



## Jerry J. Nelson

March 21, 1941 - March 12, 2020

Jerry Joe Nelson, 78, of Kearney and long-time resident of North Platte, died Thursday, March 12, 2020 at CHI Health - Good Samaritan Hospital in Kearney. Celebration of Life services for Jerry have been postponed until further notice. Memorials are suggested to the First United Presbyterian Church in North Platte. Please visit [www.hlmkfuneral.com](http://www.hlmkfuneral.com) to leave a tribute or message of condolence. Horner Lieske McBride & Kuhl Funeral and Cremation Services are in charge of arrangements.

Jerry was born in Bridgeport, NE on March 21, 1941 to Robert and Alby (Kubes) Nelson. He grew up with his parents and five brothers on a farm southwest of Bridgeport and attended Bridgeport High School. On June 23, 1962, he married his high school sweetheart, Linda Lee Miller, the love of his life. They celebrated 57 years of marriage last June. Jerry and Linda attended Colorado State University together in Fort Collins, CO, graduating in 1964. After graduation, they moved to Oakland, NE where Jerry taught vocational agriculture for a year and Linda taught Home Economics for 2 years. In 1965, he joined Allied Chemical Company as a fertilizer salesperson. He was transferred to North Platte, NE in 1968 where he joined the Army Reserve. He began his career in residential real estate in North Platte in 1971. After 1981, he worked for several agricultural companies in retail, wholesale fertilizer and ag chemical sales. He logged more than 3 million miles in Nebraska, Kansas and western Colorado as an ag chemical sales representative throughout his career. He retired from American Cyanamid (BASF) in 2000 and returned to residential and part time ag real estate sales where he worked until 2012, when health issues forced him to retire again. During their time in North Platte, NE, Jerry and Linda attended First United Presbyterian Church for more than 50 years, where they served as session officers and deacons. Jerry was an active member of the Optimist Club for many years, attaining Lt. Governor status. They raised two daughters, Jodi and Kristi, and spent summers camping and boating at Lake McConaughy in Ogallala and traveling to various activities throughout the school year. He also enjoyed traveling, hunting and canoe trips with his family and friends. During their retirement years, Jerry and Linda moved to Kearney, NE. They traveled frequently and especially enjoyed "camping" trips in their RV to Yellowstone and the Tetons.

He is survived by his wife, Linda; two daughters and two granddaughters, Jodi and Taryn Geiger of Omaha, NE and Kristi and McKenna Baer of Kearney, NE; brother Ward Nelson and his wife, Barb of Phoenix, AZ; sisters-in-law Gloria (Don) Nelson of Yuma, AZ and Arleen (Bart) Nelson of Greeley, CO; Linda's brother and sister, Dr. Gaylen and Mimi Miller of Longmont, CO and Cheryl and Gary Van Ostrand of Tallahassee, FL; and many nieces and nephews.

Jerry was preceded in death by his parents, Robert and Alby, and four brothers, Roger, Donald, "Coly" and Barton Nelson.

# Comments

---



“ I just wanted to send my thoughts and prayers to the family. I really appreciated Jerry and his kindness when I was growing up in North Platte. I spent a lot of time with his children in high school and always appreciated their hospitality.

Sincerely,  
Kristie Brown

**Kristie Brown** - May 05 at 10:29 AM

---



“ Jerry was one of a kind. We met him when we moved to North Platte and he sold us our house. Through the years I enjoyed working with him and being a recipient of his practical jokes. He always made me smile. My heart goes out to you and you will be in my thoughts and prayers. May God give you peace.

**Alice Nekuda** - March 27 at 09:02 AM

---



“ Linda and family~I send my thoughts and prayers to you during this time and the days after. Bud and I had many good memories with you and Jerry. He always had a smile and kind words for everyone. He definately left the world in a better place. My Love, Charlene Votaw

**Charlene Votaw** - March 22 at 03:33 PM

---



“ Jerry and I worked together at Allied Chemical Company as sales representatives in the early 70's. Fresh out of college, Jerry truly was my mentor in those early years. Thank you Jerry for all the wonderful memories and the great times we shared. Sending my love and condolences to you Linda and to your family.  
Dan Brown, North Platte

**Dan E Brown** - March 21 at 02:15 PM

---



“ My sincere condolences to the family, and I pray for the repose of Jerry's soul.

Dick Whitney

**Richard Whitney** - March 20 at 11:43 PM

---



“ Sorry to hear about Jerry. I knew him for almost 50 years. He came in to the office to visit often. Jerry always had a smile on his face, and had a contagious laugh. Our thoughts and prayers are with the family.

Steve and Cheryl Jewell

Steve Jewell - March 18 at 12:14 PM

---



“ My thoughts and prayers are with your family at this time of sadness but joy in reflection of Jerry's full life. I first met Jerry and Linda as a student at Oakland High School. I later reunited in North Platte. My father, Walt Thompson, thought the world of both Jerry and Linda as educators and people. My father was both on the Oakland school board and the State board of education.  
God Bless all of the family. A good man

roger thompson - March 18 at 11:43 AM

---



“ Tim and I were very saddened to hear of Jerry's passing. He was such a wonderful man and helped Tim and I when we first moved back to North Platte. He was a wonderful friend to my whole family for years. He will be missed. Much love and our prayers to Linda and the family. Tim & Renea Rush

Tim & Renea Rush - March 18 at 11:12 AM

---



“ we are praying for your family in this time of sorrow, we remember Jerry as a kind and honest person. always ready to help. Let your memories be your comfort, we are certain you have many. Jack and Cheryl Wright, Conway Arkansas

Jack and Cheryl Wright - March 18 at 11:11 AM

---



“ Jerry was always the calm in the midst of the three ever-moving women that were the center of his life. The world will miss his patience, joking nature and smiling friendly face.

Maurice Evans - March 17 at 12:56 PM

---



“ I remember Jerry from when I worked at Big Byron in the 90's. He was always such a nice guy and even remembered me after I left Big Byron and he had gone on to other endeavors. I will always remember his warmth and sense of humor.

**Karon R Harris** - March 16 at 04:25 PM

---



“ Larry & Joan Schild Family purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Jerry J. Nelson.



**Larry & Joan Schild Family** - March 16 at 01:37 PM

---



“ Jerry was the "Greatest Care Bear" always looking out for everyone else and was a true friend of the highest kind. Joan and I will always cherish our times together with Linda and Jerry from the years past. It was an honor to know him. I will never forget him carrying my daughter in her wedding dress across the muddy parking lot in Aspen so she wouldn't get her wedding dress dirty. One of many memories I will have of Jerry forever!

**Larry Schild** - March 16 at 01:26 PM

---



“ Jerry's smile would light up a room, he will be missed by all.

**Brad Stephens** - March 16 at 08:50 AM

---



“ Thoughts and prayers for you, Linda and family. Many memories of our times together, working and social. Ron & Pauline Aden

**Ron & Pauine Aden** - March 14 at 04:57 PM