



Marlin L. Westberg

April 12, 1931 - April 12, 2020

Marlin Westberg, 89 of Gibbon passed away Easter Sunday, April 12, 2020 at Brookestone Gardens in Kearney on his 89th birthday. A private family graveside service will be held at Riverside Cemetery in Gibbon. Visitation will be 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. Friday, April 17, 2020 at O'Brien Straatmann Redinger Funeral Home in Kearney. A celebration of life will be held at a later date.

The family encourages everyone to leave a message of condolence through the funeral home website at www.osrfh.com or send cards/memorials to the family care of O'Brien Straatmann Redinger Funeral Home, 4115 Ave N, Kearney, NE 68847.

Memorials are suggested to St. Paul Lutheran Church in Lowell, American Legion Post #310 or to Gibbon Public Schools to be used for a scholarship in Marlin's name. Services are entrusted to O'Brien Straatmann Redinger Funeral and Cremation Services.

Born in Bertrand, Nebraska on April 12th, 1931, Marlin grew up farming alongside his father, Ernest; mother, Nora; and older sister, Verona. He often told tales of riding his horse to school and swimming in the Platte River as a boy. Marlin attended Gibbon High School through junior year and graduated from Minden High in 1949.

In 1951, Marlin married Joan Sigler and the couple settled in a farmhouse in Lowell, where they raised two sons, Jeff and Bart. Always the adventurer, Marlin spearheaded annual road trips, driving the family's old station wagon to destinations across the country from California to Florida. Marlin farmed for decades, raised cattle, and worked as a Rural Letter Carrier in Minden before fully retiring in 2001.

Marlin had a kind heart and loved to spread joy through thoughtful gestures. As a member of Lowell Lutheran Church, he often arrived Sunday morning with a pan of freshly-baked cinnamon rolls for the congregation. He served on the Gibbon School Board and Coop Board. An Airforce veteran, he was a member of the Gibbon American Legion Post 310 for 65+ years. As a fervent Nebraska Football fan and long-time season ticket holder, he frequently attended home games dressed head to toe in Husker red.

Nicknamed "Turbo" by his grandson Wyatt for his work ethic, Marlin was always in motion. Yet, he was quick to set aside work for the important stuff, saying, "a hundred years from now, nobody will know if it got it done today or tomorrow." Marlin took great pride in his role as a father, grandpa and great grandpa, attending countless sports games, recitals, birthdays, and graduations across three generations of Westbergs.

Marlin loved to tinker in his workshop, re-purposing old things into new gadgets. He knew all 93 Nebraska County license plate numbers by heart and could serve up a delicious stack of pancakes on a Saturday morning. He appreciated the simple pleasures in life: a bowl of popcorn, a chocolate ice cream cone, a good back scratch, counting train cars, and looking West over the Platte River while driving down Lowell road. He enjoyed the trip as much as the destination, and instilled that principle into everyone he loved.

Left to cherish his memory are his wife, Joan; his sons Jeff Westberg and wife Pat of Shelton, Nebraska; Bart Westberg and wife Laurie of Overland Park, Kansas; his five grandchildren and three great grandchildren, Wyatt Westberg and wife Peggy, and children Lucas and Kenzie of Gibbon, Nebraska; Kirstin

Westberg Bowling, husband Jon, and child Evie of Wood River, Nebraska;
and Josh, Hannah, and Kate Westberg of Overland Park, Kansas.

Previous Events

Visitation

APR 17. 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>

Tribute Wall



“ *Marla Hartmann lit a candle in memory of Marlin L. Westberg*



Marla Hartmann - June 27, 2025 at 08:04 PM



“ *Marlin L. Westberg*

January 28, 2023 at 08:01 AM



“ *I will never forget Marlin's spunk & hospitality as he drove me, my daughter and his nephew Mark around Nebraska a year and a half ago. He refused to give up until he found the Boot Hill memorial & took pictures of us. I enjoyed every minute of his tour & these memories will never be forgotten. His kindness and laughter I will miss dearly when we visit Nebraska again. My prayers for this family as he loved each and every one of them very much. His Grandchildren were dear to his heart! Marlin you will be forever in our hearts!*

