particularly its youth, is still evident today. My family celebrates his life today even as we grieve with you.

Dave Criss - April 09, 2013 at 01:09 PM

AM

“ I remember Dave when he was in Fulton. I was the Regional Synod minister. I express my sympathy to Karen. I also lost my spouse and know the pain. My prayers are with you.

Aler bert Vander Meer - April 09, 2013 at 11:01 AM

DT

“ Know words can express, how sad we all are, on the loss of your husband and father of your children.....He was such a man of God. We will be praying for you and your family, for comfort and peace, as you go through the days and weeks ahead.

Donna Terborg - April 09, 2013 at 10:53 AM

JS

“ Dave was truly loved by all, he was a great influence on many young lives. Karen, may God give you comfort at this difficult time.

John and Karen Sytsma - April 09, 2013 at 08:37 AM

MM

“ *Praising God for Dave's life & ministry! The thought of him breathing celestial air, whole and worshiping at the throne of God.....brings waves of great JOY in the midst of deep sadness! Praising God for the HOPE of the Resurrection in Christ!
Our continued prayers are with the whole family!*

Mark & Debbie McGoldrick - April 09, 2013 at 07:57 AM

RD

“ *Praying for God's strength in a special way in the days ahead. I'm sorry for your loss.*

Rev. Rick DeBruyne - April 09, 2013 at 01:30 AM

KT

“ *Hello Karen & Family, I am a friend of Doug & Jenny from Japan. Doug is my colleague at Japan Engineer District. I am very sorry to hear your loss of beloved husband. I heard many stories from Doug about his twin brother. Please accept my deepest condolence and sympathy. I wish you best comfort with your families during this difficult time. God Bless You & With Love, Keily M. Takehara-Sasano*

Keily Takehara-Sasano - April 08, 2013 at 11:14 PM

BA

“ *Dear Karen & family,
I am so sorry to hear this sad news. I really enjoyed knowing Dave when he was in DeMotte. He gave so much of his time & energy for the kids. I am so sorry you & your sons have had your time with him cut short. Sending love....*

Bonnie (Hamstra) Acanfora - April 08, 2013 at 09:03 PM

CP

“ Karen and family. I share in your joy and your sorrow as your beloved husband and father is ushered into heavens gates. Our sons share a dorm room and now the experience of losing their father at such a young age. Please know that I lift you all in prayer during these difficult days as well as the adjustments that lie ahead of you.
Always in His care!

Charlene Palsma - April 08, 2013 at 08:53 PM

NS

“ Karen&Family- We are so sorry for your loss. Pastor Dave had an amazing gift of comforting others, may our prayers comfort you.

Nate & Peggy Swiger - April 08, 2013 at 06:02 PM

DD

“ We pray the whole family will heal deep wounds and have many happy memories.

Dave and Jan Dyk - April 08, 2013 at 05:53 PM

CJ

“ He has Risen

Carlos, Lindsay & Kyler Juarez - April 08, 2013 at 12:13 PM

RS

“ Dave was a blessing to many in his personal life as well as his ministry. A living example of Matthew 5:16. May the Lord be with you in the days ahead, and may His love comfort you in a powerful way.

Rev. Jim Schoon - April 08, 2013 at 12:11 PM

MP

“ Karen & family, Continuing to pray for peace & comfort for you. Such a difficult time! We love you! P.S. Our Tyler sends his thoughts and prayers to your Tyler!

Merilee Pennings - April 08, 2013 at 11:59 AM

CB

“ Karen and sons, May the God of all comfort sustain you as David goes on to victory!

Chic Broersma - April 08, 2013 at 08:55 AM

RH

“ Karen & family - I am so sorry for your loss. Dave will be greatly missed by all who knew him.

Ruth Hamming - April 08, 2013 at 07:51 AM

BC

“ P.D.
Your grace and humility throughout this journey showed so many christians how to accept whatever comes our way. You WILL be missed and your memory will be cherished forever at Rehoboth. Karen, we love you and the boys and trust that you are aware of the loving arms of Jesus holding you tight.

Brian Chapman - April 08, 2013 at 06:56 AM