



## Laureen Striker-Rapp

March 30, 1947 - December 14, 2017

Laureen D. Striker-Rapp, 70 of Kearney, died December 14, 2017 at Wide Horizon Care Center in Wheat Ridge, Colorado. Memorial services will be 11:00 am, Tuesday, January 2, 2018 at Horner Lieske McBride & Kuhl Funeral Chapel with Anabeth Cox officiating. Memorials are suggested to the American Red Cross.

Laureen Diane Striker-Rapp was born to Marion and Margarite Striker on March 30, 1947 in Seattle, Washington.

She attended and graduated high school from Mercer Island High School. On February 14, 1969, Laureen married Rick D. Brown and had 3 children. Their son, Jeffrey was born in 1970, daughter, Krista was born in 1973, and their youngest, Heidi was born in 1979. During this marriage, Laureen enjoyed activities that revolved around their children; Jeff with his competitive waterskiing, Krista with her English show horse events, and Heidi with her soccer. They took many snow skiing trips and spent summers in Crescent Bar. In 1983, they moved from Twin Lakes Golf Course in Federal Way to a lakefront house on Lake Tapps.

Laureen married Kelly Rapp on March 23, 1991. The service was unique as the ceremony took place on a ferry called "The Goodtime II" on Seattle's Puget Sound.

During their first years of marriage, Laureen would help Kelly on the farm

spreading irrigation pipe and even ran a grain cart during harvest.

In 1992, Laureen and Kelly purchased 80 acres on the edge of Kearney where they built their home. Laureen's passion, creativity, and expertise for landscaping and home decorating radiates throughout the home and its outdoor surroundings. Along the way, Laureen and Kelly worked together to develop single-family homes in southwest Kearney. At present, there have been over 160 homes constructed, and Kenwood Elementary school is also included in this subdivision.

Laureen and Kelly enjoyed traveling throughout their marriage. Many ski trips were taken to Colorado. Those who accompanied them on some of these trips included neighboring friends, daughter, Heidi, and her dear friend, Mindy Doss (whom they later took into their home to live when she was 15.) Mindy and Heidi also had the opportunity to go with Laureen and Kelly to Paris, France to visit Laureen's oldest daughter, Krista. This was a special treat as Krista was attending Le Cordon Bleu cooking school at the time. Feeling the need to see Krista again, Laureen decided to return to Paris six weeks later. Laureen suggested Kelly's mother, Eileene, accompany them on this second trip, making this a special event as well.

Other travels abroad included trips to Egypt, Antarctica, and a 23 country, 32 day whirlwind driving tour of Europe. They also took two inside passage cruises to Alaska with family and a trip to Spain. Last winter, they had the opportunity to go to Iceland with Laureen's son, Jeff and daughter-in-law, Pam. A highlight for Laureen on this trip was a snorkeling adventure in 34 degree glacier water over the continental drift.

Laureen had a special love and talent for all things home. She could create a gourmet meal with her beautiful floral arrangements on display. She absolutely loved entertaining and throwing a party. Her gift of interior design enabled her

to quickly put colors together and pick siding, brick, and interior colors for spec homes in their development. She was truly a pro in designing a home with curb appeal and wonderful, soft, warm colors throughout the interior.

Above all, her family was the most important thing to Laureen. She just wanted to make her children happy, and supported them in any way she could. She absolutely adored each and every one of her grandchildren. She was proud of all their accomplishments and relished the time she spent with them. With Jeff and Pam, she had 3 grandsons, Zach, Jeffrey Jr, and Miles. She attended many basketball games of her oldest grandson, Zach. She was overjoyed when Zach and his wife, Lisa made Laureen a great grandmother when their first daughter, Ryan Lily, was born in 2012. She was so proud of Jeffrey Jr. when he graduated from Universal Technical Institute as a mechanic in Sacramento, making the trip to watch him graduate. She was also very supportive of her youngest grandson, Miles with all of his activities. She loved to come out to Jeff and Pam's farm and along with Kelly, made a trip to Denver to watch Miles show his alpacas.

