

OBITUARY

Vaylard Arthur Brooks

November 26, 1946 -April 28, 2025

Vaylard Arthur Brooks, 78, of Strawberry Point, Iowa, passed away peacefully at Regional Medical Center on April 28, 2025. He was born on November 26, 1946, in Strawberry Point, Iowa, the son of Albert and Nellie Vione Brooks.

Vaylard graduated from Starmont High School in 1965 and proudly served his country in the United States Army for the following four years. In 1971, he married the love of his life, Betty Lou Keppler, in his hometown of Strawberry Point. Their union was blessed with four children. Beginning in 1971, Vaylard dedicated himself to the sprinkler fitting trade. Over the years, he contributed his skills to several companies before retiring from Iowa Fire Protection in 2001. Alongside his work as a fitter, Vaylard also cherished his life as a farmer on his land outside of Strawberry Point.

Vaylard will be fondly remembered for his strong work ethic, his infectious sense of humor, and the deep love he held for his family. He found joy in the outdoors, hunting, searching for mushrooms, and back in the day, riding his horses. In recent years, he traded horseback riding for ATV riding. One of his greatest pleasures was spending time by his pond, sharing the joy of fishing with his friends and family. He enjoyed telling exaggerated tales and making people laugh with his antics. Mornings were spent at Nadings enjoying coffee and storytelling with his friends.

Given his deep appreciation for family, Vaylard cherished every moment spent with them. He loved looking back and sharing stories from his younger days and all the jobs he visited in the sprinkler trade. He had an incredible memory of all the people he had met along the way. His grandchildren were especially dear to him, and he delighted in spoiling and playfully teasing them, always with a mischievous sparkle in his eyes.

Vaylard is survived by his beloved wife of nearly 54 years, Betty Lou; his children, Michelle (Shane) Paris, Cole Brooks, Lisa (Mike) Patterson, and Wade Brooks (Jennifer Otdoerfer); his adored grand-

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OBITUARY

Thomas Allen Smull

May 6, 1960 -April 7, 2025

With profound sadness, we say goodbye to Thomas Allen Smull of Saint Charles, Missouri, whose vibrant spirit touched the lives of many. Thomas left this world on April 7, 2025, at the age of 64, leaving a void in the lives of so many people.

Visitation was held at 10:00 a.m. on Monday, April 14, 2025, at Schultz Funeral Home, DeWitt, IA. A funeral service followed at 11:00 a.m., in the funeral home. Burial was held at Elmwood Cemetery, DeWitt.

Thomas Allen Smull was born May 6, 1960, in Muscatine, Iowa, to Marilyn Smull. He graduated High School from Starmont Community School. Tom was united in marriage to Diane Griep on June 5, 1982, in Des Moines, IA.

Tom was a devout Christian, always putting other's needs over his own. Consistently lending an ear, providing guidance, or helping in prayers. Tom would chase your tiny human around the "itchy, scratch going to get you" to allow a tired mom to get a minute of silence. He would call and check on family and friends near and far through his travels of life. He enjoyed spending time with

OBITUARY

Burton John Davis

May 6, 1960 -April 9, 2025

Burton John Davis, 61, of Delaware, Iowa, passed away on Wednesday, April 9, 2025, at Regional Medical Center in Manchester, Iowa.

Visitation was held from 4:00 to 7:00 p.m. on Monday, April 14, 2025, at Clifton-Murdoch Funeral Home & Cremation Service in Earlville, Iowa. A funeral service was held at 11:00 a.m. on Tuesday, April 15, 2025, at St. Paul Lutheran Church in Delaware, Iowa with an additional visitation one hour prior to service with the Reverend Matthew Vesey officiating. Burial will take place at a later date at Zion Cemetery, Colesburg, Iowa.

Burton was born on August 10, 1963, at Regional Medical Center in Manchester, Iowa, the son of Richard F. Davis and Betty Mary Frances Katherine (Littlejohn) Davis. He lived and was raised in Colesburg and worked with his dad at Davis Hardware. Burton graduated from Ed-Co High School

Did you know?

Shopping is foremost on the minds of many people come the holiday season. When considering loved ones and acquaintances while making holiday shopping lists, tangible gifts, such as clothing or items for the home, may be the first things that come to mind. However, experiential gifts also merit consideration. Experiential gifts are those that focus on experiences rather than items. These can include anything from a horseback riding adventure to a spa day to concert tickets to getting behind the wheel of a race car. Experiential gifts can be tailored to people's interests. A 2014 study by researchers at San Francisco State University showed people tend to realize greater well-being from life experiences and consider them to be a better way to spend their money. Overall satisfaction tends to be greater with gifted experiences than with material things. Furthermore, the Harris Group found that 72 percent of millennials actually want to spend more money on experiences rather than things.

