



## Merlene A. Paul

April 8, 1946 - January 5, 2016

Merlene A. Paul, 69, of Grand Island died on Tuesday, January 5, 2016 at Good Samaritan Village in Grand Island.

Visitation will be from 5 to 7 p.m. on Friday at Trinity United Methodist Church in the Gathering Place.

All Faiths Funeral Home is serving the family.

To honor Merlene's wishes cremation was chosen. Services will be held at 10 a.m. on Saturday at Trinity United Methodist Church. Rev. Dr. Theresa Mason will officiate. Burial will follow at the Columbarium.

Merlene was born on April 8, 1946 in Council Bluffs, IA, daughter of Merle and Darlene (Smith) Deupree.

Those left to cherish her memory are her sons, Brad (Julie) Paul of Bellevue, Andy (Trisha) Paul of Grand Island; mother, Darlene Deupree of Lyons; brother, Jim (Jill) Deupree of Omaha; sister, Bev (John) Gustafson; grandchildren, Alec Paul, Taylor Paul, Luke Schlueter, and Logan Schlueter; along with many extended family and friends.

She is preceded in death by her father, Merle Deupree, and sister, Carole Blankenbeckler.

Merlene was raised and received her education in Lyons. Continuing her education, Merlene went on to Immanuel Nursing College, graduating as a Registered Nurse. After graduating she moved to Omaha, NE and then Overland Park, KS working in the local hospitals.

In 1977, Merlene moved to Grand Island. She received her Enterostomal

Therapist certification in 1984 from Harrisburg Hospital, and her Bachelors of Science in Nursing in 1986 from UNMC.

Merlene was a longtime member at Trinity United Methodist Church, attending many bible studies. For several years she enjoyed doing yoga. She liked to stay busy and spent her free time socializing with friends, traveling, sewing, gardening, antiquing, repurposing furniture, and numerous other craft projects. One of her favorite pastimes was rug hooking. Merlene also enjoyed playing piano, and shopping. But most important to Merlene was her family. She always loved to travel back to the farm where she grew up. Merlene enjoyed a very rich spiritual life and was especially happy to have been able to make a trip to the Holy Land.

Memorials are suggested to the American Cancer Society or the National Parkinson's Foundation.

# Previous Events

## Visitation

JAN 8. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Trinity United Methodist Church  
511 N. Elm Street  
Grand Island, NE

## Celebration of Life Service

JAN 9. 10:00 AM (CT)

Trinity United Methodist Church  
511 N. Elm Street  
Grand Island, NE

# Tribute Wall



“ *Merlene A. Paul*

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October 08, 2023 at 11:02 PM



“ *Merlene was a pioneer when it came to bringing Wound, Ostomy and Continent services to St. Francis and the Grand Island area. We had a marvelous time while sharing our education and skills together. She truly lived her passion and was a gift to many. So sorry for your loss. She was dedicated to her family and loved you.*  
*Gerri Powers*

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**Gerri Powers** - January 17, 2016 at 02:18 PM



“ *1 file added to the tribute wall*



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**Gerri Powers** - January 17, 2016 at 02:12 PM

CA

“ My husband was diagnosed with gastric cancer in 1998. After 3 extensive surgeries, in 2 months, Merlene was called in as his "wound" specialist. She was an amazing nurse and tried everything possible to make my husband comfortable. She was a comfort to our family and continued contact, with me, after my husband's death. I just wanted you all to know that Merlene was an unsung hero to many people in the Grand Island area.  
Sincerely, Cindy Avila

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**cindy avila** - January 11, 2016 at 06:44 PM

AP

“ I worked with Merlene at Saint Francis. She was an amazing nurse and teacher. After she retired when I ran into her she would always make a point to update me on her health and her grandkids. She loved her kids and grandkids. So sorry for your loss. She is missed!

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**Alycia Packer** - January 08, 2016 at 08:10 PM

GN

“ So many wonderful memories and great times. Merlene And I were good friends for over 50 years. I have admired her strength and perseverance in good times and bad. She loved her family and friends so much and was proud to be Darlene' and Merle's daughter and the mother to two very fine boys and their spouses. Her grandchildren were her biggest blessings. I will miss my dear friend. Cherish the memories, they are golden.  
Ginger Botos Nelson

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**Ginger Nelson** - January 08, 2016 at 01:07 PM

SK

“ I had the privilege of working with Merlene at St. Francis Medical Center for many years before she retired. She was a kind and compassionate person. She served our patients directly and indirectly, as she was a wonderful resource and teacher to many, many nurses. She made an instrumental impact in patient care at St. Francis, leading the wound and ostomy care services.

*We shared an office suite at one time and she brought back a Christmas ornament from the Holy Land as a gift to me. I will always cherish the ornament - as a memory of Merlene! Sandra Krolikowski*

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**Sandra Krolikowski** - January 08, 2016 at 10:48 AM

CM

*I also had the privilege to work with Merlene @ SFMC many years ago when she came to us from Lutheran Memorial Hospital. She was a delight to work with; so gentle and kind. After she left my unit and went on to do her ostomy cares we would run into each other now and then. I saw her @ Walgreens some time ago; not sure how long ago but we got caught up quick!! My deepest sympathy to her family!! Carmen McMahon retired RN.*

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**Carmen McMahon** - January 12, 2016 at 04:38 PM