



Lorma L. Wiebe

June 9, 1937 - May 16, 2016

Lorma Lee Wiebe, 78
Kearney resident

Lorma Lee (Kroeker) Wiebe, beloved wife, mother, sister, grandmother and aunt, passed into the arms of our Lord Jesus Christ, on May 16, 2016. A Memorial service will be held 11:00 a.m. Saturday, May 28, 2016 at the First Presbyterian Church in Kearney with the Rev. John Gosswein officiating. Condolences may be shared online at www.osrfh.com. O'Brien Straatmann Redinger Funeral and Cremations Services is in charge of arrangements. Having grown up in rural Nebraska, Lorma may not have realized where life would take her when she married the love of her life, David, son of missionaries to India, on June 23, 1961. Just after David completed medical school in Kansas City where their son David Paul was born, they moved to the Panama Canal Zone where son Eric joined the family. With two small boys in tow, they moved to India where David worked in a mission hospital for two years and Lorma learned about India. Lorma's love for the people of India was evident through her life as anyone who came for dinner will remember her excellent curries; and she thoroughly enjoyed deep, lifelong friendships among the Indian community in Nebraska. During a brief time in Colorado, Lorma and David's daughter Kristin was born before the family moved back to the Canal Zone for another three years. In 1973, they drove their Pontiac station wagon up the Pan-American Highway from Panama, through Costa

Rica, Nicaragua, Honduras, El Salvador, Guatemala, Mexico, and finally to Kearney, Nebraska, which would be their home for the next 40+ years. Lorma developed a strong desire for social justice both locally and globally. Her concern and care for all was manifest in her many activities and relationships. Lorma opened the Ten Thousand Villages store, under the original name of Brass and Jute Works, on 24th street, in 1983. Taking no salary, and working primarily with volunteer staff, the store was able to donate more than \$130,000 over the years to relief and development projects around the world. Meeting people from near and far was one of her greatest joys throughout the 20 years she managed the store. It became a source of great friendships.

Lorma had a wonderful gift of hospitality at home and in the community. She was instrumental in starting the International Student Friendship program at UNK. She taught and played piano beautifully, loved to knit, sing, take long walks, and linger over coffee and conversation with whoever was at the table. She was a faithful member of the Family of Christ Lutheran Church.

Lorma was born on June 9, 1937, in Madrid, NE to Henry and Lena Kroeker. She was the third of four children including Alice (b. 1918), Harold (b.1927; d. 2002); and Donna (b.1938). When she was 12 years old, Lorma's parents and younger sister moved to Reedley, CA, where her father retired. She attended Immanuel High School in California, then Tabor College in Hillsboro, KS where she graduated with a BA in English and teaching.

Lorma is survived by her loving husband, David; son David Paul and wife Kendra (Debban) of Lincoln, NE, granddaughters Claire and Victoria; son Eric and wife Kristin (Janzen) of Scottsbluff, NE, grandchildren Ben, Jon and Anna; daughter Kristin and husband Sonny Lacey of Baltimore, MD; sister Alice Jantzen and her husband Frank of Grant, NE; sister Donna Enns and husband Jim of Fresno, CA; sister-in-law Norma Jean Kroeker, wife of Lorma's late brother Harold Kroeker of Grant, NE; and many nieces, nephews, cousins, and close friends, too many to name but greatly loved.

She was preceded in death by her parents and older brother, Harold.

Memorials are suggested to the Crossroads Center Rescue Mission
(crossroadsmission.com) or the Mennonite Central Committee (mcc.org)

Tribute Wall



“ *O'Brien Straatmann Redinger Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Lorma L. Wiebe*



O'Brien Straatmann Redinger Funeral Homes and Cremations - May 28, 2016 at 04:36 PM



“ *Lorma L. Wiebe*

January 28, 2023 at 08:01 AM



“ *Lorma lived a life that inspired me. She emanated compassion, peace and love. I feel so much gratitude to have known her. She was a dear friend and I will miss her terribly. My sincere condolences to her family.*



Helen Albrecht - May 27, 2016 at 10:18 PM

DB

“ *May her Memory Be a Blessing to All Who Knew Her. I didn't know Lorma very well although both the Wiebe Family and my Family have lived in Kearney close to 40+ years, I remember working with Lorma on a Political Campaign. We both were "working" the telephones calling supporters and persons from the other Party, on behalf of the candidate we supported. She was Petrified to make these calls but soon found that people on the other end of the call wanted to talk to someone as knowledgeable, calm, kind and concerned as Lorma. She volunteered many hours and the younger workers always liked to listen to her and learn. My thoughts are with Dave and his Family.*

