



Darold F. Nielsen

April 5, 1934 - April 23, 2020

Darold Nielsen, 86

Kearney resident

Darold F. Nielsen, 86 of Kearney passed away Thursday, April 23, 2020 at Rose Lane Home in Loup City, NE. Private family services will be held at the McCain Cemetery in Stapleton, NE with Military Honors provided by the Nebraska National Guard Honors Team. Visitation will be 5:00 to 7:00 pm Monday at O'Brien Straatmann Redinger Funeral Home in Kearney.

The family encourages everyone to please leave a message of condolence through the funeral home website at www.osrfh.com or send cards/memorials to the family, care of O'Brien Straatmann Redinger Funeral Home, 4115 Ave N, Kearney, NE 68847.

Darold was born April 5, 1934 in Gandy, Nebraska to Niels and Florence (Essley) Nielsen. He received his education from Stapleton High School, graduating with the class of 1952. Darold attended Kearney Teachers College from 1952-1953. He proudly served in the U.S. Army from 1954, until his honorable discharge in 1957. Darold was united in marriage to Arlene Empfield in 1955 in Stapleton, NE. To this union two children were born; Loy and Troy. He went on to earn his bachelor's degree in 1960 and his master's degree in 1965. Darold taught Industrial Arts at several different schools including, Hooper, NE, Republican City, NE, Holdrege, NE and Elwood, NE. The family moved to Elwood where Darold and Arlene owned and operated the "Lil' Red Barn." Arlene passed away in 1981. Darold later married Phyllis

Anderson. The couple continued to run the store until her passing. He then married Bronte Buhr in 1998. Darold and Bronte moved to Johnson Lake after selling the store. The couple moved to Kearney in 2009 to be closer to family. Darold was a very active member of the American Legion Post #52 where he proudly served in the color guard and participated in numerous parades and events. In his free time, he enjoyed playing cards, hunting and fishing. Darold adored his family and loved attending his grandchildren's events.

Left to cherish his memory are his wife, Bronte Nielsen of Kearney; son, Troy Nielsen and wife, Lisa of Kearney; daughter, Loy Nyberg and husband, Brett of Bertrand; stepdaughter, Patti Johnson and husband, Marlin of Johnson Lake; grandchildren, Dirk (Kami) Trautman of Lincoln, Kylee (Matt) Wilken of Bertrand, Matt (Jenni) Nielsen of Kearney, Makahla (Eric) Krueger of Kearney, Stephanie (Jim) Knight of Geneva, Chris (Brooke) Johnson of Henderson, NV, Chelsea (Monte) Miller of Kearney and Lindsay (Matt) Ruma of Omaha; 19 great grandchildren; brother, Donald Nielsen and wife, Esther of Laramie, WY; sisters-in-law, Diane Nielsen of Denver, CO and Karen Empfield of Stapleton; as well as, many nieces, nephews and extended family and friends.

Darold was preceded in death by his parents; wives, Arlene Nielsen and Phyllis Nielsen; brothers, Dean, Donzel, and Darwin Nielsen; sisters, Leora Nelson, Lenora Smith, Lynette Baker and Lorraine Bartmess; brother-in-law, Ike Homer Empfield.

Memorials are suggested to the Kearney First United Methodist Church or to American Legion Post #52. Services are entrusted to O'Brien Straatmann Redinger Funeral and Cremation Services of Kearney.

Cemetery Details

McCain Cemetery

Stapleton, NE

Tribute Wall



“ *Darold F. Nielsen*

January 28, 2023 at 08:01 AM



“ *From all the Nielsen's in Colorado we are sorry for your loss. I personally have LOTS of great memories with him and his family.*

Jeff Nielsen - May 05, 2020 at 11:20 AM



“ *So sorry for your loss of such a beautiful person. So kind and joyful when I saw him while growing up in Elwood. Always smiling and had such kind words and generosity to share. What fond memories there are to cherish! He will rest peacefully now and leave you from his earthly visit to watch over you from above now. Love & hugs, Kristi Miranda*

Kristi Miranda - May 02, 2020 at 07:17 PM



“ *Loy and family-I don't think I have a single memory from High School that doesn't have Loy and her dad and mom in it! He was one of my favorite people and I loved him! Much love to Loy and her family!*
Kathi Schutz

Kathi Schutz - May 02, 2020 at 03:24 PM

JO

“ Our hearts go out to Bron, Troy, Loy, and all your family. Darold was always so kind, gentle, funny, engaging, and loved by everyone who knew him. You will miss him. We wish you peace, love, and many happy memories to sustain you. Janie and Terry Ostlund

Janie Ostlund - April 28, 2020 at 03:55 PM

DH

“ I always enjoyed talking to Darold about real estate and getting to see Darold at Chris Johnson's basketball games. I will miss his quick wit and great smile!

Doug Heineman

Doug Heineman - April 27, 2020 at 03:34 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Darold F. Nielsen.



April 27, 2020 at 01:04 PM

SU

“ Had known Darold for many years and loved seeing him. He was such a kind, gentle gentleman. I'm sure you will miss him. Prayers for all of you. Susie McElvain

susie - April 27, 2020 at 11:34 AM

LE

“ Troy and Nielsen family: Condolences. I would bump into Darold around Kearney every once-in-a-while. He was always quick with a greeting and a story or joke. I especially remember an incident, back in the day, when I was fueling up at Lil Red Barn on my way from McCook to Kearney. It was right after a new additional gas-tax had been implemented by the State of Nebraska. "Oh, how I hate doing this to you guys," he quipped. And he meant it. Blessings to the Nielsen family.

