



## Marijean H. Methe

March 1, 1934 - August 31, 2023

Marijean Methe, 89 of Kearney passed away Thursday, August 31, 2023 at Kinship Pointe Northridge in Kearney after a long battle with congestive heart failure. Visitation will be held 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. Monday at St. James Catholic Church with a scriptural rosary at 7:00 p.m. A funeral Mass will be held 10:30 a.m. Tuesday, September 5, 2023 at St. James Catholic Church with Father Paul Colling officiating. Interment will follow at Kearney Cemetery with a luncheon afterwards at the church.

Marijean was born March 1, 1934 in Sutherland, Nebraska to Joseph and Genevieve (Bode) Reicks. She was raised in the Elm Creek, Overton, and Lexington area. She received her education from Elm Creek High School, graduating with the class of 1953. The kindness that emanated from her beautiful hazel eyes was only rivaled by the fierceness of her love for The Lord, her husband, her family and her community. She lived her life with open arms to every person who walked into it. She married the love of her life, Eugene (Gene) Methe, whom she devoted 70 years to, on July 18th 1953, at the Immaculate Conception Catholic Church in Elm Creek, NE. She had a deep affection and a gift for loving on babies and raising children, in addition to raising their nine kids, she did-in home day care, Cub Scout Den leader, 4-H leader, worked at head start, and did extensive volunteer work. She had a passion for teaching those with special needs (TMR kids) and was a longtime employee of ESU #10, retiring in 1996. Countless numbers of people have

been influenced by the love she gave so freely, but none were greater benefactors of that love than her 37 grandchildren and 58 great grandchildren.

Marijean was one of the original members of Prince of Peace Catholic Church when it was founded after having been a long-time member of St. James Catholic Church. She was daily communicant, was a part of numerous small faith groups including CFM, where she made many lifetime friends, chaired the funeral dinner committee, a member of the Alter Society, as well as worked in the food trailer for Habitat for Humanity. Her and husband Gene were recognized for their commitment to the faith community when given the Friends of Kearney Award (religious category). She enjoyed making wreaths, and candles. Many family members still have special candles made for their weddings. She also enjoyed traveling, golfing, fishing, camping, card clubs with friends. Marijean's living legacy is as a woman who had a quick wit, enjoyed being with her family, loved without hesitation and lived with a kind heart.

At the heart of her life was a meal. First, in participating the Supper of the Lord and being fed the eternal food of the Eucharist. Having a meal together, and then sharing this love of a meal with the community, was at the center of our family life. Marijean was a good cook and was particularly known for her potato salad which became so popular that she and her kids made it in bulk to sell at George's Market, where Gene worked. But, ironically, did not really like to eat it. She also loved to bake for her family making banana and pumpkin bread and her popular oatmeal chocolate chip cookies. Her generous spirit carried over to being a generous gift giver, especially at Christmas where for years she gave gifts to all her children and grandchildren. She made a special gift of herself by taking each grandchild out for their birthday to a meal and shopping for a gift.

Her love for a meal included her and Gene inviting many of our priests and

religious to supper at their home. They expanded their food experience when learning to cook with spices from India. And have remained lifelong friends with many of them.

Her generosity also included a spirit of gratitude. Marijean approached each day with thankfulness and a positive spirit, always seeking to take the high road. When asked how she was feeling, especially as her health declined, she would reply that she was so thankful for never having any health problems and then would add how perfectly healthy and wonderful all of our family was. She was so proud of her family. She always loved us far better than we deserved.

Interesting coincidences about the day and time she passed away include; she died almost to the minute, 40 years after the birth of one of her grandchildren. And, August 30-31 there was a super blue moon which is a rare event. Interestingly the popular song, "Blue Moon" was written in 1934, the year of her birth and made popular in 1949 by Mel Torme , the year Gene graduated from high school. But even more interesting, she was born on March 1 in 1934 in which another blue moon occurred. Indeed, a blessed woman, God is so intentional with our lives.

Left to cherish her memory are her husband Eugene Methe of Kearney; children, Joseph (Pam) Methe of Kearney, Stephen (Kathy) Methe of Rockton, IL, Edward (Laura) Methe of Kearney, Gregory (Shebi) Methe of Kearney, Kristine (Scott) Sole of Kearney, Richard (Suzanne) Methe of South Dakota, Gerry (Teresa) Methe of Grand Island, Kevin (Michelle) Methe of Omaha, Athena Methe of Denver, CO; 37 grandchildren; 58 great grandchildren; sister Margaret (Raul) Oliveira of Florida; sister-in-law, Charolette Riecks of Grand Junction, CO, Charlene Reicks of Holland, MI; stepsisters Barbara (Dale) Cole, Linda (Dan) Carney, and Judy (Bruce) Zumbach all of Michigan; as well

as many nieces, nephews, extended family and friends.

Marijean was preceded in death by her parents; grandson Antonio M. Guardiola; brothers Charles, William and Daniel Reicks.

In Lieu of flowers, memorials are suggested to Prince of Peace Catholic Church or to the Kearney Catholic High School Foundation. 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.

