



Debra Y. Grothe

October 26, 1959 - January 17, 2024

ELGIN – Funeral service for family and cousins of Debra Y. Grothe, 64, of Elgin will be held at the Park Center Congregational United Church of Christ, rural Elgin. Pastor Kate West will be officiating. Interment will be held at the Park Center Church Cemetery, rural Elgin. Visitation will be held 5:00-7:00 p.m., Tuesday, Jan. 23, at the Stonacek Funeral Chapel in Norfolk. Debra passed away on Wednesday, January 17, 2024 at her residence, rural Elgin. Stonacek Funeral Chapel is in charge of the arrangements.

Debra was born on October 26, 1959 in Osmond, Nebraska to Leonard and Lois (Hoestji) Gerdes. She attended grade school in Osmond and graduated from Osmond High School. She then attended college in Norfolk and then later Wayne State College. She graduated from Wayne State and received two Master's Degrees. Debra worked as a school teacher for 35 years. She taught in Palos Verdes, California, and also worked at Disney Land. She later moved back to Nebraska and started at a small school house in Laurel, NE. Deb later moved on to Lynch, Niobrara, Petersburg, and Randolph. She married Steven "Steve" Lee Grothe on June 28, 2014 at the Grothe Homestead, rural Elgin. After she retired, Debra worked part time at the Ten West Cattle Feedlot, rural Elgin. Debra enjoyed fishing, taking care of animals, poker runs, spending time with her husband, dancing, and having friends and family get together. She loved her husband and all the time that she spent with him.

Survivors include her spouse Steve Grothe of rural Elgin, step-son Kash Grothe of Ord, step-daughter Krystle (Jason) Strobbe and their daughter Harlee Strobbe of Wahpeton, ND, siblings Loren (Lisa) Gerdes of McLean and Gaylen (Cindy) Gerdes of McLean, nieces and nephews Angela (Brett) Williams, Nathan (Gidget) Gerdes, Donald Gerdes, Elisabeth Gerdes, Austin Gerdes, Christopher Gerdes. She was preceded in death by her parents Leonard and Lois.

Casket bearers will be Nate Gerdes, Kash Grothe, Jason Strobbe, Loren Gerdes, Gaylen Gerdes, and Donald Gerdes. Condolences may be expressed to the family on-line at www.stonacekfuneralchapel.com.

Cemetery Details

Park Center United Church of Christ Cemetery - ELGIN

83853 511th Ave
Elgin, NE 68636

Previous Events

Visitation

JAN **23**. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Stonacek Funeral Chapel - Norfolk
1200 N.13th St.
Norfolk, NE 68701
(402) 371-7676
info@stonacekfuneralchapel.com
<https://stonacekfuneralchapel.com/>

Tribute Wall

PC

“ *Deb was a kind, caring, responsible, fun-loving person. She was not afraid of hard work or taking on a problem to solve. You could always count on her for whatever was needed. She would go the "extra mile" with all she did. She was an unselfish person, always thinking of others. She never asked for much when it came to herself. She judged no one. She loved and cared for all of God's creatures. She was a light in the night. She always had a smile and a positive attitude. She loved her husband, her family, and her life. But most of all Debbie was my friend, a true friend and I will never forget her. She will always hold that special place in my heart. She is with God and watching over all she loves. She is still with us to help with whatever she can, because that was what Debbie did. All you have to do is call her name, she'll be there. I'm so grateful that you were in my life.*

Pamela Charf - January 23, 2024 at 03:36 PM

JW

“ *Deb and I went to school together; had a ton of fun. She always had a smile. I am so sad this happened to her; she never deserved anything cruel. We're all thinking about you Deb; the world is a sadder place without your beautiful smile.*

Jayne Weaver - January 22, 2024 at 08:20 PM

TR

“ *Thinking of you. Pam and Rick planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Debra Y. Grothe.*

Thinking of you. Pam and Rick - January 22, 2024 at 05:56 PM

TR

“ Thinking of you. Pam and Rick purchased the Heartfelt Memories for the family of Debra Y. Grothe.



Thinking of you. Pam and Rick - January 22, 2024 at 05:56 PM

MN

“ Miki N. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Debra Y. Grothe.

Miki N. - January 22, 2024 at 01:33 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Debra Y. Grothe.



January 22, 2024 at 01:33 PM

FL

“ From Laura & Linda planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Debra Y. Grothe.

From Laura & Linda - January 20, 2024 at 05:07 PM



“ Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Debra Y. Grothe.



January 20, 2024 at 05:07 PM

LB

“ Some of my best teen age years were spent at my cousin's farm. Debbie and I were close in age and thought of each other like sisters. My sister was much older than me and Debbie had no sisters so it easy to connect. She was always fun and gladly let me and my girlfriends stay in her bedroom with her when we came to visit. Which was quite often. There was so many great memories it's hard to not want to share all of them. I learned to drive out in the cow pastures in the old green car / usually chasing the cows back to the barn to fast. Speaking of cows my friends and I thought it would be nice to let Deb sleep in one morning and go do her chores. The milking of cows did not go well as we had no idea which ones to milk. Soon found out that you don't milk a heifer. There were many good times sneaking out my of the house to go meet boys and finding Lois at the end of the lane waving her flashlight as we sped by. Riding the horses into Mclean to get Pepsi for Lois and getting side tracked. Skinny dipping at Plainview Country Club and also breaking into the city pool. Needless to say I am not sure why Leonard and Lois let us keep coming back to their home. As time went on we drifted apart but I thought of her often and still treasure all the good times we had growing up. She will be missed by all who knew her. - Laura Bergholz

Laura bergholz - January 20, 2024 at 05:04 PM

LB

“ 2 files added to the tribute wall



Laura bergholz - January 20, 2024 at 04:47 PM



“ *Fairest of All was purchased for the family of Debra Y. Grothe.*



January 20, 2024 at 01:07 PM



“ *Deb was such a true spirit always caring for others. Her and I were inseparable growing up I spent every possible minute on the Gerdes farm. Deb and her family taught me what it was to work and learn about life on the farm. I always said every kid should live on a farm or visit one. Deb was always doing what she could whether it be rescuing a piglet from being crushed by the sow rescuing me from the bull that got loose teaching me how to milk cows while listening to Credence Clearwater she said they milk faster that way I love that band yet today. We loved to ride horses!, herd the cows. play pinnackle cards for hrs during the blizzards then drive the bounce mobile threw the drifts. we loved to show her calves at the fairs and enjoyed being in the parades with the outhouse aboard, she was a true big sister to her brothers Loren and Gaylen and even though Deb didn't have any kids she loved and adored her nieces and nephews. she loved and cared unconditionally! I'm glad you found your love Steve while you were here and someday we will meet again. rest easy now my sweet cousin. love you!!
Tammy (aka fuzzy or llama per Loren)*

tammy stender - January 19, 2024 at 05:24 PM