



## Kathleen "Kathy" Joan Stava

December 21, 1946 - May 24, 2025

Kathleen Joan (Ryan) Stava, 78, of Grand Island passed away at home surrounded by her family on Saturday, May 24, 2025, after a courageous 2½ year cancer battle.

A Funeral Mass will be held on Saturday, May 31 at 10:30 a.m. at Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church in Grand Island. Most Reverend, Bishop William Dendinger, Father Vijumon Choorackal, and Father Robin Bashir will officiate. A private family Inurnment will follow at a later date at Westlawn Memorial Park. Visitation will be held Friday, May 30 from 4:30-7 p.m. at Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church, followed by a Rosary and Vigil Service. All Faiths Funeral Home is entrusted with serving the family. Online condolences may be made at [www.giallfaiths.com](http://www.giallfaiths.com). In lieu of flowers, memorials are suggested to Grand Island Central Catholic. A statue of Mary will be purchased and placed at the high school in her honor.

Kathy was born December 21, 1946, on a farm near Merna, Nebraska, to Joseph and Dorothy (Knight) Ryan. She grew up in Grand Island and graduated from Central Catholic in 1965.

On November 9, 1968, Kathy married Ted Stava. Following their marriage, they lived in Fort Riley, Kansas, while Ted was in the Army. They later returned to Grand Island. During her life, Kathy worked as a secretary, cashier, and salesclerk. She also owned and operated her own cleaning business for nearly 20 years. Of all her titles, by far the one she was most proud of was being a mother to her three children, Becky, Shane, and Christi.

A devout Christian, Kathy was a long-time member of Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church while also attending services at Third City Christian Church and Resurrection Catholic Church. In addition, she volunteered at the American Legion Auxiliary and Blessed Sacrament Church. Kathy loved cooking, baking, watching sporting events, and spoiling her grandkids and dogs. Kathy and Ted enjoyed socializing with friends and family and vacationing in South Padre Island and Florida during the winter months. Kathy's greatest pride and joy were her five grandchildren. She and Ted loved to attend their various activities. The grandkids enjoyed spending time with her and always looked forward to her frosted sugar cookies, cinnamon rolls, chocolate cake and apple crisp.

Those left to cherish Kathy's memory include her husband of 56 years, Ted Stava; their children, Rebecca (Stuart) Hicklin of Fort Collins, CO, Shane (Lisa) Stava of Grand Island, and Christi (Jim) Rein of Grand Island; five grandchildren, Spencer and Riley Hicklin, Olivia and Graham Stava, and JT Rein; brother Bill (Joyce) Ryan of Grand Island; sisters Janet Judy of Neligh and Lois Sheffield of Lincoln; and many nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents; sisters, Dolores Call and Joyce Seidel; nephew, Lonnie Dickson; and nieces Cindy Willey and Debbie Calhoun.

A heartfelt thank you to Dr. Ramaekers, the nurses and the wonderful staff at Nebraska Cancer Specialists as well as AseraCare Hospice and nurses, Sarah, Heidi and Jarah.

# Previous Events

## Visitation

MAY 30. 4:30 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church  
518 West State Street  
Grand Island, NE 68801

## Rosary

MAY 30. 7:00 PM - 7:30 PM (CT)

Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church  
518 West State Street  
Grand Island, NE 68801

## Funeral Mass

MAY 31. 10:30 AM - 11:30 AM (CT)

Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church  
518 West State Street  
Grand Island, NE 68801

# Tribute Wall

JU

“ *What a great a Friend Kathy was. I will think of her always and miss her forever. Judy Bunner* ❤️🙏

JudyBunner - June 11, 2025 at 04:05 PM

MD

“ *I am so sorry to see that Kathy has passed. I enjoyed our mornings at the "Y", watching her tackle the stairstepper while I did my time on the treadmill. She was always encouraging and wisecracking. I am returning to GI this summer to live at Tabitha and I was looking forward to spending time with her again. My sympathy to Ted and family.*

Marilyn Davis - June 01, 2025 at 10:55 PM

TF

“ *The morledge family purchased the In Memory - Angel Figurine, 8.25 in for the family of Kathleen "Kathy" Joan Stava.*



The morledge family - June 01, 2025 at 09:51 AM

TI

“ *Ted and family, I am so sorry to hear of Kathy's passing. I enjoyed her Facebook posts that kept me connected to all of you and to CCHS. She will be missed by all of her classmates. Tim Ingoldsby CCHS class of 1965*



Tim Ingoldsby - May 30, 2025 at 11:51 PM

LM

*I'm so terribly sorry to hear this. Kathy was a sweet friend and wonderful person. Much love and prayers to the family. Bill and Lynette Morse*

Lynette Morse - June 03, 2025 at 04:24 PM

CN

“ Casey, Joel, Andie & Sam Nelson purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of Kathleen "Kathy" Joan Stava.



Casey, Joel, Andie & Sam Nelson - May 30, 2025 at 09:30 AM

MS

“ I have known Kathy for a long time. Cant remember when our paths had crossed. We attended the same church and services and always acknowledged each other. I was glad to help her with her alternate hair . We had some good visits and my prayers were for her recovery. I will always remember her smile. You as her family were blessed and please carry them in your hearts. I wish i could attend but have an alwful cough i cant seem to rid of. I will continue to keep you in my prayers

Marlene A Schmidt - May 29, 2025 at 10:40 AM

VB

“ Vandana B. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Kathleen "Kathy" Joan Stava.

Vandana B. - May 28, 2025 at 07:11 PM

DW

“ I was shocked to read of Kathy passing as I just saw her two weeks ago. We always visited on chemo days . There are no words to describe how grateful I am to have known her thru **CENTRAL CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL** ❤️❤️ **REST IN PEACE** 🙏🙏❤️❤️❤️💋

DANA (mehrimg) WHITE - May 28, 2025 at 12:03 PM

MC

“ Dearest Kathy Cousin I truly loved seeing you. God Blessed You With A Wonderful Family. You Are With God Now And It's A Blessing. ❤️🙏 cousin Marilyn

Marilyn Thomsen Cousin - May 28, 2025 at 10:43 AM

BL

“ Bobby and Jenny Loges purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of Kathleen "Kathy" Joan Stava.



Bobby and Jenny Loges - May 27, 2025 at 09:28 PM

TN

“ Shane & Lisa: Sad news to learn of Kathy passing. Hold close the memories you shared. I'm confident she will be significantly missed here on earth, though welcomed with enthusiasm into Heaven. Thinking of all of you at this time.

Tom Norskov - May 27, 2025 at 08:23 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Kathleen "Kathy" Joan Stava.

May 27, 2025 at 03:32 PM



“ *Beautiful Heart Bouquet was purchased for the family of Kathleen "Kathy" Joan Stava.*



---

May 27, 2025 at 03:32 PM