



## William M. Obrecht

November 2, 1948 - July 27, 2012

William (Bill) Michael Obrecht, 63 of Kearney, NE died July 27, 2012 at home surrounded by family and his pet dog, Radar, after a heroic battle against pancreatic cancer. Mass of Christian Burial will be at 10:30 AM on Monday, July 30th at Prince of Peace Catholic Church in Kearney. The Rev. Abraham Kaduthodiyil and The Rev. Paul Colling will co-officiate. Visitation will be from 5-7pm Sunday, July 29th at the church. A vigil will follow at 7:00 PM. The body will be donated to the Nebraska Anatomical Board following the service on Monday. On-line condolences may be submitted to [osrfh.com](http://osrfh.com). O'Brien Straatmann Redinger Funeral Home in Kearney is in charge of arrangements. Bill was born in Algona, IA on November 2, 1948 to Verna (Ferden) and Arthur Obrecht. He graduated with his Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist degree from the University of Nebraska Medical Center in 1976. He practiced in Algona, IA; Fremont, NE; Brookings, SD; and Grand Island, NE for a total of 36 years. On September 5th, 1970 he married LeAnn Habrock in Emerson, NE. They were blessed with four children: Beth, Renee, Becky, and David. Some of his most cherished activities and hobbies were hiking, fishing, backpacking, camping, scuba diving, boating, bird-watching, photography, singing, cantoring at church, barbershop singing, and traveling with his family and friends. Also, he served his country in the Navy Reserves. Survivors include his wife LeAnn, daughters Beth (David) Obrecht Rush of Salina, KS; Renee (Bryce) Johnson of Seward, NE; Rebecca (Simon) Appleford of Clemson, SC; and his son David (Nicole) Obrecht of Gretna, NE; sisters

Patricia Maahs of Algona, IA and Christine (Susan) Obrecht of Golden, CO; and four grand-children Briahna, Bayleigh, and Benjamin Hultgren; and Cayden Johnson. He is preceded in death by his parents, Verna and Arthur Obrecht, and his two brothers Steve and Larry Obrecht. Donations can be sent to the Pancreatic Cancer Action Network in his memory at [pancan.org](http://pancan.org).

# Tribute Wall



“ *William M. Obrecht*

January 28, 2023 at 08:01 AM



“ *LeAnn: My heart goes out to you and your family. You are in my thoughts and prayers. Gene Habrock.*

**Gene Habrock** - August 21, 2013 at 05:59 AM



“ *LeAnn & family, We are very sad to hear about Bill. Enjoyed working with him in Algona. I remember him as very caring & conscientious. Your family is in our thoughts & prayers. Chuck & Lori Reding*

**Lori Reding** - August 21, 2013 at 05:59 AM



“ *Dear LeAnn, My heart ached this morning when I read that Bill had died. So young. Having known Bill since he was a school kid, and enjoyed him so much, he was special. My husband wanted only YOU to give him shots whenever he went to the hospital here with his cancer. So you see, the two of you have been special to me, as well. My prayers and sympathy to you. Dorothy Muckey, Algona*

**Dorothy Muckey** - August 21, 2013 at 05:59 AM



“ *Dear LeAnn and family, I am so sorry to hear of your loss. It is so hard for those left behind. I knew Bill as a parent to David when he was in Kindergarten, and as a professional at the Brookings Hospital. Both very positive experiences. You are all in my prayers.*

**Nancy Daniels** - August 21, 2013 at 05:59 AM

LA

“ I have so many fond memories of all of the Obrecht family growing up! Bill was a wonderful man to not only his family, but to his children's friends! I learned a lot from him! I loved his stories! Heaven gained a very special angel. Keeping you all in our prayers! Sincerely, LoriAnne Andersen, BHS class of 96

LoriAnne (Balsiger) Andersen - August 21, 2013 at 05:59 AM

DP

“ LeAnn and family I was so shocked and saddened to read of Bill's death. You are in my prayers at this time of sorrow. Deb Pravecek

Deb Pravecek - August 21, 2013 at 05:59 AM

T(

“ Beth and family, so sorry to hear of Bill's passing. I was privileged to have him put me under for a surgery years ago. He was a very nice man. Know that Brookings residents and your old schoolmates are thinking of you.

