



Lloyd Mead

March 21, 1934 - April 21, 2026

Lloyd R. Mead, 92 of Kearney passed away Tuesday, April 21, 2026 at Hilltop Estates in Gothenburg, NE.

Lloyd Ronald Mead was born on March 21, 1934, to Ronald Elmer Mead and Gladys Faye (Roberts) on a farm southeast of Wood River, Nebraska. Lloyd grew up in the Wood River area as the oldest of seven children. He spent his early years helping on the farm and working in his father's blacksmith shop in Wood River. His closest childhood companion was his sister Ruthie. Lloyd enjoyed playing football, basketball, and track, and was known by many as "Eat 'em up Eats." He graduated from Wood River Rural High School in 1952. He also competed in skating competitions and was skilled in many daring tricks. Lloyd was drafted in 1954 and served two years in the United States Army.

On April 23, 1957, he married Marlene Forst. This union brought three children: Calvin, Kindra, and Kenny. Lloyd was a hard worker and a man of many skills. Over the years he farmed, drove a fuel truck, worked with the Farmers Co-op, and spent time at Chief Industries in Grand Island before settling into a long career with Eaton Corporation in Kearney, Nebraska. He was the first Eaton employee to retire with 25 years of service and earned the reputation of being, "a hell of a welder."

Lloyd lived and raised his family in Shelton, Nebraska, before moving to Kearney in 1996. He raised Black Angus cattle on a farm north of Shelton for 21 years. After retiring, he enjoyed attending country music festivals and traveling.

Lloyd is preceded in death by his parents, Ronald and Gladys Mead; brothers Merle and George Mead; brother-in-law Ron Schuller; son-in-law Lonnie Shiers; daughter-in-law Marilyn Mead; and special friend Deanne Svoboda.

He is survived by his former wife, Marlene Mead; partner Doris Vanvleet, his three children—Kalvin (Shelton, NE), Kindra Shiers (Gibbon, NE), and Kenny (Diane) Mead (Holdrege, NE); grandchildren Kalyn (Anthony) Krotz of Wheatland, WY; Autumn (Michael) Pena of Shelton, NE; Derek (Carrie) Mead of Grand Island, NE; Tyler (Hillary) Shiers of Wood River, NE; and Steven Mead of Holdrege, NE; great-grandchildren Zailey and Katriel Krotz; Micaiah and Annaiah Pena; Kedrek Mead of Grand Island, NE; McKinleigh Norton; Emmett Shiers; siblings, Ruth Schuller of Tulsa, OK, Charles (Judy) Mead of Wood River, NE, Beth (Cletus) Dobish of Lincoln, NE, Ronnie (Terri) Mead of North Platte, NE; sisters-in-law, Ellen Mead of Norfolk, NE and Sue Mead of Wood River, NE; as well as many nieces, nephews, extended family and friends.

Funeral services will be 10:30 a.m. Monday, May 4, 2026 at the O'Brien Straatmann Redinger Funeral Home in Kearney. Interment will be held at the Wood River Cemetery with military honors provided by the Gibbon/Shelton American Legion Post #310 in conjunction with the Nebraska National Guard Funeral Honors Team. A reception at the Wood River Community Center will follow the burial.

Please make memorial donations to National Kidney Foundation (NKF) and American Kidney Fund (AKF). Condolences may be shared online at www.osr

fh.com. Services are entrusted to O'Brien Straatmann Redinger and
Cremation Services.

Cemetery Details

Wood River Cemetery

Wood River, NE

Previous Events

Funeral Service

MAY 4. 10:30 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



“ O'Brien Straatmann Redinger Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Lloyd Mead



O'Brien Straatmann Redinger Funeral Homes and Cremations - May 05 at 04:28 PM

MC

“ Lloyd and Doris were great neighbors of mine. I enjoyed the talks, catching the occasional possum. Ha He was a great guy ! He will be missed and remembered! Marv Carr

Marv Carr - May 03 at 06:13 PM

MC

“ Marty Stum and Ronda Crist purchased the Serene Retreat for the family of Lloyd Mead.



Marty Stum and Ronda Crist - April 30 at 06:34 PM

RF

“ Rickey Foster purchased the Simply Elegant Spa thiphyllum for the family of Lloyd Mead.



Rickey Foster - April 25 at 11:18 AM

RF

“ Rickey Foster planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Lloyd Mead.

Rickey Foster - April 25 at 11:18 AM

RF

“ Lloyd was an awesome coworker and a good friend. May the Lord bless and comfort his family in his sad times.

Rickey Foster - April 25 at 11:14 AM

CC

“ In being one of Lloyd's younger cousins he always reminded me of his dad. He will be missed by his family and friends. My thoughts and prayers to his family.

Carol Mead Cordray - April 24 at 11:49 AM

SR

“ Our condolences to the Mead families. Lloyd was a kind man and will be missed.

Steve & Pamela Rasmussen - April 23 at 11:22 AM