With Krista and Phil, she had three granddaughters, Elise, Claire, and Annika. She loved hearing about each one's accomplishments and bragging about each one every chance she could get. She relished in watching Elise at her softball games and was so proud of her. She loved her trip to Colorado and spent a week with her just doing Softball. She would text play by play beaming with pride. Laureen loved to be included in many of Claire's Ballet accomplishments. She loved watching every performance she was in. Laureen loved to travel with Claire at her summer intensives and setting her up in dorm rooms for the whole summer, whether it was Chicago or Miami. She was extremely proud that Claire made her dream school and got to dance at Pacific Northwest Ballet. She shed tears of joy. Annika was the baby and played a special part in Laureen's life, Laureen was blessed to see her

beautiful birth and to hold her for the first time. She loved watching all of Annika's games, whether it was basketball or softball. Whooping it up or taking a lot of pictures, she was very proud of seeing her grow up as a beautiful and strong young lady.

Lauren was very active in her church. She was a First Reader, Second Reader, Sunday School teacher, and a Board member. Whenever anything was needed for church, Lauren was there. As many of you do, she read and prayed with her Bible every day. In everything she did, she consulted God first. She prayed and asked God, and then was quiet. When she got a sense of peace and calm about how to proceed on any endeavor involving family or anything, she would only then go forward quickly.

Lauren felt God's love in everything good and wanted everyone else to feel that, too. Her joy, warmth, wicked sense of humor, beautiful smile, and especially her sweetness, was her way of trying to convey that to others. Lauren was a unique woman who always walked through life with God guiding her in everything she did and still does now. No wonder that anyone who truly knew Lauren, loved Lauren.

Survivors include her husband, Kelly Rapp of Kearney; son, Jeffrey Brown and his wife, Pam of Enumclaw, WA; daughter, Krista Freund and her husband, Phil of Silverdale, WA; daughter, Mindy Brewster and her husband John of Lakewood, CO; grandsons, Zachary Brown and his wife, Lisa of Salt Lake City, UT; Jeffrey Dwight Brown and Miles Brown both of Enumclaw, WA; granddaughters Elise Freund, Claire Freund, and Annika Freund all of Silverdale, WA; great granddaughters Ryan Brown and Zienna Brown of Salt Lake City, UT; brothers, William Striker and Jack Striker, and a sister, Melissa Striker, all of Washington.

She was preceded in death by her mother, Margarite , her father Marion

Striker, and her daughter, Heidi Brown.

# Previous Events

## Memorial Service

JAN 2. 11:00 AM (CT)

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

# Tribute Wall



“ *Laureen Striker-Rapp*

January 29, 2023 at 11:14 AM



“ *I'm so sorry, Kelly. If anyone ever gets their happily ever after it should have been you.*

**lori schulz** - October 26, 2018 at 09:29 PM



“ *Laureen was very special to our family. We are grateful for the times we shared with her and will always remember her fondly. All our love to you, Kelly. Patrick and Katie, James and Norah Moore*

**Patrick Moore** - January 01, 2018 at 09:50 PM



“ *The McGinnis Family purchased the Dreams From the Heart Bouquet for the family of Laureen Striker-Rapp.*



**The McGinnis Family** - December 29, 2017 at 03:21 PM



“ *I always enjoyed working with her & our chats when we would meet walking our dogs. So sorry to hear of your loss. May happy memories help you through this difficult time. Chris Johns*

**Chris Johns** - December 27, 2017 at 02:39 PM

MJ

“ *I Used To Style ... You & Your Daughter's Hair!! Years Ago!!*

*She Passed Away!..., Way To Soon !! as Well As You!!*

*Maria*

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**Maria Janke** - December 25, 2017 at 08:13 PM



“ *Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Laureen Striker-Rapp.*



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December 22, 2017 at 09:47 AM