



McKenna R. Johnson

February 14, 2000 - January 9, 2017

McKenna Rae Johnson, 16, of Kearney, died Monday, January 9, 2017 at home.

Funeral services will be at 10:30 am Friday at Kearney EFree Church. Interment will be in the Kearney Cemetery. Visitation will be from 4-7 pm Thursday at the church. O'Brien Straatmann Redinger Funeral Home is serving the family.

Memorials are suggested to the family for later designation. Condolences may be shared online at www.osrfh.com.

McKenna was born on February 14, 2000 in Kearney, to Scott and Rhonda (Davis) Johnson. She grew up in Kearney where she attended Meadowlark Elementary and Sunrise Middle School. While at Sunrise she was selected to perform in the Sing Around Nebraska Honor Choir.

Kenna was currently a junior at Kearney High School where she excelled in both academics and athletics. She was an honor roll student and a member of the National Honor Society, Key Club and the K Club. McKenna was a member of the Bearcat varsity softball team and was also a member of the 2016 Nebraska Class A State Track Championship team. For the past several summers she continued to pursue her love of softball as a member of the Kearney Krush Blue.

McKenna was a gentle and caring person who didn't hesitate to stick up for her friends and strangers alike. She strived to include everyone and was the first to look out for the underdog. It was this caring personality and heart of gold that gave her aspirations of becoming a physician someday.

She loved children and always looked forward to her babysitting nights. Family and friends will always remember her quick-wit, larger than life smile and infectious laugh. They will also remember her numerous Sonic Happy Hour runs and her love of pizza rolls, black olives, pickle juice and Dinty Moore Beef Stew. McKenna also enjoyed listening to hip hop music and Lana Del Rey. Her favorite television shows included Law and Order SVU, Gossip Girls and Chopped. Most of all McKenna loved time with her family, whether it be at family celebrations, sporting events or simply talking on the phone.

Those left to cherish her memory include her parents, Scott and Rhonda Johnson of Kearney; a sister, Kaitie Johnson; two brothers, Blake and Tanner Johnson of Kearney; grandparents, Owen and Marlene Davis of Rushville and Ron and Pat Mallam of Kearney; aunts and uncles, Greg and Steph Johnson of Lincoln, Jeff and Gina Davis of Rushville, Greg and Denise Davis of Kearney, Bryan and Julie Linders of Rushville, Faron and Cari Greenough of Kearney, Brandie Yeutter of Kearney and Brock and Rheanna Mallam of Kearney; her great grandma Norma Child of Gordon; cousins, Lily, Jace, Madison, Macie, Kennedy, Kinley, Gentry, Burke, Marc, Gavin, Aubrey, Zane, Michaela, Mariah, Paige, Rylan, Brynlee, Ashton and Delani; Godparents, Mark Kool and Jennifer Kool; and a special friend, Nathan Murray.

McKenna was preceded in death by her grandfather, Robert Johnson and a great uncle, Gary Davis.

Cemetery Details

Kearney Cemetery

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

Previous Events

Visitation

JAN 12. 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Kearney E-Free Church
4010 7th Ave
Kearney, NE 68845
<http://www.kearneyefree.com>

Funeral Service

JAN 13. 10:30 AM (CT)

Kearney E-Free Church
4010 7th Ave
Kearney, NE 68845
<http://www.kearneyefree.com>

Tribute Wall



“ *McKenna R. Johnson*

January 28, 2023 at 08:01 AM



“ *With softball season starting, I think back to last year. The very first time i met McKenna I thought was, 'wow, she's so pretty and an amazing softball player. I want to be like her when I'm a junior.' I think of her everyday and I miss her so much. I know some people might think "You didn't know her that well, you're only a freshman.", but I remember last year it was our first game at the new high school we had just finished lifting weights and we went to change. I had made puppy chow for the ride up. McKenna and I ended up eating puppy chow and bbq chips and talking instead of changing out. That was one of my favorite times over the softball season. I miss her more and more every day. Rest in Peace Kenna. <3*

Brooke Morgan - August 25, 2017 at 03:01 PM



“ *Scott and Rhonda,
So very sorry for your loss. Your family is in our thoughts and prayers. Let God lead you through this difficult time.
Kevin Reed*

Kevin Reed - January 22, 2017 at 08:08 PM



Fredrika
Elizabeth

“ *Scott, Rhonda and family,
Gus and I were saddened to learn about the tragic passing of your beautiful daughter McKenna. We are praying for you all and ask that God be with you every day and every way as you attempt to navigate your way through the many challenges that lay ahead.*