Tonya (Hoffelt)Gaalswyk - August 21, 2013 at 05:59 AM

KF

“ Just heard. We will be back in town late tonight. Mom called and left me a message from Wakefield. Sorry could not hug you all today. I will see you this week. Love, Kaye Gary and family

Kaye, Gary and family - August 21, 2013 at 05:59 AM

PB

“ LeAnn & family, I was so sorry to read of your loss. My thoughts and prayers are with you.

Pam Beck - August 21, 2013 at 05:59 AM

CL

“ Praying for you and your family. I know this must be such a difficult time for you, but my thoughts and prayers are with you all as you continue on in this life without your loved one. God Bless you all. - Chris Miller

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**Chris Miller - UNK Residence Life** - August 21, 2013 at 05:59 AM

MH

“ May prayers from our family to yours comfort you during this sad time. Every one who knew Bill is a better person for it and he will be missed. God bless you all. Please let us know if any of you need anything.

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**Michael and Jenny Hammond** - August 21, 2013 at 05:59 AM

LF

“ Hi LeAnn and family... wanted to extend our sympathy. We won't be able to attend the funeral but will be thinking of you all. I will be sending you a card and memorial. Please take care, love, Lynnelle, Mike and family

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**Lynnelle, Mike and family** - August 21, 2013 at 05:59 AM

TD

“ LeAnn & Family Have great memories of Bill as a committed co-worker who cared about patients and provided great care. Many wonderful stories were shared in the OR about your family and daily life. I will always remember the lost hearing aid story and how it was found. Prayers and thoughts go out to you.

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**Timothy Jacobs DDS** - August 21, 2013 at 05:59 AM

PL

“ Obrecht family, I am so very sorry for your loss. I haven't seen any of you in so many years and was unaware of Mr. Obrecht's battle. I have fond memories, and I know you all have so many more. I give you my deepest sympathies and most sincere condolences during this difficult time.

Patrick Lopez - August 21, 2013 at 05:59 AM

BN

“ Heaven will be blessed. We will surely miss a wonderful person. Our prayers are with all of the family. May GOD BLESS YOU.

Barb & Niel Nielsen - August 21, 2013 at 05:59 AM

VA

“ BILL WAS A WONDERFULMAN. I ENJOYED WORKING WITH HIM. HE HAD A GREAT SENCE OF HUMOR AND A LOVING HEART. RIP

ValAmbrose - August 21, 2013 at 05:59 AM

SF

“ My families prayers go out to you and your family with deepest sincerity for peace and understanding. whenever we think of Bill a smile comes to mind as he always made us laugh and he just made us all want to be better human beings just by knowing him....he's truely a beautiful man. We are so sorry for your loss

Scott and Kari Firebaugh - August 21, 2013 at 05:59 AM

DP

“ LeAnn and family, we are so sorry to hear of Bill's passing. We have lost touch over the years and were not aware of his battle with cancer. Our prayers are with you.

Dan & Sandy Peterson - August 21, 2013 at 05:59 AM

DJ

“ *Very sad to read in the Brookings paper of Bill's illness and passing. Have very good memories of Bill as a great co-worker who cared about others, provided excellent service, was committed, and always had a smile on his face....a true professional. Our sympathies and prayers go out to all the family during this difficult time.*

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**Dave and Sharon Johnson** - August 21, 2013 at 05:59 AM

DD

“ *Our thoughts and prayers go out to Bill's family. May he finally rest in peace. God Bless you.*

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**Dale & Heidi Dinges** - August 21, 2013 at 05:59 AM

DJ

“ *Truly sorry to hear of Bill's death. He was a kind and well-regarded individual. We enjoyed his friendship and cherished his narrative stories. Bill will be missed by many. Our prayers continue to go to his family*

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**Dale & Karen Johnson** - August 21, 2013 at 05:59 AM