



Cletus Kothe

August 22, 1944 - January 29, 2020

Cletus G. Kothe, 75 of Giltner, died peacefully, Wednesday, January 29, 2020 in Aurora, Nebraska surrounded by his family.

Gathering of friends and family will be held from 5 to 7 p.m. on Friday at All Faiths Funeral Home.

Services in Cletus's honor will be held at 11a.m. on Saturday at All Faiths Funeral Home. Pastor Jim Spanjers will officiate. Private family burial will take place at Case Cemetery on the family farm.

Memorials are designated to the ALS in the Heartland Foundation or to the family for future designation at Giltner Public Schools.

Cletus was born August 22, 1944, in Hastings, the son of Roy C. and Laura A. (Fischer) Kothe. He was baptized at his parent's home in rural Juniata and confirmed at Immanuel Lutheran Church in rural Hastings. He was raised on a farm near Giltner and graduated from Giltner High School in 1962. After graduation, he worked on the family farm and served six years in the Army National Guard of Nebraska.

He was united in marriage to Carol Ready on April 6, 1974. Together they made their home on a farm southwest of Giltner that has been in Carol's family for five generations. Cletus enjoyed the hard work of being a farmer. He took great pride in the crops and livestock he raised and successfully providing for his family. In addition to his farm work, Cletus was also employed by Giltner Public Schools as an entrusted bus driver for 52 years. He loved the connection to his school and community that driving the school bus gave

him. He was also extremely grateful for all of the lifelong friendships he was able to form with students, parents, educators, fellow bus drivers and co-workers in Giltner and the surrounding communities.

Cletus served for a number of years on the Hamilton County Extension and Hamilton County Agricultural Society boards. Recently, he became an honorary member of the American Legion Post No. 300 in Doniphan. He was always involved in his children and grandchildren's activities and enjoyed attending any type of athletic or community event.

Cletus was preceded in death by his parents.

Those left to cherish his memory include his wife of 45 years, Carol; their children and spouses Lisa and Brad Bell of Hastings and Eric and Leah Kothe of Giltner; granddaughters Kaitlyn and Ann Kothe; sisters and brother-in-laws, Joyce and Fred Hinrichs of Trumbull and Janet and Terry Cople of Hansen; along with numerous nieces and nephews.

Previous Events

Gathering of friends and family

JAN 31. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

All Faiths Funeral Home
2929 S Locust St
Grand Island, NE 68801
(308) 398-2929
allfaiths@giallfaiths.com
<https://www.giallfaiths.com/>

Service

FEB 1. 11:00 AM (CT)

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Tribute Wall



“ *Cletus Kothe*

October 08, 2023 at 11:02 PM



“ *Lisa, Brad and Kothe Family - Our family was very sad to read that your dad, husband, and grandfather has passed away. Our sincere sympathy to your family. His life story read of someone who was a very caring person. He will truly be missed by many.*

Ron and Cindy Hinrichs and family

Cindy Hinrichs - January 31, 2020 at 08:47 PM



“ *I am so sorry to hear about Cletus. So many memories of riding the bus! I remember when I was little he would let me sit next to him and run the stop sign. He would play fun music on the bus. He would let us bring cassette tapes to play overhead also. We used to have a lot of fun on his bus but if you were in trouble you knew you were in trouble by the look in the mirror! Thank you Cletus for all the wonderful memories!! Thinking of you all! and keeping you in my prayers!*

Angie (Consbruck)Shafer

Angie Shafer - January 31, 2020 at 04:10 PM

BA

“ Always like to talk to Cletus at the Volley Ball & Basket Ball Games .
Really a great
Guy.
Bud Albin
Hastings

Bud Albin - January 31, 2020 at 02:57 PM



“ Medium Dish Garden was purchased for the
family of Cletus Kothe.



January 31, 2020 at 02:38 PM



“ Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of
Cletus Kothe.



January 31, 2020 at 11:06 AM

KH

“ Eric and entire family of Cletus: we are sorry to hear about your
father's passing.
Our sympathy, love and prayers to all of you at this difficult time.
Kay and Merle Hoffman Juniata

Kay Hoffman - January 31, 2020 at 11:02 AM

JM

“ Carol, so very sorry to hear about Cletus. What a sweet, gentle man! And such a hard worker. My dad, Bob Miller, and your Cletus were quite a team driving the school buses wherever they needed to go. And Cletus was always there if my mom needed anything. Treasure the many memories that you and your family share. May God wrap you all in his loving arms. With hugs and prayers.

*Janie (Miller) Murphy
Broken Bow, NE*

Janie Murphy - January 31, 2020 at 09:01 AM

MB

“ Carol, I'm so sorry to hear about Cletus. He was such a nice man, and great bus driver through all the horrible weather we had in the winter. My deepest sympathy to you and your family.
Markreta Schnell Brandt

Markreta Brandt - January 31, 2020 at 02:56 AM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Cletus Kothe.



January 31, 2020 at 12:22 AM

JR

“ Carol and Family,
Even though I only knew Cletus for just a few months he was always so kind and caring and always made everyday count! He was such a Blessing! My thoughts and Prayers are with Carol and all of his family and friends! Julie Rieflin

Julie Rieflin - January 30, 2020 at 09:29 PM

CC

“ Carol and family,

With our deepest sympathy and prayers. Cletus was a great bus driver. Our girls enjoyed having him as our bus driver before and after school and to all the extra activities. He will be missed. I am so glad I got to talk to him at one of the junior high games this fall. One of Ron's memories of Cletus was when he was in the field with the tractor that didn't have a cab. You could hear his radio blasting a mile away.
He was a great neighbor and would do anything for you. Our neighborhood will miss him.

Ron and Cindy Consbruck

Cindy Consbruck - January 30, 2020 at 08:15 PM



“ Medium Dish Garden was purchased for the family of Cletus Kothe.



January 30, 2020 at 08:15 PM



“ *Serene Retreat was purchased for the family of Cletus Kothe.*



January 30, 2020 at 07:53 PM



“ *I fondly remember Cletus. He was the best bus driver and I loved his music choices! Whenever I hear one of those songs I think of him even after all these years! Prayers for the family.*

Chris Dawson - January 30, 2020 at 07:09 PM



“ *Cletus was so admired by the volleyball girls. He loved to watch them play, understood the game, kept us safe, and ALWAYS had words of wisdom and encouragement.*

Jeanie Good - January 30, 2020 at 05:59 PM



“ *Jenny Wagner lit a candle in memory of Cletus Kothe*



Jenny Wagner - January 30, 2020 at 05:58 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Cletus Kothe.*



January 30, 2020 at 05:37 PM



“ *I will never forget how kind Cletus was to everyone. When our kids were growing up and I was working, Cletus would pick them up and drop them off at our house with the bus so that I didn't have to worry about how they got to school and back home. He always had a smile on his face. What a blessing to have lived and have so many that loved him. Carol, Eric and Lisa...you had a real gem of a husband and dad and I know you have a ton of wonderful memories that will be with you forever.*

Marlene Hinrichs - January 30, 2020 at 02:49 PM



“ *The world has lost a wonderful bus driver with the passing of Cletus! Not only did he drive the daily to-from school route that I was on, but also drove players and pep squad to many, many games throughout the school year.*

Cletus was also one of three brother-in-laws to me. I'll remember, with a smile, the family gatherings we used to have (especially one VERY memorable Thanksgiving celebrated at my house in Omaha - "Eric is coming through with the butter"!!)

*Rest in Peace -
Auntie "M" and family*

Myra - January 30, 2020 at 02:42 PM