



Al Sheffield

December 16, 1952 - May 17, 2024

“Al” Sheffield

Herschel Alan (Al) Sheffield, 71, of Grand Island died of complications related to Lewy Body dementia on Friday, May 17, 2024. He was surrounded by his loving family.

Celebration of Life Service will be at 10:30 AM Wednesday, May 22nd at Peace Lutheran Church in the Life Center. Reverend Luke Biggs will officiate. Burial will be in the Grand Island Cemetery.

Visitation will be from 5-7 PM Tuesday, also at Peace Lutheran Church.

Memorials are suggested to either Peace Lutheran Church or the Northwest Education Foundation (earmarked for the boys' basketball team).

Al was born on December 16, 1952 in Holdrege, NE the son of Herschel and Berdena (Pfeiffer) Sheffield. His mother died when Al was 14 years old. Al graduated from Holdrege High School, class of 1971. He received his Bachelors of Education from Kearney State College where he was a standout athlete in both football and baseball. He was inducted into the UNK Athletic Hall of Fame in 2009.

On June 4, 1977, he was united in marriage to Cindy Akerson in Holdrege. This union was blessed with two children, Chad and Courtney. They have lived in Grand Island since 1978 where Al served as a math teacher for Northwest High School for 30 years before retiring in May, 2008. Al was the Northwest boys' basketball coach for many years. He was inducted into the Northwest Athletic Hall of Fame in 2024. He also coached youth basketball

and baseball. He taught, coached and mentored countless youth and teens over the years, always with positive encouragement.

Upon retirement, he worked part-time at Golf USA, which was appropriate since golf was a lifetime hobby. He played in two golf leagues and traveled to various courses throughout the country. He loved any time spent on the course with his buddies, and there may have been an occasional trip to the casino along the way.

However, he held the beloved title of Papa which was his greatest accomplishment. An early retirement allowed him the opportunity to spend numerous hours raising, playing, teaching and supporting his grandkids in all phases of their young lives. In addition to his grandkids, his granddog, Holly, brought him special joy.

Those left to cherish his memory are his wife, Cindy; their children, Chad (Kayla) Sheffield of Grand Island and Courtney (Brandon) Hesser of Lincoln; grandchildren, Caden, Chase and Alli Sheffield and Braxton, Brenna and Cassidy Hesser; brothers, Monte (Ruth) Sheffield of Kearney and John (Kari) Sheffield of McCook; his stepmother, Edna Sheffield of Minden and stepsiblings, Patty (Harry) Galbraith, Brad (Patty) Lundeen and Ave (Denise) Lundeen; and numerous nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends.

He is preceded in death by his parents; sister, Trish Sheffield; parents-in-law, Dennis and Bettie Akerson and his beloved granddaughter, Cali Hesser.

Cemetery Details

Grand Island City Cemetery

Grand Island, NE

Previous Events

Celebration of Life Service

MAY **22**. 10:30 AM (CT)

Peace Lutheran
1710 N. North Rd
Grand Island, NE 68803

Visitation, 5-7 PM Tuesday at the church

Tribute Wall

BB

“ Through our college years Al was one of the most thoughtful and kind people that you always enjoyed being around. He would out think his opponents on the field. Often thought he could have made it in Division one. No one gave or contributed more to those around him. Just a really great guy.

Brad Brodine - May 22, 2024 at 10:29 AM

HB

“ We have Cindy, Chad, and Courtney in our thoughts and prayers in the loss of their loved one. We have many memories of Al at UNK Loper basketball games as well as at Whoopers and Hoopers weekends. He will be missed.
Harry and Susie Branting

Harry Branting - May 22, 2024 at 08:28 AM

KR

“ You are in our thoughts and prayers. Our boys have been friends forever. We spent many times together through the years. Let us know if there is anything we can do to help in any way. God Bless all of You. Ken and Trish Ross

Ken and Trish Ross - May 22, 2024 at 01:16 AM

KK

“ My deepest condolences, Cindy & Family on Al's passing. My thoughts and prayers are with you all at this time.



Karen Kammann - May 21, 2024 at 08:44 PM

RW

“ Cindy and family I am so deeply sorrowed by the death of Al. I remember so much of our high school days with you guys and even a short dating. Between his dad and my mother after the loss of our parents. Many blessings to you all and may all your great and fantastic memories help sustain you at this time knowing he is free of all confusion and discomfort. He will be waiting for you and is your angel in heaven now. Much love and blessings Roxanne Larson Winheim

Roxanne Winheim - May 21, 2024 at 04:23 PM

DM

“ David McClymont planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Al Sheffield.

David McClymont - May 21, 2024 at 03:25 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Al Sheffield.



May 21, 2024 at 03:25 PM

AF

“ Ave & Denise Lundeen, and Jon Spurlock f planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Al Sheffield.

Ave & Denise Lundeen, and Jon Spurlock f - May 21, 2024 at 12:28 PM

AF

“ Ave & Denise Lundeen, and Jon Spurlock f purchased the Arrive in Style for the family of Al Sheffield.



Ave & Denise Lundeen, and Jon Spurlock f - May 21, 2024 at 12:28 PM

DB

“ May God's peace, comfort, and strength be yours as you cherish memories of Al. 🙏❤️
Darla(Borden)Bergman

Darla Bergman - May 21, 2024 at 11:52 AM

RM

“ Al was older than me at Kearney State. I thought he was a great punt returner on the football field. He was always coaching and teaching others.

Rick Meyers - May 21, 2024 at 04:56 AM

GA

“ Gary planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Al Sheffield.

Gary - May 21, 2024 at 03:54 AM

GA

“ Gary purchased the Crystal Cross Bouquet for the family of Al Sheffield.



Gary - May 21, 2024 at 03:54 AM

JB

“ My deepest condolences to the family of Alan. You are all in my thoughts and prayers.

Blessings beyond words or actions is my prayer for all of you.

*In Christ,
Jon Borden.*

Jon Borden - May 20, 2024 at 09:39 PM

RC

“ The light of the world was definitely dimmed with the loss of Al Sheffield! He was an honest man with a lot of integrity who positively touched the lives of many students in Grand Island! It is an honor to call him a friend and colleague! Our hearts go out to Cindy, Chad, Courtney at this difficult time!
Dick and Linda Colvin

Richard Colvin - May 20, 2024 at 10:18 AM



“ Mr. Sheffield was one of my favorite teachers, along with Mrs. Killion. They were so fun. I hated math, but with their personalities and making everything fun, it was fun. He always was smiling and laughing. When my friend Jen (her sis married Chad) told me about this, I was in shock too. He was also my homeroom teacher so I got to have him all of the years which was AWESOME! He and Mrs. Killion are part of the reasons I became a teacher. Thoughts and prayers for all of the family & friends.



Michelle Woods - May 20, 2024 at 09:28 AM

KB

“ My thoughts and prayers are extended to you and your family ❤️❤️

Karen Sall Bunnell - May 19, 2024 at 10:26 PM

FF

“ From the Jeff Smith family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Al Sheffield.

From the Jeff Smith family - May 19, 2024 at 06:32 PM



“ Florist Choice Bouquet was purchased for the family of Al Sheffield.



May 19, 2024 at 06:32 PM



“ John Jacque McKeown Family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Al Sheffield.

John Jacque McKeown Family - May 19, 2024 at 06:14 PM



“ Enchanted Cottage was purchased for the family of Al Sheffield.



May 19, 2024 at 06:14 PM