



Neal Kelley

October 3, 1940 - July 4, 2018

Neal Kelley, 77, of Grand Island passed away on July 4, 2018 at his home.

Visitation will be on Friday, July 6, 2018 from 5 to 7 at All Faiths Funeral Home.

Services will be at 2 p.m. on Saturday at All Faiths Funeral Home. Dan Naranjo will officiate.

Military honors will be rendered by the United Veterans Honor Guard and the U. S. Army Honor Guard.

Burial will take place at Inman Cemetery.

Neal was born on October 3, 1940, son of James and Marjorie (Parks) Kelley.

Neal grew up in rural Holt County where he helped his father train racehorses well into his adult life. He spent every summer at the race track with his folks. This is where he met his lifelong friend Doc. He attended Willow Lake Country school and graduated from Inman High School in 1958; recently attending his 50th high school reunion. Neal attended Norfolk Junior College where he played baseball, was an avid boxer. Post-graduation, Neal enlisted in the Marines on September 23, 1960. He often talked about being in the Marines during the Cuban Bay of Pigs. "We were ready to go!" was always part of the story. Neal was proud and honored to serve his country. Honorably discharged

on February 1, 1963, Neal remained a Marine to the end.

Neal was employed as a network technician for what was originally the Northwestern Bell telephone company for 37 years; often being one of "those guys" climbing poles in the Nebraska winters to fix phone lines. Neal was proud of serving as Union President of the Communication Workers of America, Local 7401. As Union President and part of the collective bargaining team, Neal was proud to represent his fellow union members and spoke of it often.

Neal married Cheryl Bridge in May 19, 1965. To this union were born their son Shane and daughter Jacqueline. The two later separated in 1981.

Neal was united in marriage to Dianne Oborny on November 16, 1983, with this union Neal gained another son, Alan, and daughter, Cindy.

Neal loved to hunt and made camping and hunting trips a family event. He was a lifelong gun enthusiast; shooting competitively and traveling extensively to hunt elk and deer. Neal was a mentor to many, including his six grandchildren in the finer art of marksmanship, horsemanship and life. Neal looked forward to the annual Matthew Quigley Buffalo Rifle Match in Montana, competing with and against his many friends for over 10 years. He was even later featured in the Fall issue of Outdoor Life Magazine for an article about the Quigley.

Neal was a great storyteller in line with the wealth of a life well lived. His grin, quick wit and sense of humor will be greatly missed by all.

Celebrating Neal's life and remaining to grieve his loss are his wife of 35 years, Dianne of Grand Island; children, Shane Kelley of Beloit, KS, Jacqueline (James) Bennett of Tampa, FL, Alan (Victoria) Oborny of Oakley,

KS, and Cindy (Dave) Miesbach of Waverly, NE; cousins Don (Mary) Kelley of Lincoln, Ned (Linelle) Kelley of Inman, NE, Kay (Avery) Zediker of Sioux City, IA, and Ann (Bob) Davis of Inman, NE; grandchildren, Corwin and Audrey Bennett, Chelsea and Justin Oborny, Nick and Isaac Miesbach;

Neal was preceded in death by his parents James and Marjorie Kelley, nephew Shawn Kelley, and niece Kami Sholes.

Memorials are suggested to the family to be designated at a later date.

Previous Events

Visitation

JUL 6. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

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

Service

JUL 7. 2:00 PM (CT)

All Faiths Funeral Home
2929 S Locust St
Grand Island, NE 68801
(308) 398-2929
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Tribute Wall



“ *Neal Kelley*

October 08, 2023 at 11:02 PM



“ *I'm really sorry to hear about Neal. I just found out about his passing today and it floored me greatly. I hadn't heard otherwise I would of liked to have been there to pay my respects. I am so sorry for your loss. Neal was a great guy and I thought of him as a big brother I never had. He always was there with a smile a hand shake or a good story to tell. Penny Travis and I send you and your family our deepest sympathies and prayers*

steven galliart - July 11, 2018 at 07:05 PM



“ *I'm so sorry to hear Neal passing. We were both CWA Presidents at the same time. We would see each other at Conventions & Conferences. You are in my thoughts & prayers. R.I.P. my Brother..*

*Mark Rocha
CWA 7102
Des Moines.*

Mark Rocha - July 09, 2018 at 09:34 PM

DW

“ Dianne and family, so sorry for your loss. I have worked with Neal each year for the past ten years while planning and executing the Muzzleloaders Gun Show here at Fonner Park. I loved to listen to his many stories he had to share, especially the history he shared with Fonner Park and the race industry. I shall miss working with him, he was a great guy! My condolences to your family.

