



William Allen "Willie" Steele

July 10, 1958 - December 28, 2016

William Allen "Willie" Steele, 58, of Grand Island, formerly of the Greeley Wolbach area, passed on Wednesday, December 28, 2016, with his family by his side.

Celebration of life service will be held at 10:00 a.m. Tuesday at Trinity United Methodist Church of Grand Island. Visitation will be from 4-6 p.m. Monday at All Faiths Funeral Home. Burial will be in Grand Island City Cemetery with military honors provided by the United States Marines and the Grand Island Honor Guard.

William was born July 10, 1958 in Grand Island to John and Faye (Malone) Steele. He graduated from Giltner High School, Class of 1976. He and the love of his life, Connie Jo Nielsen, were married on September 27, 1979. He entered the United States Marines and served until 1983. Following his discharge, Willie was a police officer at St. Paul and then Deputy Sheriff with Howard County. He then returned to the Marines for another four years and was honorably discharged in 1990.

Following the military, he served as a police officer in Broken Bow from 1990 until 1998. Willie then taught and coached at Bazine, Kansas for a couple of years before relocating to Wolbach School District, now Central Valley School District. There he coached football, basketball and track and led the team to two state football championships.

Those left to cherish his memory include his wife of 37 years, Connie Jo; three sons, Nick (Brooke) Steele of Genoa, Andrew (Christina) Steele of Seattle,

WA and Lance (Lisa) Steele of Kearney; seven grandchildren, Rylee, Kamryn, Taylor, Aysha, Jayce, Jenna-Faye and Drew; three brothers, James (Leslie) Kelsay of Grand Island, Robert (Marjean) Steele of Grand Island and John Steele of Auburn, NE; father-in-law, Alan Nielsen of Boelus; brothers-in-law, Paul (Vickie) Nielsen of St. Paul and Alan (Shelley) Nielsen of Grand Island; and sisters-in-law, Sarah Sazama (Dave Andrews) of Shelton, Toni (Paul) Bentz of St. Paul and Donna Nielsen of St. Paul.

He was preceded in death by his parents; mother-in-law, Joan Nielsen; and brother-in-law, Mark Nielsen.

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

Cemetery Details

Grand Island City Cemetery

Grand Island, NE

Previous Events

Visitation

JAN 2. 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM (CT)

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

Celebration of Life Service

JAN 3. 10:00 AM (CT)

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

Tribute Wall



“ *William Allen "Willie" Steele*

October 08, 2023 at 11:02 PM

LK

“ I was one of the lucky ones who was blessed to have Mr. Steele as a teacher for so many years. I have to admit I was pretty intimidated by him the first time I was in one of his classes, but I quickly discovered that he was the complete opposite of intimidating. His kindness touched my life in so many ways and I'll never forget the years I had with him. He was no ordinary person and went above and beyond to make sure each of his students were successful. Mr. Steele believed in me when I doubted myself so much and he saw the potential I had when I was blind to it. He was always there with his humor or just some words of wisdom to get me through each day. One of the memories that I will always cherish is being in drivers ed and while I was driving in GI, I don't remember which street we were on but I was trying to get into another lane when all of a sudden, the car came to a stop. I looked over and Mr. Steele had stopped me from running a red light. He always made each day interesting and I've missed that since I graduated from high school 1 1/2 years ago. Another thing I'll always remember is when I started having health issues the last couple months of my senior year, I was in his weights class and when he saw me wearing a neck brace, he didn't want me to do anything to make it even worse. I wanted to do something other than sit there, but Mr. Steele would take anything away from me if I tried to be productive. He was always understanding when I was in pain and still passed me in the class even though I didn't participate those last few months. That in itself was one of the most amazing things I've ever seen a person do and I'll never forget his kindness. He truly was an amazing person who God took way too soon. His legacy will live on in those he touched and I'm going to miss Steele but he'll always be an inspiration to me as long as I live!

Lisa Kehler - January 02, 2017 at 08:21 PM