Thank You

Thank you for all the prayers and cards for the passing of my son-in-law, Burt Davis. Thank you also for all the caards and prayers for the passing of my foster son's family, Tom Smull. - Sandy Crossman

and hunting. He loved spending time with his friends and family and will be missed by all those who knew and loved him.

Burton is survived by his wife of 11 years, Teri Davis; daughters, Johanna (Bill) Rolfes, Kassandra Crossman; grandson, Adam Rolfes (fiancée Allison Mulvihill); sister, Peggy Hinzman (special friend Bob Schroeder); mother-in-law, Sandy Crossman; nieces, Jennie (Gus) Feliciano, Ali (Tannen) Jaeger; great nephew, Geoffrey Hinzman, Ty Jaeger; great nieces, Madeline, Mari Allen, Emma Holthaus Feliciano; and sister-in-law, Tami Kelchen.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Richard and Betty Davis; Betty's first husband, Merle Holthaus; brother, Terry (Connie) Holthaus, father-in-law, Ronald Crossman; brother-in-law, Tracy Crossman; and his nephews, Jeff Hinzman and Allen Holthaus.

Memorials in Burton's memory may be directed to the family.

PUBLIC NOTICE

City of Strawberry Point

Strawberry Point City Council
Regular Meeting April 16, 2025

The Strawberry Point City Council met for a regular meeting on Wednesday, April 16, 2025, at 6:00 p.m. at the Council Chambers within Strawberry Point City Hall. Mayor Evans presided Council members answering roll call were Yokiel, Becker, Minard, Hansel, Gilson.

Hansel moved to approve the agenda as presented. Minard seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Ayes: Yokiel, Becker, Minard, Hansel, Gilson. Nays: None. Motion passes

PRESENTATIONS/GUESTS
CONSENT AGENDA

Minutes from April 2, 2025, City Council Meeting
Minutes from January 8 & 22, February 12 & 26, March 12 & 26, 2025, Fire Department
Claims

Gilson moved to approve the Consent Agenda. Minard seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Ayes: Becker, Minard, Gilson, Yokiel. Nays: None. Abstain: Hansel. Motion passes.

UPDATES

City Administrator Andrews gave the council an update on the Giant Strawberry. Thanking K&W coating, Swales Pre-Cast, Public works and the Strawberry Police department for all their help with its restoration and replacement. Andrew shared with the council the number of views, likes, shares and sponsorships that have been received from the sponsor a seed campaign.

NEW BUSINESS

Yokiel made the motion to approve Resolution #25-14 authoring the purchase of a police vehicle. Minard seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Ayes: Minard, Hansel, Gilson, Yokiel, Becker. Nays: None. Motion passes. Gilson made the motion to approve Resolution #25-15 authorizing repairs to E Mission Street. Yokiel seconded the motion A roll call vote was taken. Ayes: Hansel, Gilson, Yokiel, Becker, Minard. Nays: None. Motion passes

Gilson made the motion to approve Resolution #25-16 appointing Dean Court-nage as Fire Chief, for a one-year term. Becker seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Ayes: Gilson, Yokiel, Becker, Minard, Hansel. Nays: None. Motion passes

Becker made the motion to appoint Doug Meyer to the Fire Department. Minard seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Ayes: Yokiel, Becker, Minard, Hansel, Gilson. Nays: None. Motion passes

Gilson made the motion to discuss and direct the city administrator regarding the pool. Hansel seconded the motion. After a long discussion Yokiel made the motion to close the pool Gilson seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Ayes: Minard, Gilson, Yokiel. Nays: Becker, Hansel. Motion passes

With there being no other business, Gilson moved to adjourn at 6:46 p.m. Hansel seconded the motion. All ayes.

Jessi Jared, Deputy City clerk
Hannah Evans, Mayor

Published in the Press Journal the week of May 7, 2025.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Starmont Community School District

STARMONT COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT
Special Teleconference School Board Meeting
Monday, April 28, 2025
Starmont Superintendent's Office
7:30 AM

"Empowering all students with knowledge, skills, and attitudes necessary for responsible, productive, and fulfilling lives."

1. Call to Order

The Starmont Community School District Board held a special teleconference board meeting on Monday, April 28, 2025, in the Superintendent's office, located in the high school > President Uhlenkamp called the meeting to order at 7:30 AM. Recker read the following statement: "it is impractical due to the schedules of board members to hold the meeting on the 28th day of April, 2025, with all persons in person. Thus, the meeting will be held by electronic means pursuant to Section 21.8.2024 Code of Iowa. The public will be provided access to the meeting at 7:30 am in the Superintendent's Office, Starmont School District, 3202 40th Street, Arlington, Iowa 50606." Roll call was taken. Members present: Julie Uhlenkamp, Doug Puffett, Vicki Althoff, Jacob Moellers. Absent: Tony Recker. Administration present: Superintendent, Robert Busch; Business Manager/Board Secretary, Katie Taylor.

