



Gary L. Henderson

January 24, 1937 - December 1, 2016

Gary L. Henderson, 79, of Kearney died Thursday, December 1, 2016 at CHI Health Good Samaritan Hospital after a brave battle with cancer.

Services will be 2:00 pm Saturday, December 3rd at O'Brien Straatmann Redinger Funeral Home with the Reverend Robert Perry officiating.

Gary L Henderson was born in Kearney on January 24, 1937 to Edna (Wilke) Fish , He was adopted by his step father Elmus Henderson. Gary attended Kearney Public Schools graduating from Longfellow in 1956. He attended one year at Kearney State Teachers College. He transferred to Bethany Nazarene College in Oklahoma City, where he earned a Master's Degree in microbiology. While working at Bethany Hospital he met his future wife Maxine Wiese. They had two children Lydia and John. They later divorced. After several career moves, including being in management for Foley's Department Stores, he opened a small pet store in downtown Houston. Soon it became the world's largest pet store encompassing an entire city block. He traveled to 29 countries finding exotic birds and animals for the store. He also gave lectures at pet related seminars and conventions. After retirement he returned to Kearney and bought a house near UNK with an apartment. He found he enjoyed working with the college students and helping them find housing. He soon bought several more rental properties, also near UNK. All of his properties are, naturally, pet friendly .Believing in the power of education, he offered a scholarship to UNK students living in his apartments, in the form of a free month's rent if they got on the Dean's List. Not all of his tenants are

college students, over the years he has befriended and helped a diverse mixture of interesting people.

Gary is survived by his children Lydia Henderson, Stephenville, TX., John and wife Beverly of Spring, TX., his brother Lyle and wife Lynda Henderson Kearney, sister Shirley Peterson, Hastings, special friend Ardienne McNulty Dayton, OH., Maxine Henderson and other extended family. He preceded in death by his parents and grandparents.

Memorials are suggested to Faith United Methodist Church or donor's choice.

Previous Events

Memorial Service

DEC 3. 2:00 PM (CT)

O'Brien Straatmann Redinger Funeral Homes and Cremations

4115 Ave N

Kearney, NE 68847

(308) 234-3500

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<https://www.osrfh.com>

Tribute Wall



“ Gary L. Henderson

January 28, 2023 at 08:01 AM



“ I keep reaching for the phone to call you. I miss you so much and will always love you.

Lydia (daughter) - December 07, 2016 at 11:33 AM