



Debra "Deb" A. Petty

August 6, 1957 - June 3, 2021

Debra 'Deb' A. Petty, age 63, of Kearney, passed away, Thursday, June 3, 2021 at CHI Health Good Samaritan Hospital in Kearney. Memorial services will be on Wednesday, June 9, 2021 at 2:00 p.m. at Trinity Presbyterian Church in Kearney. Pastor Chad Anderson will officiate. There will be no visitation. Memorials are suggested to the family, to be designated later. Horner Lieske McBride & Kuhl Funeral and Cremation Services in Kearney is in charge of arrangements.

Debra 'Deb' A. Petty, age 63, of Kearney, NE was welcomed into the arms of Jesus, Thursday, June 3, 2021, at CHI Health Good Samaritan Hospital in Kearney.

Deb was born on August 6, 1957, in Stratton, NE to Ervin and Sandra (Bush) Maris. She attended school in the McCook area and graduated from McCook High School in 1976. Upon graduation from high school, she moved to Omaha to attend Grace University. During her freshman year of college, while out for a jog, Deb stumbled across the man who would soon steal her heart, Daniel Petty. It didn't take long before Debra and Daniel decided to commit to spend the rest of their earthly lives together. They were joined in marriage on March 25, 1977, in Omaha, NE. They were married 37 years before Dan's passing on May 10, 2014.

Shortly after their marriage, Dan and Deb began their life's adventure journeying to Illinois and Ohio before settling in Arizona where they happily made their first home in a reconstructed bus. It was here they were blessed with their first son, Douglas (b. 1978). A few years later, Doug's world was rocked by the arrival of an incredible little lady, his sister Dawn (b. 1982). Not long after, this little family decided to journey back to Deb's hometown of McCook and there establish their new home. Within just three short years their family was complete with the arrival of their second son and sweet baby brother, Dustin (b. 1985).

It was about this time that Deb began what would prove to be her life's work. She opened Deb's Daycare and Preschool where she would spend the next 30+ years loving, serving, and teaching children and their families. The daycare was more than just an occupation for Deb, it was an opportunity for her to be the hands and feet of Jesus. In this Deb would establish lifelong relationships with children and parents alike; relationships where she would continue to minister the grace and love of Jesus for the rest of her days.

Deb had many hobbies, including bowling with her sisters, gardening, winemaking, traveling, and spending as much time as possible with her family. Deb's pride and joy were her children and grandchildren. She loved nothing more than spending time with them and spoiling them. Her grandchildren loved to spend time out on the "farm" doing everything from painting fence, pulling weeds, collecting eggs, feeding horses, and picking cherries, to riding the UTV and collecting rocks, because somehow their grandma could make work fun. Deb loved being active with her kids and grandkids whether it was trips to amusement parks, the ocean, the library, special museums, or just playing volleyball in the yard, she was all about quality time.

The foundation on which Deb's life and adventures was built was her relationship with her Savior, Jesus. She had an infectious love and

acceptance for all people, born out of the love and acceptance she experienced daily with her Father. She lived a life poured out to those who's need was the greatest and didn't hesitate to give even when her own need was great. The lives she touched are a testament to the life she lived, and the lives forever changed are her legacy.

Surviving relatives include her sons, Doug Petty and his wife Angel of Minden, NE and Dustin Petty and his wife Melissa of Tampa, FL; son-in-law, David Salyer of Kearney, NE; step-daughter, Julie Marvin of Omaha, Ne; grandchildren: Lucy Marvin, Felicity (Elisha) Bair, Isaiah, Trinity, Lydia, and Eliana Petty, Haven, Evelyn, Jocelyn, and Peregrine Salyer, and Bailey, Annie, and Katie Petty; mother, Sandra Maris of McCook, NE; sisters: Marie Baker of McCook, NE, Karen (Carl) Riemann of McCook, NE, Shirley (Cliff) Riener of Palisade, NE, Jane (Jim) Foster of Bartley, NE, Mary Maris of Emporia, KS; brothers: Donald (Diane) Maris of Eureka, MO, Roger (Jennifer) Maris of McCook, NE, and Michael (Tanya) Maris of Gering, NE; as well as many other family and friends.

