



Gregory J. Geist

December 15, 1972 - February 20, 2023

Gregory J. "Greg" Geist, 50 of Kearney passed away Sunday, February 19, 2023 as the result of injuries received in a tragic accident involving one of his machines he was working with, and he became trapped.

Funeral services will be 10:00 am Monday, February 27, 2023 at Grace Fellowship Church with Pastor Mitch Ivey Officiating. Interment will follow at Kearney Cemetery and a lunch at Grace Fellowship following. Live stream will be visible at KearneyGrace.com or YouTube [KearneyGrace](https://www.youtube.com/KearneyGrace). Visitation will be held 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. Sunday at O'Brien Straatmann Redinger Funeral Home in Kearney.

Greg was born in Abilene, KS. To Gary Sr. and Doris Geist, the second oldest of five children. He grew up in Kearney, NE. where he met the love of his life while both were still in high school, Tammy Churchill. While they dated, Greg attended the University of Embry-Riddle Aeronautical in Daytona Beach Florida. Greg and Tammy married August 26th 1995. They moved to Wichita, KS where Greg attended Wichita State University and received his bachelor's degree in the Science of Aeronautical Engineering.

Greg worked for Learjet Aircraft Company and then Cessna Aviation Company in Wichita, KS as a project lead, where he designed landing gear for aircrafts in the engineering departments. In 2008 they moved to North

Carolina where Greg worked for Honda Jet designing many different components for new aircrafts including new headlight designs, of which there is patent on. He then worked in Virginia with Aurora Flight Systems on many different AeroSystems designing/engineering projects. In 2020, they moved back to Kearney, NE to be closer to family. They opened MACH1 Manufacturing: A fiber laser, waterjet and tube cutting company. They designed and produced commercial production runs for various companies in and out of Nebraska.

Greg loved spending time with his large family and friends taking many pictures and making long lasting memories. He was always there any time anyone needed anything at the drop of a hat. He inspired everyone he knew or met, to achieve their dreams in life and to always better themselves. He was smart, educated, kind, had a goofy humor and the most infectious laugh that would brighten any room. He could solve any problem using creative, inquisitive, yet sometimes unconventional methods. He loved to try new BBQ recipes/flavors, make cookies (and eat all the dough he could), and he was an amazing cook who loved to experiment and make homemade meals with/for family and friends. His meats (which he loved to smoke), always stole the show and his cookies and brownies were beyond delicious.

-Thoughts from Tammy-

“Greg had a pure, genuine, loving heart just waiting to share it with you. His smile would light up the room and warm your heart. His laugh would bring you joy. He had no desire greater than to be with family. That is why we moved back here three years ago.

He was extremely intelligent, knowing how everything works and enjoying the process of helping you discover it too. He was always going out of his way to please everyone, knowing exactly what you needed before you even knew you needed it yourself. Greg strived to make life easier for all who knew him. By nature, he was a provider. Never shying away from helping anyone he

could. If you gave an ounce of effort, he would match it 10 times to make sure you succeeded in whatever you were doing or chose to do, even if he had to make personal sacrifices himself.

He was usually, always the smartest, most ambitious person in the room, even when the room was filled with other extremely bright and talented aerospace engineers. He inspired you through his brilliance and wit, setting the standard for what we all desired to become.

We wanted children of our own and had decided this was our year. The plan was in motion and we were on track to make that happen. It brought him great peace to know that this dream was coming true. It was set to be our best year ever here in Kearney, NE surrounded by family. Then the unthinkable happens. The laser machine he was operating appears to have malfunctioned, moving while the doors were open, crushing his body and killing him instantly. Now what are we to do. The love of our lives gone, instantly stripped away from us. Now who will pick us up when we fall. We love you and we need you. Not one day will go by for the rest of our lives that you won't be terribly missed. Greg Geist. 50 years old. Rest in peace my love"

Family to pass on his love, memories and dreams are; his loving wife Tammy, adopted Son WadeWilliam Churchill; Parents Gary Sr and Doris Geist; Brother Gary Geist Jr. ; Sisters Sheila Luff, Laura Geist, Serana (Grant) Sparks; Mother-in-law Carol Churchill; Brother-in-laws Travis Churchill, Brad Churchill; Sister-in-law Petrina (Todd) Kuehler; Many Aunts, Uncles, Nephews, Nieces and Cousins.

He was proceeded in death by his Grandparents Robert Sr and Helen Geist, Betty Lou Geist, Robert Sr. and Jeanie Peterson; Uncles Daniel Geist, James Geist, Nathan Peterson; Father-in-Law William Churchill; Brother-in-Law Wade Churchill.

