



Kevin R. Lutz

October 2, 1962 - January 20, 2016

Kevin R. Lutz, surrounded by his wife and children, left this earth at 8:00 a.m. on Wednesday, January 20, 2016 at CHI Health St. Francis in Grand Island, Nebraska. Kevin was 53 years old.

Please join Kevin's family in a celebration of life and worship at 2:00 p.m. on Saturday, January 23rd at First Presbyterian Church in Grand Island. Kevin's remains will be interred at Plainview Cemetery in Maxwell, Nebraska at a later time. All Faiths Funeral Home is serving the family.

Kevin Richard Lutz was born to Keith and Alice Lutz on Tuesday, October 2, 1962 in Hastings, Nebraska. Kevin grew up in Hastings, blocks from Fisher Fountain, and attended Longfellow Elementary and graduated from Hastings High School. Kevin completed his Bachelor of Arts in Communications and Theater at Hastings College. There, he met his beloved, Ann Louise Sukraw, and they married in 1984 at First Presbyterian Church in Gothenburg, Nebraska.

Together they had four children, Alexander Powers, Audrey Anne, Elizabeth Ellen and Ivy Marie. Kevin and Ann welcomed the addition of their daughter-in-law, Mikala Ann Coates in 2012. Kevin enjoyed his first grandchild, Malcolm Powers, who was born in 2014. He was looking forward to the birth of his second grandchild in July.

Kevin was a self-described impresario, entrepreneur and humanitarian. Kevin was a devoted husband, a loving father, a home-maker, a good son, a trusted brother, an Eagle Scout, a student of life, an Eta Phi, an actor, an artist, a poet, a singer, a dancer, a businessman, a clown, a comedian, a bacon-lover, a grill-master, a cinephile, a fixer-of-anything, a master gardener, a restorer, a house-builder, a bartender, a dish-washer, a set-builder, a faithful servant, a very good man and a friend to all.

Kevin lived life on his own terms. He did not fear death, but was anguished at the prospect of saying goodbye. He passed away with joy, merriment and song. His Irish eyes were smiling, and there was love on his lips. Bravo, well done, good show Kevin.

In addition to his immediate family, those who continue to hold Kevin close are his brother Garry Lutz and wife Carol; his brother Creighton Lutz and wife Pam; beloved nieces, nephews and cousins; father-in-law Morris Sukraw; sister-in-law Tracy Sukraw; brother-in-law Jason Sukraw; and brother-in-law Nathan Sukraw and wife Dayna. Coworkers, colleagues and friends old and new—who Kevin considered family—also celebrate his life and mourn his loss.

Kevin is welcomed home by his parents, sister Carlene, aunts and uncles, mother-in-law Jeanette Sukraw and beloved dog, Winchester, who immediately came when he called “Winnie.”

In lieu of flowers, memorial gifts can be designated to Kevin’s home away from home, Camp Augustine, Overland Trails Council, Boy Scouts of America, 2808 O’Flannagan, Grand Island, NE 68803.

Online condolence maybe left at www.giallfaiths.com

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Previous Events

Celebration of Life Service

JAN 23. 2:00 PM (CT)

First Presbyterian Church

Tribute Wall



“ *Kevin R. Lutz*

October 08, 2023 at 11:02 PM



“ *I just heard. I am so sorry to hear this. My thoughts and prayers are with you.*

Carol Smith Ferrell

Carol Smith Ferrell - January 23, 2016 at 05:12 PM



“ *I am so sorry for your loss.
Know you and your family are in my thoughts
and prayers.*



miriam zietlow - January 23, 2016 at 01:06 PM

 Daniel
Davis

“ Dear Ann and family,

I was shocked and saddened to hear of Kevin's death. Please know you have my deepest sympathy and most heart-felt condolences. I recall fondly the times this young pastor and our family spent at the Lutz home in Gothenburg enjoying the tasty burgers and dogs from the grill, watching fireworks (or as Alexander called them "boom-balls!") There was also the time spent working together at the Sun Theater; reupholstering seats, working the ticket booth and concessions and of course leaf-blowing the trash and loose change down to the front of the theater for clean-up.

Of course the highlight was getting to watch Kevin on stage either directing or performing. There was something about performing that brought out his inner light...the only other thing that could do that was just being with you, Ann, and the kids.

*With love, affection and remembrances,
Rev. Daniel M. Davis*

Daniel Davis - January 23, 2016 at 10:55 AM

“As one of Kevin’s Hastings College Theatre teachers during his formative “Doc Shiffler” years of the early 1980s, I offer here my deepest condolences to his family at this time of his passing. Out of all the students I have taught in my long career in education, I can sincerely say Kevin was one of the most brilliant and talented achievers. And besides this, he was one of the most generous and warmest souls I was ever lucky enough to encounter both inside and outside the classroom.