2. Approve Agenda

Motion by Puffett to approve agenda as presented. Seconded by Moellers. Motion carried 4-0.

3. Approve Secondary Principal Contract

Motion by Puffett to approve hire of Jennifer Lange as Secondary Principal for 2025-26 school year with a 240-day contract with a salary of \$87,000. Seconded by Althoff. Motion carried 4-0.

4. Adjourn

Motion by Moellers to adjourn. Seconded by Althoff. Motion carried 4-0. Meeting adjourned at 7:31 AM.

Julie Uhlenkamp, Board President
Katie Taylor, Business Manager/Board Secretary

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PUBLIC NOTICES

IOWA NEWSPAPER ASSOCIATION

PUBLIC NOTICE

Clayton County Board of Supervisors

April 22, 2025

Meeting at 9:30 AM of the Clayton County Board of Supervisors at 600 Gunder Road NE, Elkader, Iowa.

Present: Steve Doeppke, Ray Peterson, and Doug Reimer

Guests: Patti Ruff, Bob Kurdelmeyer, Destiny Kapler, Zach Herrmann, Brit-tany Hubanks, Barb Burleson, Richard Bahls, Pat O'brien, Steve Richardson, Craig Kluesner, Adam Linden, Barb Yates-Milewsky, Sandra McMillin, CA Oleson, Richard Becker, Larry Thein, Patti Gerner, Ed Munoz, Betty Dittmer, Jennifer Shane, Julian Merriitt, Lucas Merriitt, Lorrie Shedivy, Mark ??, Gaby Young, Bingse Young, Kim Corpian, Vance Knutson, Dean Lounsborough, David Recker, Lance Mielke, Chris Gaffney, Smoky Doyle, Torrie Moses, Brandon Eilers, Casey Stickfort, Peg Connor, and Jennifer Garms

Information Technology Director Bob Kurdelmeyer provided a departmental update.

Doeppke moved, Peterson seconded to approve the meeting minutes for April 15, 2025. Ayes: Doeppke, Peterson, Reimer. Motion carried.

Peterson moved, Doeppke seconded to approve the claims as presented totaling \$81,788.95. Ayes: Doeppke, Peterson, Reimer. Motion carried.

Peterson moved, Doeppke seconded to approve a Class E Retail Alcohol Li-cense for Iowa Stores, Inc. DBA FastTRAK Convenience Store. Ayes: Doeppke, Peterson, Reimer. Motion carried.

Doeppke moved, Peterson seconded to approve a Class C Retail Alcohol Li-cense with Outdoor Service for Elkader Golf and Country Club Inc. Ayes: Doeppke, Peterson, Reimer. Motion carried.

The Board received a departmental update from the Visiting Nurses' Associa-tion.

County Attorney informed the Board that Assistant County Attorney Anne Kruse has resigned effective May 15, 2025. Peterson moved, Doeppke seconded to approve alterations to the FY2026 County Budget to accommodate the po-sition up to \$85,000 in salary and applicable amounts for FICA, IPERS, and health insurance. Ayes: Doeppke, Peterson, Reimer. Motion carried.

Bids were opened for rural garbage services received from Hawkeye Sanita-tion (Hawkeye), Kluesner Sanitation (Kluesner), and Waste Management (WM). Items to bid included Item 1: Rural Trash/Recycling at Remote Sites, Item 2: Rural Trash/Recycling at Elkader Site, and Item 3: Bulk Items at Remote Sites.

Item 1:	Item 2:
• Hawkeye: \$32,500/month	• Hawkeye: \$7,000/month, \$78/ton
• Kluesner: \$20,012/month	• Kluesner: \$8,940/month, \$90/ton
	• WM: \$14,000/month, \$101/ton
Item 3:	
• Hawkeye: \$500/haul, \$78/ton	
• Kluesner: \$450/haul, \$90/ton	
• WM: \$567.90/haul, \$77.71/ton	

The Board reviewed the bids and determined the overhaul annual cost for Items 1 and 2 together. Peterson moved, Doeppke seconded to award the bids for all items to Kluesner Sanitation. Roll Call Vote: Doeppke-aye, Peterson-aye, Reimer-aye. Motion carried.

This being the date and time set to receive bids for the 2025 Contract Rock Program, Engineer Casey Stickfort received bids on Item 1: Class A Crushed Stone on Road from the following: Bard Concrete, Dyersville, IA; Bruening Rock Products, Decorah, IA; CJ Moyna & Sons, Elkader, IA; Recker Rock Products, Lamont, IA, and River City Stone, Dubuque, IA.