Fredrika Elizabeth - January 17, 2017 at 09:35 PM



“ *Scott, Rhonda and family,
We have no great words of comfort for the pain is real and true for you all right now but know that you have our deepest sympathy. Our thoughts are with you all. Pete & Rita Psota*

Rita Psota - January 17, 2017 at 06:52 PM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of McKenna R. Johnson.*



January 14, 2017 at 06:47 PM

KB

“ McKenna spent a few sleepovers at our house in elementary and middle school. I would never get very much sleep those nights. She and Emily would get to laughing so loud and hard and they could not stop! I would threaten them I would separate them if they wouldn't be quiet. How I yearn to hear that laughter again! You might've seen my FB post where McKenna stayed the night after Emily came home from treatment for being suicidal. McKenna wrote on Emilys bedroom wall in permanent marker how she'd always be there for her. The writing's still there. I'm not painting over it! I pray God brings your family peace and comfort. Feel his arms wrapped around you.

Kathy Benne - January 14, 2017 at 12:14 AM

WD

“ Prayers and hugs



Will Davis - January 13, 2017 at 07:53 PM

YB

“ Rhonda and Scott: So sorry - my heart aches for you. May God bring you peace and comfort in the coming days.
Your friend, Yvonne Deyle-Barth


Yvonne Deyle Barth - January 13, 2017 at 06:08 PM

DG

“ Thoughts and prayers to the families.
Larry and Doris Gran



doris gran - January 13, 2017 at 03:28 PM

 Ethel
Alexander
White

“ Ethel Alexander White lit a candle in memory
of McKenna R. Johnson



Ethel Alexander White - January 13, 2017 at 02:38 PM

JS

“ Jim, Doreen Abi, Alli, and Sam Sheen lit a
candle in memory of McKenna R. Johnson



Jim, Doreen Abi, Alli, and Sam Sheen - January 13, 2017 at 01:18 PM

RC

“ You will continue to be in my thoughts and prayers. It breaks my
heart to have this happen to you. I didn't know McKenna, but I do
know that you are amazing parents.

Rhonda Case - January 13, 2017 at 12:35 PM

JM

“ *Jenny Maul-Schmitz lit a candle in memory of McKenna R. Johnson*



Jenny Maul-Schmitz - January 13, 2017 at 10:43 AM

AN

“ *Angelsvan lit a candle in memory of McKenna R. Johnson*



angelsvan - January 13, 2017 at 10:38 AM

BS

“ *Beth Sloan lit a candle in memory of McKenna R. Johnson*



Beth Sloan - January 13, 2017 at 10:34 AM

CL

“ *Cruz Longoria lit a candle in memory of McKenna R. Johnson*



Cruz Longoria - January 13, 2017 at 10:30 AM

 Karla Wilhite

“ *Karla Wilhite lit a candle in memory of McKenna R. Johnson*



Karla Wilhite - January 13, 2017 at 10:23 AM



“ *Lucas and Bailey Foster. Really wish we could be there for you cousin!! I love you beautiful angel!*



Bailey Foster - January 13, 2017 at 10:16 AM

 Jennifer Hervert

“ *Jennifer Hervert lit a candle in memory of McKenna R. Johnson*



Jennifer Hervert - January 13, 2017 at 10:13 AM



“ *Scott Mathewson lit a candle in memory of McKenna R. Johnson*



Scott Mathewson - January 13, 2017 at 10:07 AM

DP

“ *Dela Petersen lit a candle in memory of McKenna R. Johnson*



Dela Petersen - January 13, 2017 at 09:58 AM

KH

“ *Kay Harris lit a candle in memory of McKenna R. Johnson*



Kay Harris - January 13, 2017 at 09:37 AM

BW

“ *Our hearts ache for your family. We have many fond memories of McKenna that we will cherish. May the love and care of those around you comfort you all during these difficult days.*

Brenda Whitcomb-Allan - January 13, 2017 at 09:15 AM

TB

“ *With heavy hearts we extend our deepest sympathies.*

Tyson, Jaime, Avery, Baker, Reese Bertrand



Tyson Bertrand - January 13, 2017 at 09:05 AM

JP

“ You have our deepest sympathy in the loss of your beautiful daughter. The heartbreak you are experiencing is unimaginable. In this saddest of times, our prayers of comfort, peace, and grace go out for you and your entire family. McKenna will always be remembered with love.
Jim and Sue Petersen

Jim and Sue Petersen - January 13, 2017 at 08:49 AM

TM

“ Todd & Melisa Meyer lit a candle in memory of McKenna R. Johnson



Todd & Melisa Meyer - January 13, 2017 at 07:43 AM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of McKenna R. Johnson.



