



Dena J Merithew

May 8, 1944 - November 18, 2020

Dena Merithew, 29 + + +, of Grand Island passed away on Wednesday, November 18, 2020 at CHI-Health St. Francis.

Visitation will be held from 5 to 7 p.m. at All Faiths Funeral Home on Monday, November 23, 2020. Rosary will begin at 7 p.m.

Mass of Christian Burial will be held at 10:30 a.m. on Tuesday at St. Mary's Cathedral, celebrant will be Fr. Jim Golka. Burial will follow at Westlawn Memorial Park Cemetery.

CDC guidelines and social distancing will be followed. To protect those most vulnerable, masks are required and livestreaming will be available on All Faiths Funeral Home Facebook page.

All Faiths Funeral Home is entrusted with arrangements.

Dena was born on May 8, 1944 in Sterling Colorado to George W. and Nona A. (Hradecky) Harms.

She attended grade school in Fleming Colorado until her family moved to Grand Island in 1956, where she attended St. Mary's Grade School, and graduated from Central Catholic High School. Dena continued her education and attended Mt. Marty College in Yankton, SD.

In 1963 she married Dean A. Nesiba, they were blessed with four sons before his death in 1968. On July 3, 1970, Dena married Jerry Merithew. With this union Dena gained four daughters and they were blessed with two more daughters. The family made their home in Grand Island and Chapman.

Dena was employed as a legal secretary and real estate receptionist when her children were young. Later on, she began full time employment as an accounting clerk for the State of Nebraska at NLETC in Grand Island. She retired after 25 years of service in May 2009. Dena and Jerry were blessed with six more months together before his passing in November 2009.

Dena's family and faith were her life. Dena was a member of St. Mary's Cathedral since 1956. She was active in St. Mary's Quilters, volunteering at Mary's Closet, and a part of the Cathedral Ladies. Dena cherished friendship lunches, working with her flowers and vegetable gardens, scrapbooking, traveling to visit children and their families, cooking and baking her famous banana bread.

Dena is survived by her four sons and daughters-in-law, Allen (Bethene) Merithew of Chapman, George (Traci) Merithew of Omaha, Lukas (Keyne) Merithew of Goodlettsville, TN, Benjamin Merithew of Independence, MO; five daughters and sons-in-law, Gail (Eric) Hampton of Grand Island, Nona (Keith) Schroll of Wood River, Sharon Albertson of Lincoln, Jerrie Morrow of Lincoln and Lynn (Dennis) Terry of Dannebrog; brothers, David (Tong) Harms of Lincoln, Dan (Helene) Harms of Grand Island; sisters and brothers-in-law, Carol (Frank) Boysen of Holdrege, Jodi Perrelet of Grand Island and Christine (Lonnie) Wanek of Grand Island; sisters-in-law, Valeria (Eldon) Gustafson of Phillips, Elaine (Steve) Wilson of Commerce City, CO, Merril Lynn Kreiner of Grand Island, Mary Ellen Merithew of Grand Island and Mel Harms of Sterling, CO; brothers-in-law, Dallas (Kathy) Nesiba of Rockville and Bill (Carol) Nesiba

of Grand Island; 22 grandchildren; 23 great-grandchildren; and eight great-great grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her husbands, Dean A. Nesiba and Gerald “Jerry” Merithew; daughter, Lorri Soden; son-in-law, Quinton Albertson; brother-in-law, Ted Merithew, sister-in-law Alyce Stalnaker, brother Gary Harms and sister, Gail Winfrey.

Memorials are designated to St. Mary’s Cathedral or Central Catholic High School.

Cemetery Details

Westlawn Memorial Park

Grand Island, NE

Tribute Wall



“ *Dena J Merithew*

October 08, 2023 at 11:02 PM



“ *My heart goes out to all of my family. Aunt Dena, you were loved by so many and it's hard to believe you're gone. You were a wonderful mom and raised some amazing kids, my cousins. I miss the family reunions when we all got together at Stolley Park. Although I can't be at the funeral, I am thankful in this time, to be able to watch the livestream. Sending love, my hugs, and my prayers across the miles to you. 💕*



Becky Sheridan - November 24, 2020 at 10:18 AM



“ *Sweet Tenderness was purchased for the family of Dena J Merithew.*



November 23, 2020 at 10:45 AM



“ *Florist Choice Bouquet was purchased for the family of Dena J Merithew.*



November 23, 2020 at 09:49 AM

GE

“ Just a few to share with the family, Our condolences to the family, she was a great friend and relative we will miss her and the great get together on the reunions. She is with the Good Lord now, Enjoy the memories.... Mr and Mrs Gerald Wolfe and family.

Gerald - November 21, 2020 at 02:26 PM



“ Lavender Reflections Spray was purchased for the family of Dena J Merithew.



November 21, 2020 at 01:03 AM



“ Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Dena J Merithew.



November 21, 2020 at 12:58 AM

JO

“ I didn't know Gails mom all that well. I just want to say when I was going through some ruff times in my life. I can honestly say that Gails mom and dad treated me like I was there own. I deffently will never forget that. Love you mom Godbless

JoeyHampton - November 21, 2020 at 12:51 AM



“ *Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of Dena J Merithew.*



November 21, 2020 at 12:46 AM



“ *I'm so sorry to hear this. I remember visiting dena and jerry when I was young. She was always so nice. My heartfelt condolences to the family. Angie (Nietfeld) Zalewski.*

Angie (Nietfeld) Zalewski - November 20, 2020 at 05:04 PM



“ *A beautiful soul. She loved and cared for our dad, Jerry through his health struggles. One memory that I will never forget was to see them holding hands when I sat behind them in church. Such a simple act, but a powerful memory to me. I will miss my friend.*

sharon albertson - November 20, 2020 at 04:54 PM



“ *Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Dena J Merithew.*



November 20, 2020 at 03:37 PM

PD

“ *Patti Harms Drews purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of Dena J Merithew.*



Patti Harms Drews - November 20, 2020 at 01:05 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Dena J Merithew.*



November 20, 2020 at 12:15 PM

JF

“ *Jeff's IRET Family purchased the Enchanted Cottage for the family of Dena J Merithew.*



Jeff's IRET Family - November 20, 2020 at 12:00 PM

VG

“ *Loved her dearly and will miss her, The Visits the lunch's and her caring .The 1st time I met Dena was over 60 years ago when she worked at Maid Rite my brother said I just had to come meet the most beautiful girl in the world and he had fallen madly in love with her, the rest was history .Eldon and I will miss her. Love and hugs to to all her family from Eldon and Valeria.*

Valeria Gustafson - November 20, 2020 at 11:13 AM

BH

I am so sorry for your loss. I worked with Dena at NLETC and she was my "Avon Lady". Hang on to all the wonderful memories. The family is in my thoughts and prayers.

Bunny Hill-Holland.

Bunny Hill-Holland - November 22, 2020 at 04:36 PM