

A Funeral Director's Prayer

*Lord, give me the patience needed to serve everyone as my own;*

*the wisdom to understand other's feelings;*

*the knowledge to learn as well as to instruct;*

*the kindness to treat everyone equally at all times;*

*the strength to endure long hours and hard work;*

*the desire to serve others as I would my own family;*

*the humility to accept words of thanks and praise;*

*the compassion to touch another's soul;*

*the pride and the right to smile when I have served a family well;*

*and Lord, most importantly the right to shed an honest tear when my*

*heart is touched;*

*Lord, make me thankful that*

*I am a Funeral Director.*

*Author:*

*Anthony J. Asselta III*



NISHNA VALLEY FUNERAL AND CREMATION SERVICE  
SHENANDOAH, IOWA

*In Loving Memory*  
*Fred N. Hackett III*



Fred Nathan Hackett, III, son of Fred Nathan, Jr. and Marian Estaline (Williams) Hackett, was born on January 6, 1947 at Hand Hospital in Shenandoah, Iowa. He unexpectedly entered into eternal rest on Sunday morning, December 13, 2020 at his home in Chandler, Arizona at the age of 73 years, 11 months, 7 days.

Born and raised in Shenandoah, Fred grew up at 208 W. Clarinda Ave, the original home of Fred's great great grandfather, Jacob Bender, which was built in 1889. Fred attended the Shenandoah Community Schools. He was a proud alumnus of the Shenandoah High School Class of 1965, the largest class ever at Shenandoah. Following high school, he attended Simpson College and later Drake University as an undergraduate before enrolling in mortuary school at the Dallas Institute of Funeral Service in Dallas, Texas. He received his degree in Mortuary Science in 1969.

On April 25, 1969, Fred was united marriage to Eugenia (Ginger) Rhea Shepherd at Poteau, Oklahoma. They made their home in Shenandoah following their marriage. They were blessed with two daughters, Shawnette and Heather.

In January of 1969, Fred returned to help his father in the family business, Hackett Funeral Home. In the early years, funeral homes provided the ambulance services for the community. Fred and his father provided this service until the hospital and then the city took over the ambulance service. From loaning chairs to sitting in the ambulance in the end zone during Friday night football games to even loaning out artificial grass, it was all part of the job for the community and Fred was always of the temperament to help in what ways he and the funeral home could provide. While in business, Fred was a member of (OGR) The International Order of Golden Rule, an invitational fraternity of independently owned funeral homes. He was also active in the First United Methodist Church, KIWANIS, was Past President of the Shenandoah Chamber of Commerce (during the year of Shen hosting RAGBRAI), was an AFS parent (sending Heather to Greece) and AFS host parent (hosting Francesco Gospari from Italy and Christian Burmudez from Costa Rica). He was also active in the Southwest Iowa Theater Group helping with several productions, with Fred's favorite being "South Pacific".

He provided the important service of caring for his community's loved ones as a funeral director/ mortician for 30 years. He became owner of Hackett Funeral Home upon his father's passing in 1990. After being raised in the funeral home and serving the community and profession, he chose to sell the business in 1999. The thought of moving to Arizona where there was never any shoveling of snow was enticing but in reality, it was moving closer to their daughter, Heather, that took them to Chandler.

In semi-retirement, Fred missed the community involvement and interaction with people and found his fit in Real Estate becoming a licensed agent, working until his passing.

A huge University of Iowa Football fan, Fred enjoyed going to games in Iowa City and taking Heather to bowl games. He also enjoyed attending home Iowa Basketball games as well. He was especially excited to watch his grandson, Max, play football. All the way through from flag football to proudly watching his Hamilton football games. It should be noted that his big push to get back home following his extended Midwest visit due to health issues, was to make sure he walked with Max and Heather on Senior Night this fall.

Fred was devoted to his grandchildren. A joy for him was to treat Emma and Riley to Diamondback games when they visited, including Max and Brody when plans allowed especially on "All You Can Eat" ticket nights! Another big favorite of Fred's was golfing. Although he was no longer able to play, he always kept hope, keeping his clubs in storage all the while. A highlight was when Joe and Jenni joined the Shen Golf world, knowing if Em, Riley, JJ, or Marlowe wanted to learn they would have Joe to teach them! He was very proud that Max was working at the Ocotillo Golf Course and had taken up the challenge and that Brody had gotten some clubs to play golf.

Fred supported who he could, when he could, and how he could. He will be remembered as a quiet man that loved people. Preceding Fred in death were his parents. Left to cherish his memory is his wife of over 51 years, Ginger Hackett of Chandler, AZ; two daughters, Heather Hackett of Chandler, AZ and Shawnette Hackett of Tacoma, WA; six grandchildren, Emma Martin of Shenandoah, IA, Riley Martin of Omaha, NE, Maxwell Hackett of Chandler, AZ, Brody Hackett-Wilson of Chandler, AZ, Charlie Curtis of Salt Lake City, UT, and Evan Daniel of Tacoma, WA; chosen family, Joe and Jenni Martin of Shenandoah, IA; chosen grandchildren, JJ and Marlowe Martin of Shenandoah, IA; cousins of Frank Hackett; other extended relatives; and many friends.

In Loving Memory

*Fred Nathan Hackett III*

January 6, 1947 ~ December 13, 2020

73 years, 11 months, 7 days

**CELEBRATION OF LIFE GATHERING**

1:00 pm ~ 4:00 pm

Saturday June 12, 2021

Depot Restaurant and Lounge

101 N Railroad

Shenandoah, Iowa

**PLACE OF REST**

Rose Hill Cemetery

Shenandoah, Iowa

**MEMORIALS**

Directed to the Family