



Elizabeth "Libby" Merrifield

September 19, 1958 - March 11, 2020

Elizabeth "Libby" Merrifield, 61
Kearney resident

Elizabeth "Libby" Merrifield, 61 of Kearney passed away Wednesday, March 11, 2020 at Kearney Regional Medical Center in Kearney. Funeral services will be 10:30 a.m. Monday, March 16, 2020 at St. James Catholic Church with the Rev. Father Art Faesser officiating. Interment will follow at Kearney Cemetery. Visitation will be 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. Sunday at O'Brien Straatmann Redinger Funeral Home in Kearney.

Memorials are suggested to Kearney Catholic High School Foundation for the Bud and Betty Connell and Libby Merrifield Scholarship. Condolences may be shared online at www.osrfh.com. Services are entrusted to O'Brien Straatmann Redinger Funeral and Cremation Services.

Elizabeth Ann "Libby" was born September 19, 1958 in Kearney, Nebraska to Howard and Betty (Whitney) Connell. She was raised in Kearney and received her education from Kearney High School and Kearney Catholic High School graduating with the class of 1976. On September 5, 1988, Libby was united in marriage to Pat Merrifield in Kearney, NE.

In her youth Libby participated in 4-H showing her horses, participated as a Jr.

Olympic Diver and much to her parents dismay would sneak off to Kearney Raceway to drag race her Mustang. She worked alongside her parents running Grandpa's Steakhouse in Kearney and upon Bud and Betty's death maintained ownership of Grandpa's until its closure in 2013. Libby was a Board Member and President of the Nebraska Restaurant Association, campaigned for Senators Jim Exon, Ben Nelson, Bob Kerrey, and Mike Johanns. Libby enjoyed numerous crafty hobbies from floral arranging to helping her daughter with art fairs. She enjoyed traveling with her family especially to South Dakota and the desert Southwest and riding the Harley with her Husband. She will always be remembered by her friends and family for her legendary Fourth of July and Halloween parties.

Left to cherish her memory are her husband, Pat Merrifield of Kearney; daughter, Kristen Brown and husband, Jeremy of Lincoln; son, Keyton Merrifield of Kearney; grandson, Lawkryn Merrifield; brother, James Connell and wife, Laura Connell of Tucson ,Az; and numerous friends and family.

Libby was preceded in death by her parents.

Cemetery Details

Kearney Cemetery

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

Previous Events

Visitation

MAR 15. 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

MAR 16. 10:30 AM (CT)

St. James Catholic Church
3801 Avenue A
Kearney, NE 68847

Tribute Wall



“ Elizabeth "Libby" Merrifield

January 28, 2023 at 08:01 AM



“ Pat, Kristen, & Keyton, my condolences to the family. So sorry to hear about Libby. Many memories of working at Grandpas. Sending prayers & hugs. ❤️ Rebecca Taylor

Rebecca Taylor - March 24, 2020 at 06:21 AM



“ Hello Pat I am so sorry about Libby .I still think about the steak house and all the times we worked for Howard and Betty and you and Libby. I still have dreams about the salad bar and doing my job. May the good Lord be with you and your family. Margene

margene - March 21, 2020 at 11:27 AM



“ Merrifield Family,

So sorry for your loss, Libby was truly a breath of fresh air! Lots of memories from Grandpa's!

-Courtney

Courtney - March 17, 2020 at 01:26 PM



“ Pat, Kristen, Keyton and family:
I am so sorry for your loss, Praying for God's peace at this time.

Kimberly Rebman - March 16, 2020 at 12:42 AM

ML

“ Knew Libby from High School and beyond great person and old friend. Condolences to her family.

Mike Luth - March 14, 2020 at 01:38 AM

BH

“ A true force of nature! Sending love and light to all her family and friends.
Bryce Hill

Bryce Hill - March 14, 2020 at 12:12 AM

SP

“ Stephanie Patsios lit a candle in memory of Elizabeth "Libby" Merrifield



Stephanie Patsios - March 13, 2020 at 09:57 PM

KD

“ So many great memories of our younger years! Especially riding in her Mach 1 and working with her at Grandpas ! Blessings to family RIP Libby! Kathryn Harms Davis

Kathryn Harms Davis - March 13, 2020 at 08:19 AM

LC

“ I’m so sad to hear Libby has passed. I met & worked with Lib for years when Grandpa’s Steakhouse was open. Had many sleepovers & stayed up listening to albums like Jefferson Starship. Great times spent riding jet skis & driving the boat on their lake. Went to CO one winter in her white 280Z & drove it into a ditch full of soft snow but we were rescued minutes later. That’s what we got for singing along to Boston blaring on the stereo! She was so much fun to be with & I had hoped to see her again one of these days. Now I’ll get to see her in heaven! 😇 May God give her family His comfort during this difficult time. Rest in peace Libby. 🙏

Lanell Cudaback-Krafka - March 12, 2020 at 09:07 PM

JB

“ Our deepest sympathy to you

Jack and Janelle Beatty - March 12, 2020 at 05:26 PM

L"

“ Laura--aka "Wanda" purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Elizabeth "Libby" Merrifield.



Laura--aka "Wanda" - March 12, 2020 at 01:15 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Elizabeth "Libby" Merrifield.



March 12, 2020 at 10:45 AM