January 13, 2017 at 03:57 AM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of McKenna R. Johnson.



January 13, 2017 at 12:59 AM

RM

“ Rhoda Mejia purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of McKenna R. Johnson.



Rhoda Mejia - January 12, 2017 at 11:26 PM



“ Deborah Pafford Morris lit a candle in memory of McKenna R. Johnson



Deborah Pafford Morris - January 12, 2017 at 11:12 PM

MG

“ Ron, Pat, and family. May God's healing comfort be with you in this trying and sad time. You are in my prayers and thoughts...

M. Brandt Godberson - January 12, 2017 at 11:06 PM

RM

“ Scott, Rhonda and family, I do not know you but have met McKenna through my daughter Veronica Mejia. Veronica went to Meadowlark and Sunrise and now KHS with McKenna. My husband remembers her and her brother walking home. He would offer them a ride but McKenna would tell him mom says we are not to accept rides from strangers! She was always smiling and sweet in nature. Veronica enjoyed her time spent with McKenna. My heart goes out to all of you in your loss. The loss of a child is not easy. Remember the good times and memories. She will always be in your hearts and minds. She will not be forgotten. McKenna now is a beautiful angel in heaven with her maker and keeper God. Keep your faith it will help you through the rough times. Remember God is with us at all times. He has not forsaken us even though it may seem that he has. My prayers and thoughts and my family's are with you and your family. In time it will ease so the memories are not so painful but she will not be forgotten.

Rhoda Mejia - January 12, 2017 at 10:09 PM

SM

“ We are Sending Our Love & Prayers to all of McKenna's Family & Friends. May you find Peace & Comfort in God and know that she is in the arms of Jesus.



*Sandy & Aubreigh Moberg
KHS Family*

Sandy Moberg - January 12, 2017 at 09:16 PM

JH

“ Our heart ache for you all..... I know you will treasure the memories & draw strength from all the love that surrounds you! Your sweet angel will look over you always. Rest in Peace McKenna. 🙏

jim & marie hoppenstedt - January 12, 2017 at 08:19 PM

JH

“ Jim & Marie Hoppenstedt lit a candle in memory of McKenna R. Johnson



jim & marie hoppenstedt - January 12, 2017 at 08:06 PM



“ Holding you all close to our hearts and in our prayers for comfort and healing. Hugs to you all. -The Clauss Family, Lincoln, NE

Nicki Ohnoutka Clauss - January 12, 2017 at 05:18 PM

DB

“ I have always loved McKenna's spunky personality. Always thought her and Michelle could have been sisters. I cherish all those wonderful memories the girls played softball together and how much FUN that made it for all of us. We are going to miss her and our prayers are with all the family for strength and healing. Love ya, Craig, Deb, Brooke and Michelle

Deb Boroff - January 12, 2017 at 04:52 PM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of McKenna R. Johnson.* ”



January 12, 2017 at 03:14 PM



“ *Praying for you so sorry thinking of you* ”

Matt Johnson - January 12, 2017 at 03:07 PM



“ *Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of McKenna R. Johnson.* ”



January 12, 2017 at 02:08 PM



“ *Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of McKenna R. Johnson.* ”



January 12, 2017 at 12:50 PM

RR

“ From the University of Nebraska Softball Team; our players, coaches, and staff grieve with you and for you. McKenna was always a joy to have at camp, and we are deeply saddened for the family, friends, and your entire community. We also know her Softball family is heartbroken as well, and we will hold you ALL close in our thoughts and prayers.

Rhonda Revelle and the entire Husker Softball family.

Rhonda Revelle - January 12, 2017 at 12:50 PM

KE

“ We are deeply saddened by the loss that you and your family have encountered. Our prayers and hearts go out to you during this trying time. May the care and love of those around you provide comfort and peace to get you through the days ahead.

Kevin (RHS '91) and the Snyder family

Kevin - January 12, 2017 at 12:45 PM



“ *Pretty Please* was purchased for the family of McKenna R. Johnson.



