



## Clarence Allen Turner

February 1, 1948 - January 31, 2019

Clarence Allen Turner (Clancy), of Mason City, Iowa passed away peacefully in Ames on January 31 from complications of cancer. He was born in Mason City February 1, 1948, to Willie Turner and Maybelle (Farley) Turner.

Clarence graduated from Mason City High School in 1966 and Iowa State University in 1981 with a BS in Construction Engineering. In Mason City he was a student leader, star basketball, baseball and football player and a team member of the undefeated football team of 1965. He was a member of St. John's Baptist Church. He loved his hometown and his educational foundation in Mason City schools.

At Iowa State he joined the Beta Theta Pi fraternity, Tau Sig 908. He gained many lifelong friends through his membership. At ISU he continued his love of sports, playing baseball for ISU and developed his love of rugby on a college intramural team. During a hiatus from school he worked for General Electric.

After leaving Iowa State Clarence chose a career in heavy highway construction managing large projects for Kassler Corporation in CA, CO, and TX. He returned to Iowa and completed his career at Cedar Valley Corporation. He received multiple awards for his work.

Sports activities continued throughout his life. After retiring he joined the Olde Barking Dogs Rugby Team and played in tournaments in San Diego, Hawaii, Australia, Argentina, England, Scotland, and New Zealand. His most recent sports passion was bicycling, riding RAGBRAI six times with team YOYO.

He enjoyed canoeing and camping with his partner Karen and the Books Club M-Day annual event, ISU football games, bowl games, Drake Relays, and hunting were regular events shared with new and old friends.

Clarence journeyed to Tanzania, an East Africa Nation, eight times to assist his sister, Dr. Deborah Turner on medical missions for Outreach. He also shared this experience with

his niece Danielle and nephew Daniyel. Using his construction knowledge, on an extended trip he supervised a crew of local workers in completing a children's feeding center. Each trip ended with a safari where he enjoyed seeing the animals in the wild.

Enjoying friends and connecting with family was most important to Clarence. He spent several years researching the family history and with the help of other family members organized an extended family reunion where he made a presentation sharing his research-tracing the family history across the United States.

Clarence was the embodiment of his father's statement "I never meet a stranger." He met you with a smile and an extended hand in friendship.

Clarence is preceded in death by parents, Willie and Maybelle Turner, brothers, Leroy Dunn II, Raymond Dunn and Lavern Turner and sister, Darlene Hill.

He is survived by his partner, Karen Kellogg, Ames, sisters Dr. Deborah Turner, Omaha, Delores Macer, Houston, nieces Danielle Hill, Chicago, Dawn Macer, Houston, DeAnne Hodge, Houston, Deniece Dunn, Columbia, Maryland, Ronnie Dunn, Fort Worth and nephews, Daniyel Turner, Oakland, CA., Sterling Macer, II, Los Angeles, cousins Beverly Burrell, Pauletta Kipper, Diana Bowers, Joseph Coty, Andrea Coty, Carolyn Coty.

Memorials may be donated to Above and Beyond Cancer, [aboveandbeyondcancer.org](http://aboveandbeyondcancer.org), a public charity with a mission to elevate the lives of those touched by cancer, and to create a healthier world. Founded by Dr. Richard Deming.

A visitation will be held from 5:30pm until 7:30pm on Wednesday (February 6, 2019) at the funeral chapel.

A funeral service will be held 11am Thursday (February 7, 2019) at Hogan-Bremer-Moore Colonial Chapel, 126 3rd St. NE, Mason City with Paul Coty III officiating. Burial will be in the Elmwood-St. Joseph Cemetery.

# Cemetery

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**Elmwood-St. Joseph  
Cemetery**  
1224 South Washington  
Mason City, IA,

# Events

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**FEB** **Visitation** 05:30PM - 07:30PM  
**6**  
Hogan Bremer Moore Colonial Chapel  
126 Third Street Northeast, Mason City, IA, US,  
50401

**FEB** **Funeral Service** 11:00AM  
**7**  
Hogan Bremer Moore Colonial Chapel  
126 Third Street Northeast, Mason City, IA, US,  
50401

# Comments

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“ I have so many happy memories of Clancy Turner. My condolences to the family.

Clancy was one of those unforgettable brothers who stood out as a "stand up guy". I talked to him about rugby the last time we met, as I also picked up the sport while in Biz School in Boston. I would have loved to meet him on the rugby pitch, but that did not work out for us. One of the best compliments that the Rugby community can give to a fellow "rugger" is to describe him as a "Good Rugby Man". This includes his conduct both "On" and "Off" the field. Clancy was definitely a "Good Rugby Man".