Although we kept in touch what has proven to be all too briefly over the years, I was shocked by news of the sudden downturn in his illness. Yet, amidst this sadness there is much to celebrate. As I scan through my memorabilia from those halcyon days of the 1983 *Tartuffe* play production, the mystic chords of my memory—echoing from every late night set building foray to every finger-pointing directional gesture—resound up into a chorus of fond reminiscences of the bygone student-teacher relationship we had together.

And yet, in a very positive way, that same bygone relationship ended years ago, for Kevin, in his own successful ways, far surpassed it. There’s an old saying in the field of education: “When the student is ready, the teacher will appear.” And Kevin achieved that inner transformation long ago, for the teacher stood before him when he looked in the mirror each morning. Evidenced by the immense number of friends and family members whose lives he touched who have left condolences on his Facebook page—words of fondness and sadness that are far above my poor power to equal in terms of heartfelt love and respect—Kevin has indeed inspired many “pupils.”

Now it is for each of us to rededicate ourselves to the lesson his multivaried life teaches, that happiness is best achieved through full use of your versatile talents in a life rich in scope, which he undoubtedly attained. As one of his friends, James Crimmins so eloquently wrote in his Facebook post, Kevin was “a catalyst that has triggered the importance of time”—time to remember that the

time of life is far too short and fleeting, time to remember to do the simple little things we often put off doing, like saying hello to distant friends as we keep our friendships alive.

I am honored to have been part of Kevin's own memories, and he will always be a part of mine. As the Lakota say, he walked the path of a true human being—the humanitarian path, the path that inspires us to follow the better angels of our nature.

*Dr. John Kubler
Los Angeles, CA*

John Kubler - January 22, 2016 at 03:00 PM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Kevin R. Lutz.*



January 22, 2016 at 01:57 PM



“ *Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Kevin R. Lutz.*



January 22, 2016 at 12:36 PM

TC

“ Kevin had a wonderful spirited soul. He was an inspiration to many. May he rest in peace.

Tom Connolly

tconnolly - January 22, 2016 at 11:41 AM



“ Sweetest Sunrise Bouquet was purchased for the family of Kevin R. Lutz.



January 22, 2016 at 11:24 AM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Kevin R. Lutz.



January 22, 2016 at 10:12 AM

SC

“ Kevin has always been, and continues to be an inspiration to all those who had the good fortune to have known him. I remember in the Wizard of Oz by Frank L. Baum, a quote: “A heart is not judged by how much you love; but by how much you are loved by others”. In this regard, Kevin is greatly loved. Stephen Crabtree

Stephen Crabtree - January 22, 2016 at 09:16 AM

BC

“ I have many wonderful memories of Kevin on the stage at the Gothenburg Community Playhouse. His talent was beyond compare, and his laugh and personality were so infectious. His spirit will be missed, but his caring demeanor touched all who he met, so our memories will live on forever. Prayers and blessings to you all during this very difficult time!

-Brenda (Hecox) Cochran

Brenda Cochran - January 22, 2016 at 08:25 AM

SB

“ Yes, living life on his own terms...with good spirit and a generous heart! My thoughts and prayers are with you..Sharon Behl Brooks

Sharon Brooks - January 22, 2016 at 08:01 AM

JA

“ So very sad to receive this news. Kevin was yet verily one of a kind.



Jay - January 22, 2016 at 07:50 AM

ET

“ Kevin always lit up any space he was in with his joy and ebullient nature....a powerful loss for all!

Ellen Touchstone - January 22, 2016 at 06:10 AM



“ I have not seen Kevin since high school. Kevin and I were on the debate team together for two years. I went on many debate trips with him and we always had a great time. Kevin was one of the funniest and most creative people that I have ever met. He will be greatly missed by all. My condolences to the Kevin Lutz family.

Rich Christensen - January 22, 2016 at 12:02 AM

TE

“ I have so many fond memories of Kevin and Ann in Gothenburg. When we first move there, we got involved in the Community Playhouse and were directed many times by this creative couple. I smile as I look at the cast picture of Inherit the Wind with the beautiful backdrop Kevin designed and built. His talents were amazing. The first play my children, Kori, Rob and Sara and I did together. Hours of fun and work that inspired my kiddos to continue in the theatre. Our family sends prayers and sympathy to Ann and family. God bless.

trudy else - January 21, 2016 at 11:28 PM

KG

“ Uncle Bubba, I have many memories of growing up with you, and I will always cherish and remember them and keep them close to my heart... ? xoxo Katrina



Katrina Glassmyer - January 21, 2016 at 07:43 PM



“ My condolences to all of the Lutz family as they go through this terrible time. Kevin, you will be missed.

Edward Brewer - January 21, 2016 at 07:33 PM