



Evelyn V. (Brown) Stelk

November 9, 1933 - October 14, 2025

Evelyn V. (Brown) Stelk, age 91, of Grand Island, passed away peacefully on Tuesday, October 14, 2025, at CHI Health St. Francis.

A memorial service will be held on Friday, January 9, 2026, at All Faiths Funeral Home; the family will host a visitation at 10 AM with services to follow at 10:30 AM. A burial will follow at Westlawn Cemetery. The family will host a lunch at a location to be announced.

Evelyn was born on November 9, 1933, in Lexington, Nebraska, to Fulton and Frieda (Hess) Brown. She was raised near Lexington and graduated with the Lexington High School Class of 1952.

She met the love of her life, Samuel B. Stelk, at a local dance, and the two were united in marriage on May 9, 1954, in Lexington. Their marriage, spanning over five decades, was filled with joy, laughter, and countless dances—whether at Platte Deutsch events, family celebrations, or right in their own living room to the sounds of the Big Joe Polka Show.

The couple made their home in Grand Island before relocating to Holland, Michigan, then Kansas City, and finally returning to Grand Island in 1991. No matter where they lived, Evelyn and Sam built a warm, welcoming home filled with friendship and community.

Evelyn was a member of Faith Christian Church in Grand Island and a proud participant in the German Liederkrantz Singers. Music was one of her greatest joys, and she loved to sing. In her younger years, she was an accomplished bowler with trophies to show for it. Later in life, she embraced water exercise, chair yoga, and spent many happy hours tending her beloved flower and vegetable gardens—always delighting in the butterflies and bumblebees they attracted.

Above all, Evelyn cherished her family. She is survived by her daughters and sons-in-law, Pamela (James) Deerwester of Kalamazoo, Michigan, and Stacia Stelk (Alex Burden) of Fairway, Kansas; grandchildren, John Deerwester, Josie Dickinson, Emma Burden, and Claire Burden; great-grandchildren, Luca Dickinson and Lydia Dickinson; as well as many extended family members and dear friends. Among her final words were, “I have a great family.” Yes, Evie, you certainly do. And you are deeply loved and missed.

Evelyn was preceded in death by her husband, Samuel B. Stelk; daughter, Brenda K. Conroy; her parents; brothers, Lloyd, Lawrence, Kenneth, Robert, and Wayne; and sisters, Margaret Garcia and Elnora Ryckman.

In lieu of flowers, donations in honor of Evelyn may go to Deep Roots, an organization that promotes native plants and the birds and butterflies they support. Visit DeepRoots.org or send a donation to PO Box 32131, Kansas City, Missouri 64171.

Previous Events

Celebration of Life Gathering

JAN 9. 10:00 AM (CT)

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

Celebration of Life Service

JAN 9. 10:30 AM (CT)

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Tribute Wall



“ *All Faiths Funeral Home created a Webcast in memory of Evelyn V. (Brown) Stelk*



All Faiths Funeral Home - January 09 at 09:20 AM

CB

“ *I just reread Evelyn’s obituary and noticed that she died in October. I met your mom when she moved into Heritage where my parents lived. She was such a joy to talk to. I went once to Heritage after my folks passed away and she remembered that I was going to California with my sister after my mom’s funeral in June and asked me if I had made the trip! What a memory she had. She was a special lady. Sending my condolences to you all. Cindy Mossman Beran*

Cindy Beran - January 03 at 11:53 PM

MR

My thoughts will be with you all with this special lady. Sam was a hoot too. Making memories for a lot of us... Pam, Brenda, Stacia, Dianna, Becky, Jean, me just to name a few. We all have fond memories of 5 th street and YMCA. Mary Redman

mary redman - January 05 at 10:27 PM