My most outstanding recollection of Turner was a Fall night (Thursday night I recall) in Ames when I was President of the "Knights of St Patrick" and the new "Squires" were serenading the sorority houses as this was part of the initiation ritual for the Engineering Activities Honorary (er Engineering Drinking) Society. Clancy was a Senior member of the "Knights" organization, and he decided to watch the serenade at the back of the Gamma Phi Beta House from the 2nd floor roof (I think he worked at the Gamma Phi house). Part way through the serenade, I looked up and watched as Clancy lost his balance on the roof and started sliding down the roof. He slid down the roof, gained momentum and shot down at least one story (maybe more), landing on a small patch of ground (literally the only patch at the back of the house). I remember that his eyes were so large and white, and the look on his face was the look of someone who could not believe this was happening. It seemed to me like it all happened in slow motion, but his actual speed coming off the roof was fast. He landed feet first and did a tuck and roll onto the asphalt parking lot where he lay in a limp, unconscious heap. We thought that he must be dead, and if not dead, badly injured. Some of my memory on this is a bit vague, but I remember that we rushed to his aid and he regained consciousness after a short period of time. We administered First Aid by checking him for broken bones and other apparent injuries (and not moving him). We called for an ambulance and Clancy went to the hospital on a stretcher inside the ambulance. As we were a quite a bit insensitive (now we would have called everything off), and we had been drinking heavily, we continued the serenading of other sororities.

Now the kicker (and you cannot make this stuff up).

As we were finishing the serenading, we see Turner walking up the side-walk with a sorority girl on both arms and a big smile on his face. He was heading out to the bars to celebrate his good fortune. Clancy told us that he was released from the hospital with a diagnosis of zero injuries (no broken bones, no concussion, etc). We could not believe it. God smiled on Turner that night.

We will miss him. Perhaps Clancy and I will get into a game of rugby together when we meet in Heaven. I will toast his memory the next time we are gathered for a post match 3rd Half after the rugby game on the pitch.

Cheers,  
Bob Benson

Note: I had earlier posted this memory, and I had incorrectly noted that Clancy's fall

occurred at the Theta House. I check the location on the internet and concluded that the event happened at the Gamma Phi Beta Sorority house (noted above).



**Robert Benson** - February 12, 2019 at 03:58 PM

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“ 6 files added to the album Iowa State (ISU) Beta Reunion 2016



**Robert Benson** - February 12, 2019 at 03:00 PM

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“ Our sincere sympathy to you at this sad time. We share in your sadness. In her book, Healing After Loss, Martha Whitmore Hickman said, "In the weeks, months and years that lie ahead, you may find qualities and actions in your life that surprise you, until you smile and think, 'I wonder. Yes,, maybe that's part of Clarence living in me.'" We are thinking of you! Fred and Linda (Moen) Muth

**Linda Muth** - February 07, 2019 at 10:33 AM

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“ To all who love Clancy I am so very sorry for your loss. Will be keeping you all in my heart and prayers. Sincerely, Kathy (friend of Karen)

**Kathy Norris** - February 06, 2019 at 09:32 PM

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“ 1 file added to the album Clancy



**Paul Hickey** - February 06, 2019 at 07:19 PM



“ This is just beautiful. So sorry for your loss ♡

**Kathy** - February 06, 2019 at 09:37 PM

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“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Clarence Allen Turner.



February 06, 2019 at 12:47 PM

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“ Nancy, LJ, Terry, Bret & Leah purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Clarence Allen Turner.



**Nancy, LJ, Terry, Bret & Leah** - February 06, 2019 at 12:43 PM

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“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Clarence Allen Turner.



February 06, 2019 at 11:36 AM

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“ Florist Choice Bouquet was purchased for the family of Clarence Allen Turner.



February 05, 2019 at 04:59 PM

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“ Your Classmates MCHS 1966 purchased the With Distinction for the family of Clarence Allen Turner.



**Your Classmates MCHS 1966** - February 05, 2019 at 04:39 PM

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“ Mike and Glenda Dubes purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of Clarence Allen Turner.



**Mike and Glenda Dubes** - February 05, 2019 at 01:08 PM

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“ Thanks for everything you did for Beta on the house remodel. It was so great spending time with you during that process . I appreciated your willingness to assist us at the Beta golf event. It was a great day. I will miss you always m

**Michael Dubes** - February 05, 2019 at 01:05 PM

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“ From MCHS class of '66 Concert band - Condolences and prayers to the family and friends of the back row tuba player.

Diane Anderson Goodrich - oboe

**Diane Goodrich** - February 05, 2019 at 11:55 AM

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“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Clarence Allen Turner.



February 05, 2019 at 11:41 AM

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“ Dick and I have fond memories of Clancy from high school. We are thinking of all of you. Dick and Mary Balluff

**Mary Balluff** - February 05, 2019 at 09:36 AM

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“ I was fortunate to host Clancy when he visited Australia to play Rugby. He loved to laugh. He loved to drink beer and he loved to spend time with his buddies. When I visited Iowa he insisted to take me to a distant friend's home. He said it would be no trouble. He loved America and the American way of life. My condolences to his friends and family on the loss of this great man. I thank Karen for introducing me to this wonderful person that I had the pleasure of knowing.