Deb was preceded in death by her father, Ervin Maris; husband Daniel Petty; and daughter, Dawn Salyer.

Previous Events

Memorial Service

JUN 9. 2:00 PM (CT)

Trinity Presbyterian Church
3910 22nd Avenue
Kearney, NE 68845
<http://tpckearney.org>

Tribute Wall



“ *Debra "Deb" A. Petty*

January 29, 2023 at 11:14 AM



“ *1 file added to the album Memorial Video*



Horner Lieske McBride & Kuhl Funeral and Cremation Services - June 10, 2021
at 08:17 AM

SH

Blessings to Deb's family. I have known Deb since I first moved to McCook. Her kids were the same age as 3 of mine. When I went to college she babysat for me. We went to the same church and were good friends. I am saddened by her passing, but I know she is with Jesus, Dan and Dawn. She always had a smile and lived with all her ❤️ heart. Prayers and hugs for her family

Susan Havlicek - June 15, 2021 at 01:18 PM

SH

Aunt Iris and I just watched this video,, it is priceless ! It is so sad that Daniel and Deb are gone from us !

Stan Harris - June 18, 2021 at 11:37 PM

NG

“ *Please accept our sympathy for your family's loss of Deb. She was such a sweet lady and always remember her with a smile. Our prayers are with you all.*

Nancy Gumb - June 08, 2021 at 10:18 PM

DN

“ *My deepest condolences to her children, grandchildren...
This saddened my heart.*

Danny Nothnagel - June 08, 2021 at 08:02 PM



“ *Beautiful Heart Bouquet was purchased for the
family of Debra "Deb" A. Petty.*



June 07, 2021 at 10:07 PM



“ *Sweet Tranquility Basket was purchased for the
family of Debra "Deb" A. Petty.*



June 07, 2021 at 09:39 PM

DO

“ *Deb was one of the sweetest women I have had ever known.
Always putting her family and God before herself. Her smile and
warm heart will always be remembered!*

Donna Olson - June 07, 2021 at 08:18 PM

JF

“ Where do I start, my sister Deb was a beautiful sister inside and out. She was always serving for the Lord in all of her daily actions and never thought about herself, but what she could do for others especially, her children and her grandchildren. I will miss our talks about canning, gardening and life in general and about our beautiful big family. I know you will be watching over all of us and I cannot wait to see you again. What a joyous reunion you will have with Dad, Dan and Dawn, Darlene, Aunt Jean, Aunt Elaine and our Grand Parents. You were such a wonderful Big sister and we will miss you dearly. Love always Jane

Jane Foster - June 07, 2021 at 02:24 PM

MM

There is so much to say about my big sis. She has always been there for my three girls and me. She was my birthing coach when I had my first daughter Danielle. I was a single mom and she taught me so much. I will never forget her last words to me in the hospital "I love you baby sister".
I miss you
Love Mary

Mary Maris - June 12, 2021 at 04:40 AM



“ Vivid Recollections was purchased for the family of Debra "Deb" A. Petty.



June 07, 2021 at 02:01 PM

CH

“ *The Petty family were an integral part of our family for many years. It started when Christopher was 2 and Dustin was our paperboy. Christopher is now 28. Deb and family lived a block away and I soon found out Deb had a daycare. She taught Christopher how to write and he loved going to preschool with deb too. In 1999 our second son was born prematurely and Deb helped us get through that difficult time as well. Dawn came to work for me at my Daylight Donut shop in Mccook and Dan often worked on our vehicles. I am blessed to have known Deb and the family she loved so much!!*

Cherie Hiatt-Lewis - June 06, 2021 at 12:39 PM



“ *Crystal Cross Bouquet was purchased for the family of Debra "Deb" A. Petty.*



June 06, 2021 at 02:35 AM