Dr. Steve Bennett - May 27, 2016 at 04:22 PM

SL

“ *So sorry to hear of your loss. My thoughts and prayers are with you and your family.*
Shirley Lacey

Shirley Lacey - May 27, 2016 at 12:34 PM

JP

“ *Jan Parker and Neal Parker purchased the Full O f Love Bouquet for the family of Lorma L. Wiebe.*



Jan Parker and Neal Parker - May 25, 2016 at 05:40 PM

JP

“ *Norma and Dr. Wiebe were always so caring for their "next door" neighbors, Joellis and Mildred Parker (before their passing) She did so many things for my Mom (and Dad) and I always felt they were really close. Norma will always have a special place in my heart.*

from "current next door neighbor"
Jan Parker

Jan Parker - May 25, 2016 at 04:30 PM



“ *Basket of Memories was purchased for the family of Norma L. Wiebe.*



May 25, 2016 at 04:24 PM

JP

“ *Norma and Dr. Wiebe were so caring for their "next door" neighbors, Joellis and Mildred Parker, before they both passed. Norma has a special place in my heart for being a wonderful neighbor and friend to my folks. Go with God.*

Jan Parker

Jan Parker - May 25, 2016 at 04:20 PM

KH

“ Our prayers are with you Dr Wiebe and your family. What a beautiful wife and mom, full of God's grace and love. May you be blessed throughout the difficult days ahead. Kris Hughbanks

Kris Hughbanks - May 25, 2016 at 05:29 AM

SM

“ I am so sorry for your loss. Your family is in our prayers.

Sid Miller - May 24, 2016 at 07:57 PM

BC

“ Brester Construction purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Lorma L. Wiebe.



Brester Construction - May 24, 2016 at 11:39 AM

NS

“ To Dr. David and family. I am so sorry for your loss. What a wonderful lady. I know she is in a wonderful place with Jesus. However she will surely be missed by all of you. Take comfort in His love.
an "old nurse" Norma Asher

Notms Sdhrt - May 22, 2016 at 08:57 PM

BF

“ my sympathy to the family and relatives Beverly Fullerton

Beverly Fullerton - May 20, 2016 at 06:03 PM

DC

“ Dear David,
I am sorry to hear of Lorma's passing. Things are not as we would like sometimes. I trust you will find consolation in the fact that memories are all that we can cling to. Please remember that when someone we love becomes a memory, that memory becomes a treasure, for those who touch our lives truly stay in our hearts forever.
A beautiful soul lasts forever.

Dick Coleman
Charlottesville, Virginia

Dick Coleman - May 20, 2016 at 10:56 AM

LT

“ Lorma was one of my best friends in college. So many happy memories, I will never forget her. I wish I could have talked to her one more time and give her a hug. I will see you later, my friend!

Lorraine Greenwood Thomas - May 19, 2016 at 06:44 PM

AD

“ ADA purchased the Dreams From the Heart Bouquet for the family of Lorma L. Wiebe.



ADA - May 19, 2016 at 05:27 PM

PA

“ I loved going down to the shop where Lorma engaged herself in the love of the people she represented. She had such a gift of kindness and understanding. I will never forget her rejoicing with me in the celebration of my son Dr. Jeff Knajdl. Dr. Wiebe and family you will certainly enjoy sharing the memories of a wonderful lady who loved the Lord!

Phyl (Knajdl) Andrijeski - May 19, 2016 at 03:14 PM

VK

“ Lorma has been a dear friend for all of us in the Indian Community in Kearney. She was very generous and opened her house for all of us to visit and enjoy their(husband David) hospitality at all times. She is loved by all and very well respected. I have known her and her family since 1986. This is an irrevocable loss to all of us and her memory will be cherished for ever.

vani kotcherlakota - May 19, 2016 at 02:35 PM

VK

“ Vani Kotcherlakota lit a candle in memory of Lorma L. Wiebe



vani kotcherlakota - May 19, 2016 at 02:31 PM

NH

“ *What sadness one feels on earth at the loss of a loved one while also feeling such joy for the person that they have gone to their eternal home. May God bless you with peace at the knowledge that you will one day be reunited.*

I went to grade school at Zion with Kristin. That is where I first met Lorma. As I grew older, I always enjoyed shopping at Brass and Jute Works because I knew I could do 15 minutes shopping and a half hour visiting with such a lovely lady. I am thankful for having known her just that small bit in my life.

My prayers are with you. You had a wonderful Wife, Mother and Grandmother.

Nancy (Kreutzer) Hanson

Nancy Kreutzer Hanson - May 19, 2016 at 12:51 PM