A gofundme has been set up for the family <https://gofund.me/6917b845>

Memorials are suggested to the family for future designation. Condolences may be shared online at www.osrfh.com. Services are entrusted to O'Brien Straatmann Redinger Funeral and Cremation Services.

Cemetery Details

Kearney Cemetery

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

Previous Events

Visitation

FEB **26**. 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

FEB **27**. 10:00 AM (CT)

Grace Fellowship
4305 19th Ave
Kearney, NE 68845

Tribute Wall



“ I am just shocked to hear of the death of Greg. In high school, he dressed super cool and I knew this kid was smart and going places. Plus, he had a killer smile and a heart of gold. As I scroll through here and find classmates that I have not seen in years, my heart is heavy to know they were taken too early. Greg, you are so missed far and near. See you in Heaven!

Jon Borges - January 11, 2024 at 11:28 PM

A square profile picture with the initials 'AG' in white on a brown background.

“ I had the experience of doing business with Greg and Tammy through my employer and I can say that having known Greg was a very good experience. I got inspired by this man in such a level that made my life easier to deal with. His smile and good presence was always enjoyable. We conversed a handful of times and it was always a good conversation. My most sincere condolences to his family. I man of his caliber is very difficult to find.

Alex Gomez

Alex Gomez - March 07, 2023 at 10:36 AM



“ Fiery Lily and Rose was purchased for the family of Gregory J. Geist.



February 26, 2023 at 11:07 AM

CR

“ Greg was a great friend. I met him when I moved to North Carolina and started working for Honda . He was a genuine person and after a few times hanging out, you could tell he had goals to do something great. I had the opportunity to attend a party he held at his home in NC and enjoyed everything he was improving upon on his own time. This is where you get to see how a person is outside of work. He was a hard working guy at home and at work. After moving back home to Nebraska , he surprised me a couple of times by reaching out to me at 1am excited to tell me about how everything was going.

Greg cared about his friends as much as we cared about him. He joked with me while I shared my kids photos. His laugh was great. He even attended some of our kids parties and I was able to snap shot a goofy photo of him and saved it as his profile picture so I get a laugh every time he called me.

I am going to miss his laugh, his caring nature, and his inspiring engineering fortitude he emanated.

Your friend,
Chris Robles



Chris Robles - February 26, 2023 at 10:57 AM

DB

“ I worked for Greg for a few years and I can honestly say he was one of the best people I've ever met. He always had a smile on his face and made everyone's day better just by being the amazing person he was. God bless Tammy and the Geist family. May he rest in peace in the heaven's above.

Dani Bekdache - February 26, 2023 at 09:07 AM



“ Beautiful Heart Bouquet was purchased for the family of Gregory J. Geist.



February 25, 2023 at 10:02 AM



“ Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Gregory J. Geist.



February 24, 2023 at 06:16 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Gregory J. Geist.



February 24, 2023 at 04:12 PM



“ Florist Choice Bouquet was purchased for the family of Gregory J. Geist.



February 24, 2023 at 11:36 AM



“ *Enchanted Cottage was purchased for the family of Gregory J. Geist.* ”



February 24, 2023 at 10:10 AM



“ *I didn't even know the guy, but I am an old friend of his brother Gary Geist, Jr. and this is the most wonderful obituary I have ever read about a person! I can only hope we all strive to live a meaningful and purposeful life as Gregory did. Peace be upon the entire Geist family.* ”



Robert Charles Seibert - February 24, 2023 at 09:59 AM



“ *Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Gregory J. Geist.* ”



February 24, 2023 at 09:18 AM



“ *Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Gregory J. Geist.* ”



February 23, 2023 at 11:35 AM

RP

“ Greg was a great man a very special nephew to me. He accompanied a lot in 50 years. My heart breaks to think Tammy will have to go on without him. I know he is at peace. Love. Uncle Bob

robert peterson - February 22, 2023 at 03:42 PM

CA

Prayers for peace.. God be with you all.

Cathy - February 23, 2023 at 10:57 PM

DK

I first met Greg when he and Tammy moved to Greensboro to work at Honda. Very quickly we saw his creative side, always trying to find solutions and ways to improve the way in which we worked.

Outside work, he seemed this shy kid and one that was always willing to help you. Both Victoria and I have fond memories of Gregg and we are thankful for them.

Tammy, our hearts are heavy and our thoughts and prayers are with you and the family.

I think in some way we all want to leave a legacy of a caring spirit as Greg has.

Such a good person and he will be missed.

God bless you and may you rest in peace.

Dave Khublall

Dave Khublall - February 27, 2023 at 08:06 AM