



George "Dave" Griffith

September 3, 1949 - June 1, 2022

George "Dave" Griffith, 72, of Kearney, passed away Wednesday, June 1, 2022. Memorial services will be 2:00 pm, June 8, 2022 at Horner Lieske McBride & Kuhl Funeral and Cremation Services with Pastor Dean Pofahl officiating. Private family burial will take place at a later date at White Hill Cemetery North of Minden. Memorials are suggested to the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation or The Wyldlife Fund.

George David (Dave) Griffith was born in Lebanon, Kansas, on September 3, 1949, to George and Bonnie (McDowell) Griffith. He spent most of his youth in Nelson, Nebraska, where sports were an important part of his life. After graduation he attended Fairbury Junior College and Peru State College. Later he acquired a master's degree in education with an administrative endorsement from the University of Nebraska at Kearney. From an early marriage to Lila Gruber, he was blessed with three children, Timothy, Nathan, and Amy.

Shortly after his undergraduate graduation, he worked at Brownville at the Cooper Nuclear Power Plant as a health physics technician. It was there that he experienced a fifty-foot fall that affected him the remainder of his life.

In 1979 he married Sharon Sizer of Kearney, a fellow educator and mother to his stepsons, Bryan and Ben Kuntz.

In spite of permanent injuries, he continued to run, bike, hike, and ski, often wearing an old-fashioned knee brace. As a runner, he participated in the Bolder Boulder and other races. Most photographs of Dave include strings of fish, as camping, fishing, and hunting were his favorite activities. He enjoyed anything outdoors.

He was a principal in LaBarge, Wyoming, and a well-loved classroom teacher in Colorado. His fifth-grade students often returned to see him even after their high school graduations.

After retirement, he and Sherry spent several years in Crystal Lakes, Colorado enjoying the wildlife and nature which he so loved. Dave's health concerns and the desire to be closer to family prompted them to move back to Kearney, Nebraska.

Dave was a member of Immanuel Lutheran Church in Greeley, Colorado, for twenty years and continued to be a person of faith.

Dave is survived by his wife, Sherry Griffith of Kearney; daughter, Amy Griffith of Omaha, NE; sons, Tim Griffith of Clatonia, NE, Nate Griffith of Mankato, KS; step-sons, Bryan and Candy Kuntz of Kearney, Ben Kuntz and Sarah Angstman of Dillon, MT; brother, Steve and Jan Griffith of Kansas City, KS, Joel and Ilona Griffith of Grand Island, NE, Bob Griffith of Oak, NE; and eight grandchildren.

Dave was preceded in death by his brother, William Griffith.

Previous Events

Memorial Service

JUN 8. 2:00 PM (CT)

Horner Lieske McBride & Kuhl
2421 Avenue A
Kearney, NE 68847
(308) 237-2259
<https://www.hlmkfuneral.com>

Tribute Wall



“ George "Dave" Griffith

January 29, 2023 at 11:14 AM



“ 1 file added to the album Memorial Service



Horner Lieske McBride & Kuhl Funeral and Cremation Services - June 08, 2022
at 04:45 PM



“ Jason Griffith purchased the Days of Sunshine Bouquet for the family of George "Dave" Griffith.



Jason Griffith - June 06, 2022 at 11:48 PM



“ Steve and Jan purchased the Love's Tapestry for the family of George "Dave" Griffith.



Steve and Jan - June 06, 2022 at 09:01 PM

TL

“ Dave was certainly my closest friend in high school! Dave and I spent many a day hunting pheasants, quail, rabbits and squirrels and riding our bikes up to the Little Blue River to camp out and run trot lines for channel catfish.

There was one particular Saturday night when a local residents Case Implement Eagle “Went Missing”... after being called to the principal’s office on Monday in school and a pretty stern conversation with the sheriff, it was decided that Dave and I would “lend a hand” and help that eagle find its way back to Nelson which it did by late that afternoon!

So many great memories were made in sports and double dates to the drive-in Hebron with a stash of others in the trunk of the Dodge Polara.

So many fun times... so many hours listening to records at Dave’s house and so many meals and Bonnie always making sure I was getting enough to eat!

Our condolences to “all of Dave’s Family...”

You will live in my thoughts forever “Ud”

Tim and Loretta Lane

Tim Lane - June 04, 2022 at 10:06 PM

MD

I got that same visit from the sheriff. I remember we put the eagle in Bruce’s Ford and it made the back drag on the frame. I don’t remember how we got it back.

Mike Daniel - June 05, 2022 at 12:19 PM

MM

“ Dave was one of my Nebraska cousins. When I was growing up as a youngster in Red Cloud, Nebraska, I remember Grandma (Mabel) McDowell and my Dad, Charles David (Dave) McDowell call him “Davey.” I send my thoughts and prayers to his family and close friends.

Margaret McDowell - June 04, 2022 at 07:08 PM

BM

Always looked up to Dave and his brothers. Seems like there was never a dull moment. Dave instilled in me the love of hunting and fishing, along with his brothers. And like Tim mentioned, I don't know how many times we had to listen to his favorite record that Dave just bought. My thoughts and prayers to his family.

Bill Meirath - June 05, 2022 at 11:16 PM

JG

“ Joel & Ilona Griffith purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of George "Dave" Griffith.



Joel & Ilona Griffith - June 04, 2022 at 03:53 PM

MK

“ I remember the fun Dave and Steve Disney had in high school. Dave was always a favorite student of my sister Cheryl McWaters. He was very mischievous in class and she secretly enjoyed that.
Mary Scism Kulhanek

Mary Kulhanek - June 03, 2022 at 03:22 PM