



## Jessica G. Eidem

July 11, 1978 - June 26, 2020

Jessica G. Eidem, 41 of Kearney passed away Friday, June 26, 2020 at CHI Good Samaritan Hospital in Kearney.

Memorial services will be held 10:00 a.m. Saturday, July 25, 2020 at the Harmon Park Amphitheater. The family wants the services to celebrate Jessica's life, and thus, they request that those attending the service dress casual and wear bright colors. Please plan to bring your own seating. The family will receive friends 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. Friday, July 24th at First Lutheran Church on the North Lawn.

Memorials are suggested to the Kearney Public Schools Foundation, First Lutheran Church, or the American Red Cross. 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.

Jessica was born July 11, 1978 in Ogallala, Nebraska to Martin and Bonnie (Knight) Mueller. She was raised in Ogallala and attended St. Luke's Catholic Elementary School and later Ogallala High School, graduating with the class of 1996. Jessica was the class valedictorian, a standout member of the girls' golf team, a thespian, and a member of the band. She enjoyed waitressing, played piano at Ogallala's famed Front Street Crystal Palace Review, and was

a photographer's assistant. After graduation, she attended the University of Nebraska-Kearney (UNK) where she earned her bachelor's degree in education. She delivered flowers for Kearney Floral when not in class. On June 10, 2000, Jessica was united in marriage to Nathan Eidem at St. Luke's Catholic Church in Ogallala. She began her career at Horizon Middle School in Kearney, teaching 7th grade science until 2003. During this time, she earned her master's degree from UNK. The couple moved to Washington, D.C. and Carbondale, Illinois to continue their education, and Albany, Oregon where Jessica taught in Mt. Angel and was the girls High School Golf Coach. In 2008, they moved back to Kearney where she worked at Sunrise Middle School, before returning to her previous 7th grade science position at Horizon Middle School. Jessica loved to learn and enjoyed the challenge of sharing that knowledge with her students. She was a natural teacher.

Their beautiful daughter, Julia, was born on July 20, 2009. Her birth was harrowing for the new mother, as she battled pre-eclampsia. The two enjoyed their girls' weekends together. A handsome son, Isaac, came into their world on February 4, 2012. His birth followed a storm that dumped 10" of snow on Kearney, adding some extra excitement to the event. The two loved to read together. The family traveled extensively throughout the U.S. on many long road trips. She loved her children very much and put them at the top of her priority list every day of their lives. She was an accomplished teacher, but her passion was her family. Her biggest wish was for society to put child-rearing at the top of its priority list.

Jessica had an unwavering faith and was an active member of Kearney First Lutheran Church. She taught confirmation classes, helped with VBS, mission outreach and played the keyboard in the praise band. She loved to golf, play piano, go on walks, travel, attend concerts and spend time with her family.

Jessica loved to laugh and was one of the kindest people wherever she went.

Her beautiful smile could light up a room. She was well loved by her family, friends, co-workers, and students. Although Jess met a tragic end while walking with Nate, it is somewhat poetic that it happened at the same school she loved so well.

Left to cherish her memory are her husband, Nathan Eidem of Kearney; children, Julia and Isaac Eidem of Kearney; parents, Martin and Bonnie Mueller of Ogallala; brother, Jacob Mueller and wife, Laci of Ogallala; sister, Joanell Staab and husband, Jarred of Kearney; grandmother, Trudy Knight of Keystone, Nebraska; as well as several aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews and extended family and friends.

Jessica was preceded in death by her grandfather, Fred Knight; and grandparents, Charles and Ardis Mueller.

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# Previous Events

## Family receiving friends

JUL **24.** 6:30 PM - 7:30 PM (CT)

First Lutheran Church  
3315 Ave G  
Kearney, NE 68847

## Celebration of Life

JUL **25.** 10:00 AM (CT)

Harmon Park Amphitheater  
Kearney, NE 68845

# Tribute Wall



“ Jessica G. Eidem

January 28, 2023 at 08:01 AM



“ Sweetest Sunrise Bouquet was purchased for the family of Jessica G. Eidem.



July 24, 2020 at 03:38 PM



“ Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Jessica G. Eidem.



July 23, 2020 at 08:53 PM



“ Lovely One Spathiphyllum Plant was purchased for the family of Jessica G. Eidem.



