



Dennis "Denny" R. Lewis

December 30, 1957 - October 9, 2023

Dennis (Denny) R. Lewis, age 65, passed away Monday, October 9, 2023, at his home in Kearney, NE. Funeral services will be held at St. James Catholic Church in Kearney, NE, on Monday, October 16th at 10:30 a.m. Father Paul Colling will officiate, and burial will be at the Kearney Cemetery directly following the service. Visitation with the family present will be held Sunday, October 15th, at St James Catholic Church from 5:00 – 7:00 p.m. Memorials will be designated at a later date.

Dennis R. Lewis was born on December 30, 1957, in Kearney, NE, to Edward (Bud) and Darlene (Hoffman) Lewis. He grew up in Kearney and graduated from Kearney High School in 1976. He attended and graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice from Kearney State College, where he was a stand-out pitcher for the college baseball team, still holding multiple program records. Dennis married (Mary) Michaela Curry on June 21, 1980, in Norfolk, NE. They have two children, Darbi (Lewis) Roeder and Rob Lewis.

After college graduation, Dennis followed his father, Bud, in a career in law enforcement, where he started as a jailer and was promoted to deputy sheriff for the Buffalo County Sheriff's Office from 1980 – 1988. He moved to the Kearney Police Department in 1988 and rose through the ranks throughout his career. After 30 years with KPD, he retired as a Lieutenant in 2018.

Dennis's family, especially his children and grandchildren, were the most important part of his life. He lived life to the fullest and had many interests and hobbies. After retirement, he enjoyed making wine, naming the wine after family members, and giving them as gifts. He led a very active life. On any given day you could find him at the golf course, playing disc golf, riding his bike, or boating at Cottonmill Lake. His favorite retirement activity was playing pickleball. He was immediately hooked and loved playing competitive games and developing relationships with his pickleball family.

Surviving relatives include his spouse, Michaela; daughter, Darbi (Brady) Roeder; son, Rob (Brittney) all of Kearney and brother, Edward (Judy) of Lincoln, NE; Grandchildren, Charley and Benni Roeder, Hayleigh, Owen, and Adelynn Lewis, all of Kearney.

Dennis was preceded in death by his parents, Edward (Bud) and Darlene Lewis; sisters, Debra (Lewis) Happold and Darla (Lewis) Stromberg; in-laws, Bob and Betty Curry of Norfolk, NE and granddaughter, Harlee Lewis.

Cemetery Details

Kearney Cemetery

4400 Avenue I
Kearney, NE 68847

Previous Events

Visitation

OCT **15**. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

St. James Catholic Church
3801 Avenue A
Kearney, NE 68847

Funeral Mass

OCT **16**. 10:30 AM (CT)

St. James Catholic Church
3801 Avenue A
Kearney, NE 68847

Tribute Wall

DB

“ *Godspeed, Denny Lewis.*

Dave Burlew - November 01, 2023 at 11:59 PM

LC

“ *Lori Carter lit a candle in memory of Dennis "Denny" Lewis*



Lori Bruggeman Carter - October 17, 2023 at 04:36 PM

PB

“ *I really enjoyed getting to know Denny through pickleball. Whether he was your partner or opponent, he was always competitive when he played. But he also wanted everyone to have fun as well. He will be missed by many, but his spirit of good sportsmanship will always be a part of the Kearney Pickleball Club.*



Paul Bartlett - October 16, 2023 at 12:36 PM

JC

“ *James C. purchased the Simply Elegant Spathip hyllum for the family of Dennis "Denny" R. Lewis.*



James C. - October 13, 2023 at 10:14 AM



“ *Pink Tribute Spray was purchased for the family of Dennis "Denny" R. Lewis.*



October 12, 2023 at 12:00 PM



“ *I will never forget Denny's thoughtfulness in my life, especially how he tuned into my struggle as I was losing my brother to Covid and cancer. His warmth, sensitivity, and kindness will not be forgotten, and will be dearly missed.*

Kristen Bauer - October 12, 2023 at 07:10 AM



“ *Florist Choice Bouquet was purchased for the family of Dennis "Denny" R. Lewis.*



October 11, 2023 at 01:01 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Dennis "Denny" R. Lewis.*



October 11, 2023 at 10:41 AM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Dennis "Denny" R. Lewis.

October 11, 2023 at 10:41 AM



“ Serene Retreat was purchased for the family of Dennis "Denny" R. Lewis.



October 11, 2023 at 09:17 AM



“ Condolences to the Lewis family. So sorry for your loss.

Dann and Pam Glendenning - October 10, 2023 at 10:52 PM



“ So sorry to hear about Lt. Lewis' passing. Thoughts and prayers to his family. I worked with Lt. Lewis at KPD from 1998 to 2003. Always enjoyed being around him. I remember how irritated he would get about the transient in town with the same name and Lt. Lewis would get phone calls from his creditors wondering when he was going to pay his bills. Boy howdy, that would make Lt. Lewis soooooooo mad!! Condolences, Kathy Goos.

Kathy Goos - October 10, 2023 at 07:36 PM

CB

“ *Denny is one of the best!!!! Great guy, served our community, husband, brother, father and most of all Grandpa. I have known him a very long time.*

Bought all our shoes for years from his mother, Darlene.

Michayla my heart goes out to you and all your family.... He will be missed.. The Bacons

Dave, Coleen, Austin, Dane and Taylor.

Coleen Kay Bacon - October 10, 2023 at 07:19 PM