John Lucas  
Melbourne  
Australia

John Lucas - Australia - February 05, 2019 at 06:39 AM

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“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



Roger McGregor Captain of Team Yo-Yo - February 04, 2019 at 10:48 PM

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“ Clancy and I were friends in high school. He was a special man who stayed in your heart forever.

Connie Weiss

connie Barry - February 04, 2019 at 10:37 PM

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“ I have fond memories of working with Clarence in Tanzania. So sorry for your loss.

Gloria Tesdell

Gloria Tesdell - February 04, 2019 at 06:10 PM

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“ Saddened to hear of Clarence's passing. He was a leader you could always counted on. He will be missed by all. Sympathy to his family.

John and Ginny Cahalan

John Cahalan - February 04, 2019 at 05:45 PM

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“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



Steve Maxon - February 04, 2019 at 05:11 PM

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“ DARRELL GROSLAND purchased the Gracious Lavender Basket for the family of Clarence Allen Turner.



DARRELL GROSLAND - February 04, 2019 at 03:00 PM

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“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



John Hickie - February 03, 2019 at 11:01 PM

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“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Clarence Allen Turner.



February 03, 2019 at 06:04 PM

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“ Really to sorry to hear of Clancy's death. Played Legion bb with him from 8th grade on and competed in basketball. He was one of the most genuinely nice people you could know. Always had that great smile. All who knew him, will miss him.

**Mike Rothamel** - February 03, 2019 at 02:52 PM

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“ Florist Choice Bouquet was purchased for the family of Clarence Allen Turner.



February 03, 2019 at 10:04 AM

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“ Deb and family, I am so sorry for your loss. Clarence was a light. I had so much fun with him in Africa. A truly warm and generous person with a big heart and great sense of humor.

**Cindy Kalvig** - February 03, 2019 at 10:00 AM

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“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



**Cindy Kalvig** - February 03, 2019 at 09:03 AM

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“ Condolences from family of Yvette (Thompson) Miller.

**Green** - February 03, 2019 at 01:03 AM

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“ Friends for one year shy of 60 years, we were sort of kindred spirits in junior high. Same warped sense of humor and he could always make me laugh. And even if we didn't see each other for a while, we seemed to pick up where we left off. That was just who he was. Blessings to his family. He made the world a better place. It won't be the same without him.

**Pat Wilson** - February 02, 2019 at 10:23 PM

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“ The Smile, The Positivity, The Genuineness and the Inherent goodness! That is what I will always remember about this class act of a human being. My sincere condolences to his family

**Jay Jones** - February 02, 2019 at 08:03 PM

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“ So sorry to hear of Clancy’s passing. He was a fantastic person and one of my brother’s ( Doug) best friends. When Doug was in his final days Clarence would come to Mason City to spend weekends watching sports and watching after Doug. When Doug was in the nursing home Clarence was also there for Doug whenever possible. He also spent a lot of time with Doug in hospice until his death. What a great friend Clancy was to the entire Swyter family. My mom and dad thought Clancy was another one of their boys and was always welcome. Many many fond memories. Will be thinking of all next week during a very difficult time. Since Jane and I are in Sun City, Arizona we not be able to be at either the visitation or funeral. Rest In Peace my friend and say hello to Doug in heaven.

**Tim Swyter** - February 02, 2019 at 07:25 PM



“ Our hearts are saddened with the loss of Clancy. His wonderful smile, wonderful laugh, and kindness will leave us with lasting memories.

**Mary Oertel** - February 02, 2019 at 07:53 PM



“ Debbie.. Our sincere condolences, so sorry to hear about Clancy's passing. Our thoughts and prayers are with you at this most difficult time! May memories of your times together bring you comfort in the months ahead and for years to come! Sending our hugs & sympathy to you! Grant and Marilyn (Tapps) Harrod

**Grant and Marilyn Harrod** - February 03, 2019 at 11:17 AM



“ Debbie, so sorry for your loss. I never saw Clancy without a smile. The whole family has been a blessing to every person they came into contact with. A blessing to Mason City, the country and to the world. Thank you Deb for being such a good friend to me in junior high. Can't wait to see him again in Heaven. Bless you ALL.

**Rob Barrington** - February 03, 2019 at 12:53 PM



“ Deborah and Family,  
We were shocked and saddened by Clancy’s passing. We hope you are comforted by all the good Clancy did and the richness of his life. Peace be upon him, and upon all of you.  
Mary Lynn and Bill Oertel

**may lynn oertel** - February 02, 2019 at 06:53 PM



“ Debbie and family; sorry for your loss.

**Steve Rowe** - February 02, 2019 at 06:27 PM