



Daniel D. O'Dea

September 6, 1957 - September 28, 2024

Daniel David O'Dea, 67 of Kearney passed away Saturday, September 28, 2024 at The Grace Space in Lincoln, NE. A memorial mass will be held 9:00 a.m. Saturday, November 2, 2024 at Prince of Peace Catholic Church in Kearney. Inurnment will follow at Kearney Cemetery. The family will receive friends 5:00 to 6:00 p.m. Friday, November 1, 2024 at O'Brien Straatmann Redinger Funeral Home followed by a 6:00 p.m. Vigil/Prayer Service.

Memorials are suggested to the University of Nebraska Foundation for the Liver Transplantation Development Fund or The Liver Transplant Excellence Fund at the University of Nebraska Foundation, Attn: Gift Planning at 1010 Lincoln Mall Ste 300, Lincoln, Nebraska 68508. Condolences may be shared online at www.osrfh.com. Services are entrusted to O'Brien Straatmann Redinger Funeral and Cremation Services.

He was born on September 6, 1957, in McCook Nebraska to the late Leonard Francis O'Dea and Marie Elsie (Wesch) O'Dea. He graduated from McCook High School in 1976 and from McCook Community College in 1978 with an Associates of Arts Degree. He then attended Kearney State College and graduated in 1980 with a Bachelor of Science degree. In 1987 he became a Registered Radiologic Technologist graduating from Lutheran Medical Center in Wheat Ridge Colorado.

Dan went to work for a company called Mobile Scan driving a semi tractor pulling a trailer with a CT scanner inside. He provided CT scans to hospitals in Kansas, Colorado and Nebraska that could not afford their own scanners. In 1989 he left Mobile Scan and went to work for the private research company WESTAT in Rockville Maryland. WESTAT had a contract with the CDC and NCHS (National Center for Health Statistics) for a project called NHANES (National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey). Dan traveled all over the U.S. collecting data to assess the health and nutritional status of children and adults through interviews and physical examinations. He loved working with people from all over the U.S. and especially liked seeing the parts of the country that most people never get to see. He worked on the study until 2014 when he became ill and returned to Nebraska and on December 5, 2016, Dan was fortunate to receive a liver transplant, a gift that he was forever grateful for.

Dan was a great friend to many people, he kept in contact with his oldest childhood friend Susie (Olsson) Abbey and high school friend Craig Johnson and many others from his high school class. He made new friends after his transplant while rehabilitating at the Wellness Center in Kearney, and newer friends at The Monarch in Lincoln where he spent six months before transferring to his final home at The Grace Space when the Monarch closed.

He was preceded in death by his parents and a nephew Michael "Shane" Rooney.

He is survived by his sisters Ruth (Mike) Rooney of Bird City, KS, Barbara (Rodney) Callan of Colorado Springs, CO, and Teresa (Mike) Baumgartner of Kearney. One brother Patrick (Mary) O'Dea of Loveland, CO, and a half-brother Norbert (Frank) Zwickl of Phoenix, Arizona and many nieces, nephews, cousins and friends too numerous to mention.

Cemetery Details

Kearney Cemetery

4400 Avenue I
Kearney, NE 68847
(308) 233-3244

Previous Events

Family receiving friends

NOV 1. 5:00 PM - 6:00 PM (CT)

O'Brien Straatmann Redinger Funeral Homes and Cremations
4115 Ave N
Kearney, NE 68847
(308) 234-3500
info@osrfh.com
<https://www.osrfh.com>

Vigil / Prayer Service

NOV 1. 6:00 PM (CT)

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Funeral Mass

NOV 2. 9:00 AM (CT)

Prince of Peace Catholic Church
2407 W. 56th Street
Kearney, NE 68845

Tribute Wall



“ O'Brien Straatmann Redinger Funeral Home created a Dan O'Dea Funeral Mass in memory of Daniel D. O'Dea



O'Brien Straatmann Redinger Funeral Homes and Cremations - November 01, 2024 at 12:02 PM

BO

“ Thinking of you all at this time and the time to come as you adjust to life without Danny. So sorry I can't be there in person to give hugs. Love, Brenda O'Dea



Brenda ODea - November 01, 2024 at 08:21 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Daniel D. O'Dea.

October 31, 2024 at 08:49 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Daniel D. O'Dea.



October 31, 2024 at 08:49 PM

VA

“ Voleta & Leigh Ann purchased the *Dreams From the Heart Bouquet* for the family of Daniel D. O'Dea.



Voleta & Leigh Ann - October 31, 2024 at 08:24 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Daniel D. O'Dea.

October 31, 2024 at 01:53 PM



“ *Enchanted Cottage* was purchased for the family of Daniel D. O'Dea.



October 31, 2024 at 01:53 PM

DZ

“ We were fortunate enough to visit Danny in Lincoln in June. Danny was so cheerful and happy. We tried to find the Dairy Queen close by but got lost in the process. We ran into Barb at the Monarch and she went and got the *Blizzard* for Danny. The smile on his face was like a little boy on Christmas morning. Pure joy! Warmed our hearts. What a kind and gentle man.

Don and Judi Zwickl

Don and Judi Zwickl - October 30, 2024 at 08:57 PM

JK

“ *Jim Halbert and James Kimbrough purchased the Pink Tribute Spray for the family of Daniel D. O'Dea.*



Jim Halbert and James Kimbrough - October 22, 2024 at
10:50 AM