Division 1 – 26,470 tons	Division 2 – 34,820 tons
• Bruening: \$11.099/ton	• Bard: \$9.56/ton
• CJ Moyna: \$10.94/ton	• Bruening: \$8.779/ton
	• CJ Moyna: \$13.25/ton
	• Recker: \$10.85/ton

The apparent lowest bids as follows:

Division 1: CJ Moyna & Sons, Elkader, IA	\$10.94/ton	\$289,581.80/area
Division 2: Bruening Rock Products, Decorah, IA	\$8.779/ton	\$305,684.78/area
Division 3: River City Stone, Dubuque, IA	\$11.28/ton	\$238,572.00/area

Dust control per 400 linear feet was also bid on (Bard \$625.00; Bruening \$650.00; CJ Moyna \$600.00; Recker \$620.00; and River City Stone \$600.00). Peterson moved, Doeppke seconded to award the bids to the lowest bidder in all Divisions for the 2025 Contract Rock Program pending review by Engineer Casey Stickfort and authorize the chair to sign contracts upon arrival. Ayes: Doeppke, Peterson, Reimer. Motion carried.

The Board worked on the FY2026 County Budget.

/s/ Doug Reimer, Board of Supervisors Chair
Attest: Jennifer Garms, Clayton County Auditor

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PUBLIC NOTICE

Clayton County Board of Supervisors

April 24, 2025

Meeting at 1:00 PM of the Clayton County Board of Supervisors at 600 Gunder Road NE, Elkader, Iowa.

Present: Steve Doeppke, Ray Peterson, and Doug Reimer

Guests: Terra Konieczny, Audrey Posten, Zach Herrmann, Brent Ostrander, Garrett Baumgartner, Casey Stickfort, Josie Fettkether, Chopper Albert, Linda Zuercher, Tiffany Johansen, and Jennifer Garms

Doeppke moved, Peterson seconded to terminate the employment of Robert Kurdelmeyer as Information Technology Director effective immediately. Roll Call Vote: Doeppke-aye, Peterson-aye, Reimer-aye. Motion carried.

Peterson moved, Doeppke seconded to approve posting for the Information Technology Director position. Ayes: Doeppke, Peterson, Reimer. Motion carried.

/s/ Doug Reimer, Board of Supervisors Chair
Attest: Jennifer Garms, Clayton County Auditor

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Wednesday, May 7, 2025, Press-Journal, Strawberry Point, IA

Tips to make Mother's Day extra special

Mother's Day is celebrated each May and marks a perfect opportunity to show Mom how much she's loved and appreciated. Mother's Day has been celebrated for more than 100 years, and in that time mothers have grown accustomed to certain staples of the holiday. A bouquet of fresh flowers, Sunday brunch at a local restaurant and some gifts from a partner and the children have become standards each Mother's Day.

While Mother's Day standards may never lose their appeal, families looking to make this year's celebration a little more unique can consider these ideas.

- Whip up (or order in) some baked goods. If Mom is the family baker, surprise her this year with some homemade baked goods. An aroma of freshly baked goodies around the house can set a well-coming tone for the day, particularly if the treats are prepared in the morning before Mom wakes up. Partners and children whose baking skills leave a little to be desired can get some freshly baked treats from a local bakery and have them waiting for Mom when she wakes up.
- Take to the road. Another way to make Mother's Day extra special is to make the celebration a weekend affair. A weekend getaway can be a welcome breath of fresh air for mothers and serve as a great opportunity for the family to unwind and celebrate Mom away from everything that reminds her of the hustle and bustle of everyday life. A getaway can be an especially ideal surprise for mothers whose children are full grown. Invite adult kids along and make their attendance a surprise for Mom.
- Book a unique experience. Experiential gifts have been wildly popular in recent years, so why not incorporate this trend into Mother's Day celebrations? Book a tour of a local vineyard or winery, take Mom to a live theater performance, or take her out for a day on the water, complete with brunch and a champagne toast. Such memorable experiences won't soon be forgotten and can provide an exciting alternative to previous Mother's Day celebrations.
- Ensure Mom doesn't lift a finger. A truly special Mother's Day will give Mom a day off. Partners and kids can team up to take care of everything from the moment Mom wakes up until she returns to bed at night. Serve breakfast in bed, order in some lunch and then take Mom out for a nice meal at a local restaurant. In between meals, let Mom relax any way she sees fit, whether that's curling up with a good book, dusting off her paint brush and engaging in some artistic endeavors and/or squeezing in a rare midday nap. Mom will undoubtedly appreciate a full day off, which might just make for the best gift of all.

Mother's Day is the ideal time to offer Mom a unique experience that shows her how much she's loved and appreciated.