



## Ruth A. Labenz

October 12, 1942 - December 11, 2021

NORFOLK -- Funeral service for Ruth A. Labenz, 79, of Norfolk will be held 10:00 a.m., Saturday, December 18, 2021 at Stonacek Funeral Chapel in Norfolk. Service will be streamed live on [www.stonacekfuneralchapel.com](http://www.stonacekfuneralchapel.com) web page. Interment will take place at Geneva Public Cemetery, Geneva, NE. Visitation will be held from 4:00 - 7:00 p.m., Friday, also at Stonacek Funeral Chapel. Ruth died on Saturday, December 11, 2021 at Faith Regional Health Services in Norfolk. Stonacek Funeral Chapel in Norfolk is in charge of the arrangements.

Ruth A. Labenz, daughter of Vilas and Dorothy (Parkhurst) Zepf, was born October 12, 1942 in Lynch, NE. Ruth's first year was on a farm in Boyd County until her family's home burnt down. The family then moved to a farm near Neligh, NE. The first 3 ½ years she was in Neligh grade. From March to December 1952, Ruth attended country school. After 8 years they moved to Newman Grove, NE. She continued in a country school through the 8th grade. Ruth graduated in 1961 from Newman Grove High School, she was salutatorian of her class.

After graduation, Ruth went on to Lincoln School of Commerce in Lincoln, NE. Ruth worked one year for Olson Construction. Ruth was united in marriage to Lester Labenz on August 22, 1963. To this union five children were born Robert, Nancy, Peggy, David and Timothy. For 12 ½ years they lived in and

around the Shickley and Geneva, NE area and was employed at Cornhusker Farms.

January 1, 1976, they moved to Pilger, NE. In 1978 they started their own trucking business. Ruth was the dispatcher/office manager until 1993, at which time they were divorced. Their son Robert took over L & L Trucking. Ruth worked for Wal-Mart for 17 years and Eco-Lux Inn for 10 years. She also worked for Hampton Inn for four years. Ruth later went back to work for Eco-Lux Inn motel again. After the tornado of June 20th when she lost her home, she moved to Norfolk, NE.

Ruth is survived by sons Robert Labenz (Beverly Maier) of Louisville, NE, Tim (Angie) Labenz of Pilger, daughters Nancy (Barry) Wolff of Eli, NE, Peggy Jensen (Michael Jaeger) of Randolph, Grandchildren Lacey Russman (Andy Sebade), Ashley Labenz, Tyler (Megan) Jensen, Jackie (Kelly) Lueken, Walker Wolff, Grace Wolff, Elliah Wolff, great-grandchildren Dylan Russman, Jaylee Lueken, Kinsley Lueken, Jerik Lueken, Kreely Lueken, Ellison Jensen, Landry Jensen, Kasen Jensen, and Emry Jensen, sister Jean Kringle of Walton, NE, and brother James Zepf of Lincoln.

Ruth was preceded in death by her parents Vilas and Dorothy, grandparents, infant son David in 1970, and brother-in-law Ronald Kringle.

Condolences may be expressed to the family on-line at [www.stonacekfuneralchapel.com](http://www.stonacekfuneralchapel.com).

# Cemetery Details

## Geneva Public Cemetery

Geneva, NE 68361

# Previous Events

## Visitation

DEC 17. 4:00 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/>

## Funeral Service

DEC 18. 10:00 AM (CT)

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

# Tribute Wall



“ *Stonacek Funeral Chapel created a Webcast in memory of Ruth A. Labenz*



Stonacek Funeral Chapel - December 18, 2021 at 10:22 AM



“ *Ruth A. Labenz*

October 05, 2023 at 03:46 AM



“ *Sorry to hear about Ruth. She started cardiac rehab the same day I did. Very pleasant, smiling, and had a positive attitude. Can tell by visiting with her that she was always caring about her family. She will be missed..*

roger Kudera - December 22, 2021 at 06:38 PM



“ *Florist Choice Bouquet was purchased for the family of Ruth A. Labenz.*



December 17, 2021 at 12:35 PM

DJ

“ So very very sorry for your loss Dianne and Ernie

Dianne and Ernie Jaeger - December 15, 2021 at 10:24 PM



“ Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Ruth A. Labenz.



December 15, 2021 at 04:03 PM



“ Florist Choice Bouquet was purchased for the family of Ruth A. Labenz.



December 15, 2021 at 01:21 PM



“ Sweet Tenderness was purchased for the family of Ruth A. Labenz.



December 15, 2021 at 09:53 AM

DM

“ Met Ruth way back when my granddaughters were small and she worked in the fish dept at Walmart. She was such a kind lady. Then she moved to Norfolk and we became neighbors. Will miss her. Blessings to the family. Donna Mahnke

Donna Mahnke - December 14, 2021 at 10:52 PM



“ So sorry for your loss, my thoughts and prayers are with you all. Ruth was a beautiful person. I worked with her at Hampton Inn, and we had some fun times. She was a trooper, even when she lost her house after the Tornadoes. She was always positive, and never gave up. I am very lucky to have met and worked with her.



Tami Baxter Leeper - December 14, 2021 at 09:47 PM

KP

“ I met Ruth in Cardiac Rehab. She was a special person. Always so kind. So sorry for your loss. Peace and comfort at this hard time. Kathy Pagels

Kathleen Pagels - December 14, 2021 at 07:55 PM

JM

“ I worked with Ruth at Walmart for several years. What a beautiful soul. Blessings to you all.



Julie Mizner - December 14, 2021 at 07:30 PM



“ *Serene Retreat was purchased for the family of Ruth A. Labenz.*



December 14, 2021 at 11:54 AM



“ *She was a nice kind lady. She and my dad Bob Blazek were great company for each other and enjoyed spending time together when they could. I'm so thankful my dad found a lady like Ruth and her family who was just like family to my dad. I'm so sorry to hear of Ruth's passing. Prayers for you all. Michael Blazek*

**Michael Blazek** - December 14, 2021 at 07:16 AM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Ruth A. Labenz.*



December 14, 2021 at 06:41 AM



“ *Florist Choice Bouquet was purchased for the family of Ruth A. Labenz.*



December 13, 2021 at 08:02 PM



“ *I worked with Ruth at Walmart in shoe department for years always enjoyed working with her she will be missed by many she touched*

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**Toni Wiegand** - December 13, 2021 at 03:28 PM



“ *Ruth and I knew each other back when we were kids in the mid 50s. We reconnected just a couple of years ago and enjoyed having coffee as often as our schedules would allow. I will truly miss her!!*

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**Beth Reeves** - December 13, 2021 at 11:31 AM