



## Raymond Steele McConnell

April 15, 1953 - April 2, 2020

Raymond Steele McConnell, 66, of Central City, died on Thursday, April 2, 2020 at Bryan Medical Center in Lincoln, of complications from heart and vascular disease. A private family graveside service will be held at Bureau Cemetery, near Pierce Chapel in rural Clarks. Memorials have been suggested to the family. Condolences may be sent to the family at [www.soltwagnerfuneral.com](http://www.soltwagnerfuneral.com).

Raymond Steele was born on April 15, 1953, to Francis and Josephine (Holmes) McConnell in Central City. Raymond grew up in rural Central City, and graduated from Central City High School in 1971. Following his graduation, Raymond attended college at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. He graduated from UNL with a Bachelor's of Science Degree in Animal Science, as well as with a minor in Dairy Science. After he completed his college, Raymond moved back to the family farm near Central City, where he would continue to farm, and live until he passed away.

Raymond was a member of the Central City Friends Meeting. He was a skilled mechanic, he was an excellent cattleman, and he enjoyed playing horseshoes. His greatest love was when he got to spend time with family, and had a multitude of friends.

Those left to cherish his memory are his siblings; Lois White of Sutherland, NE, George McConnell of Central City, NE, Vivian (Rob) Moeller of Visalia, CA, and Steve (Lisa) McConnell of Lincoln, NE, his nephews; Dan (Karen) Moeller, Ben (Stacy) Moeller, Joe (Morgan) Moeller, Bryan (Shauna) White,

J.C. White, William McConnell, his niece; Louisa McConnell, and great nephews and nieces; Wesley and Hazel, Luke and Levi, Skylar, Joel, and Brynlee;

He was preceded in death by his parents; his brother-in-law; Marlin White, aunts, uncles, and cousins.

# Cemetery Details

## **Bureau Cemetery near Pierce Chapel - Clarks**

1950 X Rd  
Clarks, NE 68628

# Tribute Wall

VA

“ 1 file added to the album *Into the Mystic*



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**Van** - April 22, 2020 at 09:11 PM

LP

“ *My name is Ladd Petersen--I live now in Lincoln, NE. Ray and I were in the same grade in high school--he was a good friend from the freshman year right through graduation, and remained my good friend during our years at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.*

*The last time I saw Ray, I think, was at our 25th high school reunion in 1996--he was the same good soul then.*

*That's what Ray was--a good soul, and I was very sad to hear that he had passed away, but I am oh so grateful that I knew him and that I have so many good memories of him.*

*I will always remember him.*

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**Ladd Petersen** - April 06, 2020 at 01:31 AM

JW

*My name is JoAnne Larsen Wilson and I live in Colorado . I attended school with Ray and graduated with him . I send my condolences to his family .*

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**JoAnne Larsen Wilson** - April 06, 2020 at 10:56 AM

CR

*Our sincere sympathy to Lois White and family. Neighbors and friends, the Risings*

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**Cindy Rising** - April 06, 2020 at 11:42 AM

RT

*Our thoughts and prayers are with Ray and the rest of the family. So glad I was able to see him just weeks ago.*

*As a child my Dad Stanley (his Uncle) always gave him a hard time about when he was going to shave. Of course years later after he grew his beard he was still asking him when he was going to shave!*

*Rest In Peace Ray*

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**Rich Torpin** - April 06, 2020 at 12:52 PM

DC

*I am Diane (Ertz) Cook and Ray was a great college friend of mine. Have lots of fun memories of him. I met Ray in '71 at UNL. He and Gary lived in Abel Hall, while Emmy, Debi and I were in Sandoz. We got together now and then to party.*

*The second year of college we all lived off campus. Bob, Ray's cousin, was living with the guys at the time. We'd get together at each other's place to party, play pitch and drink beer - PBR was the choice those days.*

*In our junior year during winter break, Emmie, Ray, Bob and I crammed into Em's little yellow VW bug and went to Gary's home place in N.J. Skied the Poconos (let's say I tried, I was the worst) and visited Janet, Bob's sister, while on the east coast. Encountered a good snow storm on the way back, but the little VW made it back. Also, Debi had moved to Omaha, and a friend of mine, Kathy from O'Neill, then made up the group. We gathered at Sam's farm place outside Milford numerous times and Willoughby's in Omaha. I remember going to Central City, visiting the Independent Club (my husband, Todd, thinks the old deco and Snooker tables are really neat), getting ice cream at the drive-in that Mike Mesner's family operated and seeing the 1st Star Wars movie at the theater there. We had several Platte River Rat gatherings during the summer-breaks. The girls brought food, guys gathered wood for the fire and set up the tents and everybody brought beer. One year it rained, inside the tent got wet except for Ray's corner & he didn't give that dry spot up. Met several of Ray and Bob's high school friends and family then - Ladd, Willoughby, Randy, Robin, George and faces I can't put names to. Several times we got together at Kamp Kaleo at Burwell - teepee saunas and the Loup River.*

*After college, Ray drove me and my 4 kids to Branched Oak, Lincoln, for a visit with Em, her family, Bob, maybe Ladd, and Willoughby when he was back from CA. My kids and I also visited Ray at his family farm outside CC. Ray visited Todd and I a couple of times here in G.I. after he had gone to the horse races. I think the last time I saw Ray was when we met at a little bar in Clarks for a BD drink, that was several years ago.*

*Ray would have had a BD a couple of days ago, April 15, a date that's hard to forget.*

*Those were all good times, Ray, will miss you.*

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**Diane Cook** - April 17, 2020 at 04:56 PM

WG

*First met Ray when I was moving into 3rd floor Abel Hall, UNL, August of '71. He was wearing bowling shoes! Preferred to run up & down the stairs vs using the elevators. Think he was the only resident skinnier than I. We became friends the first day.*

*Spent a lot of time in his dorm room...his roommate had a turntable...Ray had two albums, The Them & a Bee Gees album that his brother George had loaned or donated.*

*Soon I met his cousin & best friend Bob, living on East Campus, then three super neat ladies from Sandoz dorm. Six, perfect for Pitch!*

*Think we spent most weekend nights for the next three years playing Pitch. Ray was a Pitch genius and the partner you were most lucky to have in five hand Pitch.*

*We made a trip off campus to visit his good friend Ladd. How was Ladd fortunate enough to escape the whole high rise dorm experience? Ray resolved that we would live off campus and for the next three years he would head to Lincoln, early summer and secure a place. Ray did more than his share of cooking. For a few semesters, pretty sure we lived on rabbit that Ray bagged & cleaned @ the farm for several semesters.*

*Was invited by Ray to spend a weekend @ the family farm, Central City..Thanksgiving? His parents & brothers & great, tasty, food, simply one of the most vivid & fond memories. Warm Quaker friendship.*

*Camping on the Platte.*

*Was very fortunate to meet cousin Sam, through Ray.*

*Generous, inclusive, smart, funny & kind.  
A Good Soul indeed. Miss you Ray.*

*Garry Garrison*

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**William E Garrison** - April 19, 2020 at 08:14 PM