Dedra stephens - April 19, 2020 at 07:48 PM



“ *Sorry to hear of the passing of your dad. I hope you are doing well.*
John Hanson

John Hanson - April 17, 2020 at 05:03 PM

JB

“ *R.I.P. Marlin. Always a smile, joke, and kind word. I have fond memories of social gatherings in Lowell at the farm . My sympathies to all the family.*

Janell Beveridge - April 17, 2020 at 09:36 AM

JD

“ *I had the great chance to meet and know Marlin and his family while staying with them twice in the late seventies far from my hometown in Marseille, France*
Marlin was a genuine and sound good-hearted man who made you believe in love and human kindness.
I had the chance to see him when he visited France with his family a few years ago. And he was still the same caring man,
I've lost someone dear to my heart and my thoughts go to Joan, Jeff and Bart and their families who must be very sad.
I am sure Marlin is still watching us as we are still thinking about him, a special place in our heart

Jacques Drujon - April 17, 2020 at 06:57 AM

 Amy
Harders
Skalka

“ *So sorry to hear of Marlin's passing, Mrs Westberg. Sorry I can't call you Joan, even though it's been 40 years since you taught me at District 37! You and your family are in my thoughts and prayers.*
Amy Harders Skalka
Sutton NE (formerly Wood River)

Amy Harders Skalka - April 16, 2020 at 10:14 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Marlin L. Westberg.*



April 16, 2020 at 08:11 PM



“ *Delightful Dieffenbachia was purchased for the family of Marlin L. Westberg.*



April 16, 2020 at 03:35 PM



“ *Marlin had the best smile! I always remember as a kid my dad would purchase tickets for huskers games from Marlin. I always enjoyed when he would come to Walmart and we would have a great visit.
Sending thoughts and prayers.
Bridget (Firme) Worm*

Bridget Worm - April 16, 2020 at 06:40 AM



“ *Duncan McGregor remembers many good times being in school with Marlin, serving on School board and other events. Our thoughts are with all of the family at this time.
Janice McGregor*

Janice & Duncan - April 15, 2020 at 10:53 AM

KO

“ *Our sympathy & prayers for the family.*

Kathy Olsufka & Jim Shiers

Kathryn Olsufka - April 15, 2020 at 08:39 AM

MM

“ *So sorry to hear of the loss of Marlin. We knew him for many, many years, and will truly miss him.*

Mick and Glennadele McConnell

Mick McConnell - April 14, 2020 at 09:13 PM

SH

“ *Sandy Hubbard lit a candle in memory of Marlin L. Westberg*



Sandy Hubbard - April 14, 2020 at 09:09 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Marlin L. Westberg.*



April 14, 2020 at 05:21 PM

JW

“ Our sympathy to Marlin's family. We always appreciated him as our "mailman".

James & Jeanette Wilkinson

James Wilkinson - April 14, 2020 at 03:35 PM

MD

My sympathy to Joan and family. I remember his smile and him being Santa for many Gibbon children

Marla Bailey Dadey - April 15, 2020 at 09:09 AM

CE

Dale and I would like to express our sympathy to Joan and family. I remember many many years ago stopping at your farm and visiting, our kids were so impressed with being on a farm. We have thought of you many times and tried to call but never got an answer. You both had a special place in our hearts.. Dale & Celesta Jacobsen

Celesta - April 15, 2020 at 01:46 PM

DL

Our deepest sympathy with the loss of Marlin. I worked with him in the post office and loved his smile and his great kindness. Always happy and willing to help you with anything. Our prayers and thoughts are with you always. Mike and Darlene LiaKos

Darlene Liakos - April 15, 2020 at 03:53 PM

FM

Our sympathies go to all the family, Marlin will be missed by many. Prayers for God's love to comfort you. Kelly and Fran Murr

Fran Murr - April 15, 2020 at 08:02 PM

NL

He will be greatly missed. Our paths often crossed in Gibbon and the south end of Memorial Stadium in Lincoln. And he was the Gibbon Public Santa Claus I remember in grade school.

Nancy Lasich - April 16, 2020 at 02:04 PM