Dianne Willey - July 09, 2018 at 07:43 AM

EL

“ Oh Diane. We are so sorry to hear this. Nancy and I just heard today. Sorry we didn't know in time to be at the funeral. Hugs to you and family. Eric and Nancy Lohrmeyer

Eric Lohrmeyer - July 07, 2018 at 06:17 PM

CF

“ Beautiful Diane. It was a synchronicity that we read the Lincoln Journal Star today and discovered Neal's passing. My heart is overflowing with love for you as you continue your journey. Bob and I moved to Lincoln last December. I would love to see you or hear from you sometime.
Namaste', Clara and Bob Frazier

Clara Frazier - July 07, 2018 at 04:48 PM

LI

“ Dianne, I'm saddened to hear of your loss. I'm sending a virtual hug from St. George, Utah. Next time I'm in town, the five of us need to get together. Love you, my friend!
Laura Irvine

Laura A Irvine - July 07, 2018 at 04:07 PM

MN

“ I am so sorry to hear about your loss. Melanie

Melanie Norman - July 07, 2018 at 02:08 PM

CJ

“ Dear Diane and family,
My deepest sympathies for the loss of an amazing loving and kind man. I always have admired him and as you know he was good friends with my Mother, Connie. My thoughts and prayers are sent to you with love as you mourn the loss of your husband, father, uncle aunts, cousins and friends. May your days be filled with joy and humor as you remember a great man who always has a way of making even frumpy people laugh!!

Christina Jensen - July 07, 2018 at 01:39 PM

PJ

“ Dianne, our sympathies to you and your family. Neal was an easy person to like, and I know he will be missed. I will be praying for you. Paul John Landrigan

Paul John - July 07, 2018 at 06:51 AM



“ Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Neal Kelley.



July 06, 2018 at 07:28 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Neal Kelley.*



July 06, 2018 at 06:00 PM



“ *John, Nicole, and Lilly Halstead purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Neal Kelley.*



John, Nicole, and Lilly Halstead - July 06, 2018 at 05:02 PM



“ *Your Friends at the Rainwater Basin Joint Venture purchased the Serene Retreat for the family of Neal Kelley.*



Your Friends at the Rainwater Basin Joint Venture - July 06, 2018 at 02:04 PM



“ *I spent the summers of 1980, 1983, and 1986 in Omaha with Neal. We were on the CWA Bargaining Committee negotiating a contract with Northwestern Bell Telephone. He was a good friend and a great storyteller. RIP*

LeRoy C.

leroy christensen - July 06, 2018 at 01:25 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Neal Kelley.*



July 06, 2018 at 01:15 PM



“ *Dianne, Our hearts go out to you today as you endure the loss of your dear, Neal. May God strengthen you and give you peace.*

Love prayers and hugs to you, Alan and Cindy.

Gloria Bieker; Chris and Craig Oborny

Gloria Bieker - July 06, 2018 at 11:48 AM



Dianne, I was so sorry to hear of Neal's passing... Sending sympathy and prayers for and your family...May God Bless You Always.. Dee Ewoldt

Dee Ewoldt - July 07, 2018 at 11:51 AM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Neal Kelley.*



July 06, 2018 at 11:14 AM

BM

“ *Dianne: I was so sad to hear about your husband. I am sending you a virtual hug with extra courage boosters as you go through this tough time. You are loved by your DU family. You are in my heart today.*

Becky Mahlum

Becky Mahlum - July 06, 2018 at 11:14 AM

TE

Neal was a great friend and mentor. He made me feel like the best camp cook ever. I will miss you my friend !

Tom Ewing - July 06, 2018 at 08:04 PM