# Cemetery Details

## Kearney Cemetery

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

# Previous Events

## Visitation

SEP 4. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

St. James Catholic Church  
3801 Avenue A  
Kearney, NE 68847

## Vigil / Prayer Service

SEP 4. 7:00 PM (CT)

St. James Catholic Church  
3801 Avenue A  
Kearney, NE 68847

## Funeral Mass

SEP 5. 10:30 AM (CT)

St. James Catholic Church  
3801 Avenue A  
Kearney, NE 68847



# Tribute Wall

KR

“ Family of Marijean,

*I am so sorry for your loss. I greatly appreciated getting to know Marijean through Habitat for Humanity. Prayers for peace and comfort through this time of grieving.*



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**Kimberly Rebman** - September 06, 2023 at 04:53 PM

NC

“ Don and I send our love and prayers to all of you as you say goodbye to your mom. What an amazing legacy your mom and dad created-love, kindness, faith in action. Much love and peace. Nan and Don C

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**nan cunningham** - September 04, 2023 at 01:07 PM

SD

“ Suzanne D. planted a grove of 3 [Memorial Trees](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Marijean H. Methe.

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**Suzanne D.** - September 04, 2023 at 11:59 AM

CR

“ So many memories since 1954 when I started dating her brother. My sons still say the best days of their lives were when they were included with love in this large family in the summers by Gene and Marijean. A great loss to us on earth but joy in heaven with her presence. Charlotte Reicks

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**Charlotte Reicks** - September 04, 2023 at 10:15 AM

LP

“ *Lonnie Eugene Methe and Niz Proskocil purchased the Florist Choice Bouquet for the family of Marijean H. Methe.*



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**Lonnie Eugene Methe and Niz Proskocil** - September 03, 2023  
at 06:34 PM

RR

“ *Mama Methe was the kindest , big hearted woman! She was as beautiful on the outside as she was inside. We always loved talking with her. Fly high mama!! Jerry & Rita Rodriguez*

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**Rita Rodriguez** - September 03, 2023 at 11:58 AM

MK

“ *So sorry for your loss. It was a pleasure getting to spend a small amount of time with some of the Methe family. Marijeans love of family was evident in all interactions with her.*

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**Malissa Kissinger** - September 02, 2023 at 08:52 PM

DR

“ *Gene and family, Marijean was one of the sweetest and loving people I know. I loved working with her on the fall festival years ago. She was so kind and generous. I will miss her sweet spirit.*

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**Debbie Ridder** - September 02, 2023 at 08:29 PM

MK

“ Dear Gene, Joe, Pam, and family,

*I was sorry to hear about Marijean but so touched by the wonderful remembrance of her in today's Hub. I had seen Gene in the hall at Kinship Pointe but didn't know if he was just visiting someone. Saw many of you in the lobby just a few days ago but didn't intrude when it was apparently a family celebration of some sort. I'm sorry Mom was asleep when you so thoughtfully tried to visit her. She is quite weak from congestive heart failure herself and pretty much confined to bed. I know you all know how special your family was to Grandma Bodie. We'll never forget you all. Please know you are in our thoughts and prayers.---*Mary (McKinney) Kommers and family

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**Mary S Kommers** - September 02, 2023 at 04:33 PM

MH

“ Oh, Mrs. Methé. She was always so kind to me and kept track of where I was living every time we visited. I got to see Mr. and Mrs. Methé quite often when Kevin's family was attending St. Pat's in Gretna. She was truly a sweet soft spoken person, that I always appreciated having a conversation with. My love and prayers to Gene and all of the family.

*Mary Jo Brennan Hill*

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**Mary Jo Hill** - September 02, 2023 at 03:55 PM

KM

“ I always delivered the Kearney hub to her and him she was nice to talk to when she was outside I am going to miss her sending prayers and Big Hugs to everyone



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**Ken marienau** - September 02, 2023 at 12:04 PM

AW

“ So sorry to read about your loss. Thinking of you all. Our sympathy -  
Arvid and Althea

A Wiest - September 01, 2023 at 07:36 PM

WC

“ What a Beautiful tribute to a Beautiful soul.. Marijean was so warm  
and kind and welcoming to me during my time spent in  
Kearney..She wad like a second Mom to me .Every now and then  
even giving me those Mom " looks" possibly when I may have  
needed them...She was a true Gem..

Wendy Childers - September 01, 2023 at 04:45 PM

AS

“ Arrowhead Steel purchased the Simply Elegant S  
pathiphyllum for the family of Marijean H. Methe.



Arrowhead Steel - September 01, 2023 at 11:33 AM

AS

“ Arrowhead Steel planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Marijean H. Methe.

Arrowhead Steel - September 01, 2023 at 11:33 AM

LK

“ I will so miss Marijean! I loved our little Eucharist group and time we  
spent together sharing life's experiences and sharing our love for  
our Lord! Marijean cookies were the BEST!!! Rest in peace my  
friend and tell Carolyn "hi"!

Lisa Kennedy - August 31, 2023 at 07:41 PM

MP

*Although I only had the privilege of being with Marijean twice, I felt welcome in her home for the engagement party of her granddaughter Madison to my grandson Zachary. She was a gracious hostess and very warm and loving lady. She will be missed by everyone who knew her, even if it was briefly. May her family and friends find comfort and peace during this time of grief.*

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**Maureen Parker** - September 01, 2023 at 03:17 PM

MA

*I truly know the Heartache the whole family of Marijean are experiencing as she was most certainly such a lovely person and I loved visiting with her. I have covid or I would be at her funeral but please accept my condolences. Marge Aten*

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**Marge Aten** - September 04, 2023 at 03:31 PM