January 12, 2017 at 12:36 PM



“ *Guiding Light Bouquet was purchased for the family of McKenna R. Johnson.*



January 12, 2017 at 12:31 PM



“ *My heart and prayers for peace of mind, body and soul for you all in the days to come. May God guide you to finding his light.*

Lori Colburn - January 12, 2017 at 11:59 AM



“ *To the Johnson family I am very sorry for your loss. May God be with you during this time and always.*

Roy Lawson - January 12, 2017 at 11:07 AM



“ *I remember how sweet and loving McKenna was as a little girl when she would play with Katie and I during our many baseball tournaments that we traveled to with my son Alexander and her brother Blake playing baseball while Scott coached. The girls and I spent so much time talking and laughing and having fun!! She was a bundle of energy and love and laughter... She was precious and I have such loving, fond memories of her. I will never forget her sweet smile and bright smiling eyes!! She is sorely missed!!*

*Peggy Ross
Overland Park KS.*

Peggy Ross - January 12, 2017 at 11:03 AM

BS

“ *All our thoughts and prayers are with you all!
God bless you all and keep you close in the
days ahead.*



Brian & Colette Snyder - January 12, 2017 at 10:55 AM

YF

“ *Your Prairie Club Family purchased the Arrive in
Style for the family of McKenna R. Johnson.*



Your Prairie Club Family - January 12, 2017 at 10:17 AM

TF

“ *Tom and Michaela Sherbeck Family purchased
the Sweetest Sunrise Bouquet for the family of
McKenna R. Johnson.*



Tom and Michaela Sherbeck Family - January 12, 2017 at
09:30 AM

TF

“ *The Brian and Lana Cargill Family purchased the
Arrive in Style for the family of McKenna R.
Johnson.*



The Brian and Lana Cargill Family - January 12, 2017 at 08:58
AM

LE

“ I am so sorry. To echo another person, 'there are no words' that can express the sadness one feels. Praying for God's love to surround and hold McKenna's family through this time and in the days to come.

Laurie Eisenbraun
Gordon, NE

Laurie Eisenbraun - January 12, 2017 at 08:35 AM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of McKenna R. Johnson.



January 12, 2017 at 01:27 AM

VB

“ Vickie Bauch purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of McKenna R. Johnson.



Vickie Bauch - January 12, 2017 at 01:09 AM

MA

“ I do not have the words to express how my heart breaks for all of you. Love and prayers Scott, Rhonda, Katie, Tanner & Blake - you are in my heart forever - McKenna is safe in the arms of Jesus

Marci Walker - Surprise, Arizona - January 12, 2017 at 12:08 AM

CW

“ Our thoughts and prayers are continually before the Throne of Grace for you. Our words cannot begin to say enough, so we let our hearts speak with everything in us.



Cheryl Willis - January 11, 2017 at 10:27 PM



“ Guiding Light Bouquet was purchased for the family of McKenna R. Johnson.



January 11, 2017 at 10:08 PM

RD

“ Scott, Rhonda & family, Pat & Ron, We are keeping you in our prayer and close in our hearts. God will give you comfort through the days to come. Jay, Rita & family Brenda Conley & family.



Rita Darnall - January 11, 2017 at 09:53 PM



“ Roses and Calla Lilies (Silk Cemetery Flowers) was purchased for the family of McKenna R. Johnson.



January 11, 2017 at 09:22 PM

TA

“ With love from your softball sisters in Eastern Nebraska. -Nebraska Vortex Softball



tabbitha - January 11, 2017 at 08:27 PM

MR

“ With deepest sympathy and condolences to the Johnson family. May God Bless you with strength and healing as we often do not understand his plan, but strive to overcome the pain and suffering and pray that you become stronger from this most challenging time.
The Redman Family



Matt Redman - January 11, 2017 at 07:55 PM



“ Beautiful Heart Bouquet was purchased for the family of McKenna R. Johnson.



January 11, 2017 at 07:02 PM

WM

“ WITH DEEPEST SYMPATHY STEPHANIE MALLAN purchased the Arrive in Style for the family of McKenna R. Johnson.



WITH DEEPEST SYMPATHY STEPHANIE MALLAN - January 11, 2017 at 06:11 PM

TM

“ *The Mortensens....Nick...Arlene...Kaylee...Kaden purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of McKenna R. Johnson.*



The Mortensens....Nick...Arlene...Kaylee...Kaden - January 11, 2017 at 05:59 PM



“ *Strength & Solace Spray was purchased for the family of McKenna R. Johnson.*



January 11, 2017 at 05:33 PM



“ *Crystal Cross Bouquet was purchased for the family of McKenna R. Johnson.*



January 11, 2017 at 05:17 PM

RD

“ *Rhonda,*

We are so very sorry to hear about your loss! We are praying for you and your entire family to get through this difficult time!!

