



## Delbert Dean Kotas

December 27, 1933 - July 6, 2024

Delbert D. Kotas, 90 of Kearney passed away Saturday, July 6, 2024 at the Central Nebraska Veterans Home in Kearney. Funeral services will be held 10:00 a.m. Friday, July 12, 2024 at O'Brien Straatmann Redinger Funeral Home in Kearney. Interment will follow at Kearney Cemetery with Military Honors Provided by the Nebraska National Guard Funeral Honors Team. Visitation will be 5-7 p.m. Thursday at the funeral home.

Memorials are suggested to Central Nebraska Veterans Home. Condolences may be shared online at [www.osrfh.com](http://www.osrfh.com). Services are entrusted to O'Brien Straatmann Redinger Funeral and Cremation Services.

Delbert was born December 27, 1933 in Davenport, Nebraska to Fred and Hazel (Ruhga) Kotas. He received his education from Davenport High School, graduating with the class of 1952. Delbert attended Fairbury College on a football scholarship. He was later enlisted into the U.S. Army on January 26, 1954, and proudly served until his honorable discharge on January 25, 1956. On December 26, 1953, he was united in marriage to Marian Miller at the Christ Lutheran Church in Davenport, NE. To this union two sons were blessed. The couple farmed until 1967 when they moved to Kearney where they bought the Western Inn. They later built the Lodge Restaurant and the Western Inn South. Delbert and Marian also owned motels in Granby, CO and Casper, WY. In his later years, Delbert started the Farm and Ranch Network

and K & W Enterprises.

Delbert had many hobbies, including hunting, playing tennis, racquet ball and golfing. He was a longtime member of the Kearney Country Club and the Cotillion Dance Club. Delbert was also a longtime member of First Lutheran Church and Family of Christ Lutheran Church. Over the years, he was also active in Kearney Chamber as a Colonel and with the Kearney Goodfellows.

Left to cherish his memory are his wife of 70 years, Marian Kotas of Kearney; sons, Darren Kotas of Kearney and Carter Kotas of Aurora, NE; grandchildren, Nichole, Shane, Brittany, Taylor, Serenity, Skya, Jaxson and Derek; 9 great grandchildren; brother, Robert "Bob" Kotas of Fairbury, NE; sister, Lila Carter of Plattsmouth, NE; as well as many nieces, nephews, extended family and friends.

Delbert was preceded in death by his parents.

# Cemetery Details

## Kearney Cemetery

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

# Previous Events

## Visitation

JUL 11. 5:00 PM - 7:00 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>

## Funeral Service

JUL 12. 10:00 AM (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>

# Tribute Wall

TF

“ *The Norblade Family purchased the Serene Retreat for the family of Delbert Dean Kotas.*



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**The Norblade Family** - July 11, 2024 at 08:51 AM

KG

“ *Kathy, Molly & Halie - Keenan Girls purchased the Florist Choice Bouquet for the family of Delbert Dean Kotas.*



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**Kathy, Molly & Halie - Keenan Girls** - July 10, 2024 at 02:15 PM

KG

“ *Kathy, Molly & Halie - Keenan Girls planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Delbert Dean Kotas.*

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**Kathy, Molly & Halie - Keenan Girls** - July 10, 2024 at 02:15 PM

WL

“*Marian, Carter, Darren and your families - wow, what a life and legacy of you all. There are so many wonderful Lutheran family memories and just getting together for parties and swimming. I am sorry for your loss. The VA was amazing and I am grateful to have visited a few times over the past few years. Carter, you are the so much like your dad in many ways. Sending hugs from the Lantis families (Lantis/Rinard/Souleks). You have our deepest sympathy!!*

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**WLS** - July 10, 2024 at 11:38 AM

ML

“*Marian and family,  
Our thoughts and prayers are with you.  
With love,  
Mary Ellen Lantis and family*

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**Mary Ellen Lantis** - July 09, 2024 at 06:24 PM

RS

“*I'm so sorry to hear about Delbert's passing. He and his family are considered family to mine. Marian , I send my love and condolences to you and your family. So many great memories of our families get togethers. Hugs to you. Robert Sykes.*

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**Robert Sykes** - July 08, 2024 at 01:22 PM

RC

*So sorry for your loss, Delbert seemed much like a father figure to me in the early 70's gave me life changing advice. I had some of my life long great memories working at the Lodge, with love and respect.  
Richard Cunningham*

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**RICHARD CUNNINGHAM** - July 11, 2024 at 05:43 PM