



## Zale K. Roper

April 8, 1932 - March 4, 2018

Zale K. Roper, 85, of Kearney, formerly of Amherst, died Sunday, March 4, 2018 at Good Samaritan Hospital.

Funeral services will be at 2:00 pm Thursday at First United Methodist Church. Visitation will be from 12:00 pm until service time Thursday at the church. Mr. Roper will be cremated following the service. A private family inurnment will be at a later date.

In lieu of flowers, memorials are suggested to St. Jude's Children's Hospital. O'Brien Straatmann Redinger Funeral Home is serving the family. Condolences may be shared online at [www.osrfh.com](http://www.osrfh.com).

Zale Kent Roper was born on April 8, 1932 in Sumner, Nebraska to Harry B. and Fern (Brown) Roper. He grew up in Sumner and graduated from Sumner High School in 1949.

He was united in marriage to Ila Bowden on November 25, 1947 in Norton, Kansas. The couple made their home in Sumner where Zale farmed. In 1960 they moved to Poole, Nebraska where he continued to farm until moving to Kearney and opening the Roper Holiday Standard Oil Station in 1965. Zale and Ila owned and operated the station until 1977, at which time he opened Roper Radiator Shop. The couple moved to an acreage outside of Amherst in

1990 and recently returned to Kearney to reside at Welcov. Zale retired in December 2016.

Zale was a member of First United Methodist Church and was a past member of the Elks Club. He enjoyed playing golf, fishing, hunting, camping and watching wildlife. He especially loved attending the activities of his grandchildren.

He is survived by his loving wife of 70 years, Ila Roper of Kearney; two sons, Perry L. Roper and wife Karen of Summer Haven Lake and Dennis G. Roper and wife Lori of Amherst; seven grandchildren; and 10 great grandchildren.

Zale was preceded in death by his parents; a daughter, Lisa Marie Roper; two sons, Larry and Timothy Roper; three brothers, Clyde "Jack" Roper, Dean Roper and Zane Roper; and three sisters, Beryl Thomas, Avis McFarland and Doris Shadley.

# Cemetery Details

## Kearney Cemetery

4400 Avenue I  
Kearney, NE 68847  
(308) 233-3244

# Previous Events

## Visitation

MAR 8. 12:00 PM - 2:00 PM (CT)

First United Methodist Church  
4500 Linden Drive  
Kearney, NE 68847

## Funeral Service

MAR 8. 2:00 PM (CT)

First United Methodist Church  
4500 Linden Drive  
Kearney, NE 68847

# Tribute Wall



“ *Zale K. Roper*

January 28, 2023 at 08:01 AM



“ *Our thoughts and prayers are with you at this time. We have fawn memories from the Roper Radiator business to the Auctions he attended. Again our prayers are with you and your family. Ken & Sherry Bramer*

**Ken Bramer** - March 10, 2018 at 06:56 PM



“ *Prayers and sympathy to the family Judi (Lawson) Clark*

**judi clark** - March 08, 2018 at 09:20 PM



“ *Sending condolences to Lindsey and family. Our son Christopher played his flute with Lindsey quite often at UNK and for the longest time did not know their grandmothers were cousins.*

*Nancy McCammon-Hansen*

**Nancy Hansen** - March 08, 2018 at 03:10 PM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Zale K. Roper.*



March 08, 2018 at 07:22 AM

WC

“ To Zale's family, we are sorry for your loss. Zale provided me the opportunity to work at the Holiday Standard while attending Kearney State College. Through work I got to know Zale and his family, especially Perry and Larry. Thank you for the memories!

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**Wayne & Betty Cross** - March 07, 2018 at 11:21 PM

LM

“ So sorry to hear of Zale's passing. Your family became our family over the years and Zale will be greatly missed by us. So many memories to cherish... Iowa/Nebraska rivalry fun will always top the list. Our thoughts and prayers are with you at this time!



*Lisa & Charlie Meadows & Family*

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**Lisa Meadows** - March 07, 2018 at 11:15 PM

BA

“ Thoughts and prayers to your family. The ball game parties were much fun when you lived at Poole.

*Randy & Betty (Heider) Anspach*

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**Betty Anspach** - March 07, 2018 at 08:22 PM

LW

“ *Ila and the Roper family,  
Sorry for your loss of Zale, he was always so  
pleasant to talk to and always acknowledge  
everyone.  
We extend our sympathy to the Ropers.*

*Prayers,  
John and Lee Ward*



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**Lee Ward** - March 07, 2018 at 08:05 PM