July 23, 2020 at 09:39 AM



“ *Basket of Memories was purchased for the family of Jessica G. Eidem.*



July 22, 2020 at 03:00 PM



“ *Sweetest Sunrise Bouquet was purchased for the family of Jessica G. Eidem.*



July 21, 2020 at 01:43 PM



“ *Medium Dish Garden was purchased for the family of Jessica G. Eidem.*



July 20, 2020 at 02:41 AM



“ *Florist Choice Bouquet was purchased for the family of Jessica G. Eidem.*



July 15, 2020 at 04:15 AM



“ Heart Wind Chime - Silver was purchased for the family of Jessica G. Eidem.



July 15, 2020 at 03:52 AM



“ Chuck, Molly, Charlie, and Anna Mueller purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Jessica G. Eidem.



**Chuck, Molly, Charlie, and Anna Mueller** - July 13, 2020 at 10:27 PM



“ Thank you for being an amazing kind person theres so much I wanna say about you but everything you did was just fun and cool I always wanted to just be around you. You taught me alot for but it's been 4 years n I'm now a junior graduating early next year in December n you helped me get there. Thank you! For some reason you always just made me smile and always knew what to say when I was sad or not in the mood. Your were my teacher but you were also a friend to me and I'm glad I met you. ❤️ I wish you could see me at my graduation you'd be happy. Thank you again for being a good role model❤️ you'll be missed!



**Alegra Valenzuela** - July 11, 2020 at 05:15 AM

AV

“ It's been 4 years since I've attended horizon middle school and now I'm a junior graduating in December next year. Mrs. eidem was the best teacher I had for some reason she always knew what to say when I was down. She was always smiling to and it made me smile. She was this bright and amazing person. It was all worth it meeting you. You accepted me for me n I'm thankful that you were my teacher. Your were my teacher but you were also my friend. Forever n always❤️



Alegra Valenzuela - July 11, 2020 at 05:06 AM

TI

“ The staff of Intellicom purchased the Country Basket Blooms for the family of Jessica G. Eidem.



The staff of Intellicom - July 10, 2020 at 03:09 PM

KG

“ I know Jessica was truly a light in many lives. I never met her, but I heard stories about her from a class I took with Dr. Nate Eidem. She is going to be missed deeply I know. I'm thinking about everyone in the family. Please take care.



Kaylee Gibson - July 06, 2020 at 03:33 PM

SC

*“ I am a student of hers, she taught us all how Amazing the life we are given! Whenever I saw her she smiled so big her smile could light up the room. She was so much more than a teacher she was a follower of God and showed everyone her beliefs with the kindness of her words and action. I will continue to pray for her family and friends and I would ask that you would too!! You were amazing, thank you for the positive impact you made on the world! You will be dearly missed....*



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**Sarah Cumpston** - July 04, 2020 at 10:27 AM

BM

*“ Dear Eidem family and Mueller family, we send our thoughts and prayers to each of you. We remember Jessica as a pretty, talented and kind young girl from when we lived in Ogallala and she was still in high school. May all the wonderful memories of her sustain you. Please accept our heartfelt sympathy. Sincerely, Bob & Cecilia Meisner*

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**Bob & Cecilia Meisner** - July 03, 2020 at 10:54 PM



*“ Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Jessica G. Eidem.*



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July 01, 2020 at 08:46 PM

DJ

“ Hello. While I do not know any of your loved ones family, I'm very sorry for your loss. I was raised near Kearney and attended UNK years ago. What a great person your wife, mom, and daughter she was. Peace and prayers-be with.

*Dwight and JoAnn Jones*

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**dwight jones** - July 01, 2020 at 05:26 PM

JS

“ Jeremy and Kelli Smith purchased the Medium Dish Garden for the family of Jessica G. Eidem.