Lennis - April 27, 2020 at 12:06 AM

BR

“ You are in my thoughts and my prayers, Loy, Troy and families. Remember Darold from Andy's Supper Club, he was attending a "Parents Without Partners" held there and a few months later he and Darlene were married. Loved seeing them at the Red Barn, loved our visits!! RIP Darold, loved and will be missed by so many!! A yellow candle for Spring!!
Bonnie Remmenga Holdrege, NE



Bonnie Remmenga - April 26, 2020 at 03:48 PM

BR

So sorry I got the name wrong Arlene not Darlene, I also knew Phyllis, a friendly sweet lady!

Bonnie Remmenga - April 27, 2020 at 06:31 PM

BR

OK, I hope I get this right on the third try, it was Darold and Phyllis who were at Andy's Supper Club, not Arlene! Sorry I am old!!

Bonnie Remmenga - April 27, 2020 at 09:19 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Darold F. Nielsen.*



April 26, 2020 at 02:37 PM



“ *Loy, Troy and Nielson family I send my heart felt condolences for loss of your Dad. Darold was always very kind to my family and I.*

Tom Dreher

Tom Dreher - April 25, 2020 at 10:27 PM



“ *It was so nice to meet you and Darold at the Cracker Barrel in Lincoln to eat and visit. He was such a kind man. My sympathy to you, Bron.*

Anita Lambie

Anita Lambie - April 25, 2020 at 08:21 PM



“ *Sincere sympathy to Darold's family. I was one of Darold's students when he taught in Republican City High School.*

Charlotte Sprague - April 25, 2020 at 06:58 PM



“ *He was a good man and a great shop teacher!*

brian osborn - April 24, 2020 at 02:53 PM

CH

“ *Connie Huber lit a candle in memory of Darold F. Nielsen*



connie huber - April 24, 2020 at 02:43 PM

EV

“ *Darold's Family,
Our sincere sympathy, prayers & love at
your loss!
May God give you comfort at this time !!*

Love, Evert, Bonita & Families

Evert&Bonita - April 24, 2020 at 02:13 PM

RW

“ *To the Nielsen family our condolences to you
all. Loy and kids special sympathies to you.
May your many happy memories help you at
this difficult time. I remember him in high
school, tho I don't have any funny memories
to tell. 🙏🙏🙏❤️❤️ Had to do the purple candle for Holdrege
school colors 😊*



Roxanne Winheim - April 24, 2020 at 01:23 PM

SN

“ *Mr Nielsen was my 7th grade study hall teacher and one day my
friend and I were giggling during study hall and he made us write an
essay entitled "Silence is Golden!" I came to know him later and
wasn't all that mean! 😞. Our condolences to Bron and the family.*

Susie Nation - April 24, 2020 at 11:22 AM

CH

“ Sending our sincere condolences from your Wyoming family. We send our prayers and strength.



C J Herman - April 24, 2020 at 11:21 AM

JS

“ So sorry for your loss. Many great memories going to dance parties at his house in Elwood. Hugs to you Troy and your family.

Judy Stagemeyer - April 24, 2020 at 09:40 AM

DJ

“ Taught a great principle for living in 7th grade shop class, "A Place for Everything and Everything in its Place." Carried over into life in the Navy and as an RN. Thank you Mr. Nielsen!

Don Johnston - April 24, 2020 at 07:23 AM

RV

“ Darold was my brother-in-law.He was a very kind and loving guy.I will miss him when I visit my sister.I'm so sorry sis love you.

rRamoma Vacek

Ramona Vacek - April 24, 2020 at 07:16 AM

KN

“ To Loy, Troy, and the Nielsen family and friends, I'm so sorry about your Dad's passing. Please accept my heartfelt condolences. You're in my thoughts, and I hope you feel comforted in the days ahead. May God wrap his loving arms around you to help you through this already tough time. Prayers and love,
Karol (McKenzie) Nelson



Karol (McKenzie) Nelson - April 24, 2020 at 02:13 AM

RB

“ Darold was such an easy going guy. We treasure the memories of all our vacations that the 4 of us took together, all the weekends together, always on time for “Happy Hour” and playing Pitch into the wee hours. Darold was a phenomenal Pitch player and never lost his ability to play until the Alzheimer's took over completely.. We will miss him more than words can express. We will look forward to our next Pitch game in our heavenly home! We love you, Ray and Jan Buhr

Ray & Jan Buhr - April 24, 2020 at 02:04 AM

MG

“ He was my shop teacher in Holdrege..... a few years ago I ran into him at Hyvee in Kearney and we had a nice long visit.....he was a wonderful man.....

Michael Gleason - April 24, 2020 at 12:38 AM

LH

“ We have so many memories to remember. We want to express our sincere sympathy to Troy and Loy and their families and to Bronte and her family. Thinking of you. Lavera and Larry Hoggatt

Lavera A Hoggatt - April 23, 2020 at 11:20 PM

TK

“ *Sending our love, prayers and sympathy to you. We will always remember when you two came to the Black Hills...we enjoyed a meal together and we had so much fun getting to know Darold better and spending time with you. So sorry for your loss. ❤️
With love Doug and Tami Krull.*

Tami and Doug Krull - April 23, 2020 at 10:45 PM

WP

Loy and Troy, so sorry for your loss 🙏🙏🙏🙏

wade pierson - April 24, 2020 at 10:19 PM



“ *I was on crutches and unable to use shop equipment when Darold was our industrial arts teacher. We came up with the "brilliant" idea to build my own water ski. Needless to say, neither of us had any idea what to do, so it was no surprise it almost broke my neck when I tried using it later.....He was a good man and left behind a wonderful legacy in his family. My condolences to all. William (Rusty) Houser*

Rusty Houser - April 23, 2020 at 10:11 PM