



Dean D. Sombke

November 23, 1961 - October 5, 2025

Dean D. Sombke, age 63, of Grand Island, passed away on Sunday, October 5, 2025.

A funeral service will be held on Thursday, October 9th at 10:30am at Trinity Lutheran Church with Pastor Adam Snoberger officiating. Memorials are suggested to Trinity Lutheran Church. A burial will take place later at St. John's Lutheran Cemetery in Columbia, SD. All faiths Funeral Home is entrusted with arrangements. Condolences can be left at www.gjallfaiths.com.

Dean was born on November 23, 1961 in Aberdeen, SD to Dallas and Carol (Weihrauch) Sombke. He was raised on a farm outside of Ferney, SD and graduated from Groton High School in 1980. Dean graduated from UNL with a degree in Business Administration.

Dean was united in marriage to Paulette Zegers and to this union three children were born.

When Dean was growing up he was part of 4-H and showed cows and sheep. He enjoyed being outdoors whether it was scuba diving, fishing walleye in SD or pheasant hunting with his dogs. His children fondly remember the many trips to amusement parks, baseball games, fishing, hiking and tent camping. Dean even built a plane and over time became his children's personal pilot.

He liked spending his winters in Arizona. He was an avid Husker fan. Above everything else his greatest pride and joy was his grandchildren and the time he got to spend with them.

Dean was employed as a sales rep throughout his career while also being an entrepreneur. In his retirement he found a variety of activities and projects to keep him busy.

Those left to cherish his memory include his children, Dream (Tyler) Solko of St. Paul, Dakota Sombke of St. Paul and Destin (Kendall) Sombke of Lincoln; grandchildren, Dallas, Emma and Sawyer Solko and Emmett and Maura Sombke; brother, Doug (Mel) Sombke of Groton, SD; sister, Sharolyn Sombke of Aberdeen, SD and nieces, nephews and their families, Nikki, Brett, Bryce, Bryan, Sashia and Peyton.

Dean was preceded in death by his parents.

Previous Events

Funeral Service

OCT 9. 10:30 AM (CT)

Trinity Lutheran Church
212 W 12th St
Grand Island, NE 68801
(308) 382-0753

Tribute Wall

JZ

“ Sending our condolences!! May the Lord help you through this difficult time. Memorial was sent to TrinityLutheran Church under compassion and benevolence.
Brian and Jill Zegers

Jill and Brian Zegers - October 09, 2025 at 09:43 PM

JZ

“ Our deepest sympathies. May the Lord be with you during this difficult time. A memorial donation was sent to Trinity Lutheran Church to the compassion and benevolence fund.

Jill and Brian Zegers - October 09, 2025 at 05:32 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Dean D. Sombke.



October 08, 2025 at 12:48 PM

ZT

“ Zachary, Stephanie, Henry and Daniel Towns planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Dean D. Sombke.

Zachary, Stephanie, Henry and Daniel Towns - October 08, 2025 at 11:54 AM

ZT

“ Zachary, Stephanie, Henry and Daniel Towns purchased the *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum* for the family of Dean D. Sombke.



Zachary, Stephanie, Henry and Daniel Towns - October 08, 2025 at 11:54 AM

BT

“ Beth Thompson purchased the *Florist Choice Bouquet* for the family of Dean D. Sombke.



Beth Thompson - October 08, 2025 at 08:58 AM

TB

“ Tierra Rose Blake lit a candle in memory of Dean Sombke



Tierra Rose Blake - October 08, 2025 at 02:00 AM

TB

“ Dean. My friend. My Best friend for the last 8months. Lord knows I love you dearly and appreciate everything you have taught me and the time we spent together. You were a man of Faith and a True Friend to me. Thank you Dean Aka SKY KING

Tierra Rose Blake - October 07, 2025 at 11:11 PM

AM

“ Amy & Dustin McIntyre purchased the Basket of Memories for the family of Dean D. Sombke.



Amy & Dustin McIntyre - October 07, 2025 at 10:50 PM



“ Sweetest Sunrise Bouquet was purchased for the family of Dean D. Sombke.



October 07, 2025 at 09:40 PM

SB

“ I remember when Dean flew me and Peter from Oklahoma to Minnesota for our wedding in 2008. He was so generous and I remember being really impressed that he built that airplane. Peter and I were in pilot training at the time so he was teaching us things and let us fly a little. I hope he knows what a blessing he was to us. I'm so sorry for your loss.

Sarah Bulinski - October 07, 2025 at 07:16 PM

NI

He loved to tell that story

nina - November 15, 2025 at 10:22 PM

TN

“ My thoughts and prayers go out to the family of Dean. I am thankful to the Lord for the opportunity to be friends with Dean and his family. The Lord does not choose us because of our actions or decisions. The Lord did choose to give His gifts of grace and mercy to us and Dean. This is all possible through His greatest gift, His chosen Son Jesus Christ. We will all miss him but only for a short while though, waiting our turn to be invited as special guests to the Great Banquet. Amen

Tim

Tim Nepl - October 07, 2025 at 06:40 PM

SM

“ Skip Meurer lit a candle in memory of Dean Sombke



Skip Meurer - October 07, 2025 at 03:23 PM

GL

“ Gary, Bernie, Don, Doug, Dave, & Lance purchased the Emerald Garden Basket for the family of Dean D. Sombke.



Gary, Bernie, Don, Doug, Dave, & Lance - October 07, 2025 at 02:54 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Dean D. Sombke.*



October 07, 2025 at 01:56 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Dean D. Sombke.

October 07, 2025 at 01:56 PM



“ *Deepest sympathy for Dean's loved ones. I was a classmate and football teammate (GHS), roommate (UMM) and fellow Husker with Dean. He signed up 10 people (1982) so an instructor would come down to UMM to teach and certify us with scuba schools International. He had to put in a lot of work over 2 years to get 10 people to sign up at a small university. It was a wonderful experience! Then later it got better. Since I was now certified to dive with a crew in Antigua where we dove down and saw bright colorful schools of orange, yellow and blue fish as if in a movie. Thanks Dean-Love ya!*

Carson Mitchell - October 07, 2025 at 12:53 PM

BE

“ *Deepest sympathy to Dean’s family— he was an old friend and classmate and I have many great memories with him- may he rest in peace—this was from our class reunion 4 years ago—
Barb (James)Everson*



Barb Everson - October 06, 2025 at 08:34 PM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Dean D. Sombke.*



October 06, 2025 at 08:23 PM