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**Jeremy and Kelli Smith** - July 01, 2020 at 12:33 PM

LB

“ Jess was an amazing mother and teacher. My prayers and thoughts go out to her family and friends. May you remember her laugh and smile everyday. Laura Berens

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**Laura Berens** - July 01, 2020 at 11:56 AM

JB

“ Marty and Bonnie,  
I'm so sorry to hear about the tragic loss of your daughter. While I never met her, by all accounts she was a very special person. The world would be a better place with more people like her and is diminished by her passing. Please know that I'm thinking of you and her family during this sad time. -- Jeff Buettner

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**Jeff Buettner** - July 01, 2020 at 10:10 AM



“ *Florist Choice Bouquet was purchased for the family of Jessica G. Eidem.*



July 01, 2020 at 10:00 AM



“ *Marty and Bonnie. Devin called me last week to tell me the horrible news. The only thing that I can say is that I am so sorry! Marty, I miss having you as a Board of Director. Kevin Boyd*

kevin Madison boyd - July 01, 2020 at 07:58 AM



“ *Mrs Eidem was my 7th grade teacher at Horizon Middle School school 2000-2001, she was there for me when I came to Kearney schools and helped me adjust to my new setting. She was the most outgoing kindest teacher you could meet she would help you with just about anything! Thank you Mrs.Eidem for being a part of my life!! My thoughts and Prayers to go to her family And friends and other students who she had a impact on their life as she did mine.*



Ashley (Roth) Bower - June 29, 2020 at 06:38 PM



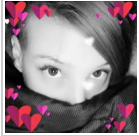
“ *I was a student of hers. she taught all of us so much more than just science. we will miss her so very much. praying for her family and friends.*

Zuri Hain - June 29, 2020 at 03:47 PM

KL

“ I don't know when something has left a heart ache like this. Your families are always positive and helping others. We are told Jesus loves us all the same. My prayer is you feel that love and let us help you now. My love Karla Lawler

Karla Lawler - June 28, 2020 at 12:47 PM



“ I was a student in her very first seventh grade science class she taught right out of college, at horizon. I will always remember her fondly she was an excellent teacher and mentor. One of the best.

Kristen Bond - June 28, 2020 at 12:24 PM

CJ

“ We are so very sorry for your loss of Jessica. She touched so many lives young and old, mine when she was only 10 years old. May you find comfort in your memories of her. Prayers to all of your families. Bob & Cyndi Johnson



Cyndi Johnson - June 27, 2020 at 03:28 PM

JW

“ We are so sorry for the loss of Jessica our heartfelt sympathy goes out to you and your family.  
John and Lee Ward

john and Lee Ward - June 27, 2020 at 10:38 AM

CH

*Jessica was my favorite teacher ever she was so nice and she was funny so I got to have her when I found out she died I started to cry I miss her so much I wish I did not left I am so sad I hoping I am going to the funeral her smile was so cute she lit up the hole room and some time when we got upset she put us on the other side of the room and think she was so nice and she was amazing*

**Chey** - July 02, 2020 at 11:52 PM

KD

*“ I was one of Jessica's students when I was in 7th grade, and she was the only science teacher I had in middle school that I genuinely liked. I have many fond memories about my time in her class, and all the fun things we did. I remember our unit on cellular respiration and the little chant she taught us to help us remember the process, and when we were dissecting frogs, I remember her cooking up the frog legs for us to try. She was always so smart and sweet and really passionate about what she taught. She always supported me and many others throughout our time at Horizon. She was kind, thoughtful, and made learning fun. Jessica put smiles on the faces of many kids, and I was really lucky to know her and have her as my teacher.*



**Kaiya Diestler** - June 27, 2020 at 12:51 AM

DS

*As a substitute, I was always enthusiastic to teacher her classes. She was organized, fun and a fantastic teacher. Her smile was contagious. She will be missed by all who worked with her. I will especially think of her on July 11th since that is also my birthday. I am so sorry for your loss.*

**Darleen Schulte** - July 01, 2020 at 04:05 PM

CE

*Jessica was the sweetest, kindest, most caring person I have ever met. I was one of her colleagues at Sunrise, and I've never ever heard her utter an unkind word. She was the poster child for "If you can't say anything nice, don't say anything at all!" Her smile was contagious. Jessica was my daughter's (Kristi's) teacher at Horizon and was her very favorite teacher ever! Jessica was that teacher who got Kristi interested in science. She made Kristi believe that she could accomplish anything and encouraged her to reach for her dreams. Jessica touched a lot of lives, and this tragic event has left us heartbroken. My prayers go out for Nate, Julia, and Isaac. May God comfort you during this very sad and difficult time.*

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**Cathy Eshleman** - July 03, 2020 at 12:41 AM