Ray DeMar and the Staff of 1st United Mortgage Banc

Ray DeMar - January 11, 2017 at 04:56 PM

FU

“ from"all"your extended family in utah purchased the Dreams From the Heart Bouquet for the family of McKenna R. Johnson.



from"all"your extended family in utah - January 11, 2017 at 04:09 PM



“ Florist Choice Bouquet was purchased for the family of McKenna R. Johnson.



January 11, 2017 at 04:07 PM

KT

“ My thoughts and prayers are with you and your family at this most difficult time.



Kimberly Townsend - January 11, 2017 at 04:02 PM

MJ

“ Mary Lou Jasnoch purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of McKenna R. Johnson.



Mary Lou Jasnoch - January 11, 2017 at 03:41 PM

DF

“*Doug & Pam Crosbie Family purchased the Medium Dish Garden for the family of McKenna R. Johnson.*



Doug & Pam Crosbie Family - January 11, 2017 at 03:20 PM

 Randie May

“*Just know our family is thinking of you. Just know that God has felt everything you are feeling too many times to count with too many people to ever know. His strength and guidance will fill the voids. McKenna has his peace, you should too. God bless. I feel your pain on a minute scale as Catherine is devastated, but I will help her understand that God will take this and strengthen people beyond their capacities. God bless.*

Randie May

Randie May - January 11, 2017 at 02:52 PM

SS

“*ALL my love Scott, Rhonda, Katie, Tanner and Blake. I have fond memories of the many get togethers, birthday's McKenna and Madi shared. The fun days at the pond, where I first met you all.*



What a beautiful and talented girl. We will miss her dearly. She is in the arms of Our Saviour now, where all earthly pain is no more.

Shirley Schirmer - January 11, 2017 at 02:51 PM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of McKenna R. Johnson.*



January 11, 2017 at 02:36 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of McKenna R. Johnson.*



January 11, 2017 at 02:02 PM



“ *Although we did not know McKenna or your family well, as a fellow KHS family, we feel a loss also and want you to know that you are supported in our prayers. Prayers for healing and prayers of hope. Hang on to your memories, talk of her often and the pain will lessen in time. All of love,
Jerry, Carrie, Kelsey (KHS class of '15) and Megan Stithem (KHS class of '17)*

Carrie Stithem - January 11, 2017 at 01:22 PM

RB

“ I enjoyed having McKenna in my small groups during Faith Formation in middle school at First United Methodist Church. She had a passion for her friends and had the love of Jesus in her heart. Had many discussions on how God was present in our everyday lives and what we could do to serve others. Loved how she would ask questions as she was developing her beliefs and faith. Smart and beautiful young lady:) May God comfort you, and all those who knew her through this time. A lifetime of prayers.

Rebecca Brecht - January 11, 2017 at 12:44 PM

LC

“ Love Jim, Stacey, Hunter & Kylie Collachia purchased the *Finest Farewell Spray* for the family of McKenna R. Johnson.



Love Jim, Stacey, Hunter & Kylie Collachia - January 11, 2017 at 12:27 PM



“ Florist Choice Bouquet was purchased for the family of McKenna R. Johnson.



January 11, 2017 at 11:13 AM



“ *Sweetest Sunrise Bouquet was purchased for the family of McKenna R. Johnson.*



January 11, 2017 at 11:00 AM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of McKenna R. Johnson.*



January 11, 2017 at 10:59 AM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of McKenna R. Johnson.*



January 11, 2017 at 10:57 AM



“ *There are no words to say, but want your family to know that you are all in our thoughts and prayers.*
Matt and Brenda Tracy

Brenda Tracy - January 11, 2017 at 10:55 AM

MS

“ I won't be able to make it to Kearney, but I know you have a whole community and family to help you through this most difficult time. Draw together and take the help of everyone who offers, you are strong but cannot bear this tragedy alone. Know that your friends near, and those of us who are far, will be praying for all of you. My heart goes out to you, Scott & Rhonda, friends of mine from many years past! Just because we haven't seen each other for a while doesn't mean you are any less important to me as you were in college!! My deepest sympathy to you!! Find comfort in each other.
Mindy Swanson
Genoa, NE

Mindy Swanson - January 11, 2017 at 10:05 AM

KT

“ Kearney High School Girls Soccer team purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of McKenna R. Johnson.



Kearney High School Girls Soccer team - January 10, 2017 at 10:44 PM