



## Leonard C. Skov

February 10, 1935 - November 15, 2020

Leonard C. Skov, 85, of Kearney, went to be with the Lord on Sunday, November 15, 2020. Memorial services will be held on Saturday, May 29, 2021 at 1:30 p.m. at First Baptist Church in Kearney. Pastor Sean Dougherty will officiate. Burial will be private, prior to services. There will be no visitation. Instead of flowers, memorials to the Dr. Leonard Skov Scholarship Fund <https://nufoundation.org/fund/01063740/> or the Himanchal Education Foundation <https://himanchal.org/> are suggested. Visit [www.hlmkfuneral.com](http://www.hlmkfuneral.com) to leave a tribute or message of condolence. Horner Lieske McBride and Kuhl Funeral and Cremation Services are handling arrangements. Send cards in care of Randy Skov, 115 Tall Timber Court, Fayetteville, GA 30215.

Leonard dedicated his life to having a positive influence on his family, community and the world. He was born February 10, 1935 in Riverdale and graduated from Riverdale High School in 1952. He earned Bachelor's (1956) and Master's (1960) degrees at Kearney State College followed by a PhD at UNL in 1967.

Leonard's 40-year career in education left a lasting legacy. He served as principal in Red Cloud, NE (1956-59), superintendent at Wilcox, NE (1959-62) then worked for the State of Nebraska Department of Education (1962-67). He came to Kearney State College in 1968 as Dean of the School of Education and served in many roles within the education department before retiring in

1997. In retirement, he continued his legacy by serving as interim president at Peru State College in 1999. He was also instrumental in founding the Himanchal Education Foundation, promoting community-based educational development in rural Nepal.

Leonard loved his family and was a dedicated husband, father and role model. He married his high-school sweetheart Dolores McConnel on June 6, 1954; they were blessed with four sons. You would often find the family taking their trailer to Ft. Kearny, the Black Hills or Chadron State park for camping, swimming and fishing. After Dolores passed away in 2004, he married Wanda Franklin on January 27, 2007.

Leonard loved the Lord and his church, First Baptist Church of Kearney. Whenever help was needed, Leonard was there; as chairman of the building committee, Sunday School teacher, mowing the church lawn or clearing snow. And he loved the city of Kearney. He served on the board of Kearney Regional Airport and in several capacities at the Archway.

He is survived by his wife, Wanda Franklin of Kearney; sons Steve (Susan) of Springfield, MO, Randy (Jinda) of Fayetteville, GA, Jeff (Judy) of Spring Hill, KS and Mike (Valerie) of Arlington, VA; 10 grandchildren and 7 great grandchildren; and many other family members and friends.

Leonard was preceded in death by his parents Jens Christian and Edith Lou (Johnson), wife Dolores, brother Charles, sister Marian Fisher and half-brother Elmer Skov.

# Previous Events

## Memorial Service

MAY 29. 1:30 PM (CT)

First Baptist Church  
3610 6th Ave.  
Kearney, NE 68845

# Tribute Wall



“ *Leonard C. Skov*

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January 29, 2023 at 11:14 AM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Leonard C. Skov.*



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May 12, 2021 at 09:59 AM

MH

“ My husband Galen and I were saddened to learn of Leonard's passing. I have so many good memories of Leonard, dating back to his days in Red Cloud when he was my high school principal. At the time, he looked so young it was hard to believe he was the principal.

*Decades later, I joined the College of Education faculty at UNK where Leonard was Dean and he still looked young! He always had a smile and a jaunty walk, happy to engage in talking with faculty and students. His knowledge about Nebraska and Nebraska schools was deep and engaging. I especially appreciated the positive culture that Leonard had created among College of Education faculty and staff.*

*Leonard's energy knew no bounds, and he had many ideas for improving whatever he was engaged in. I admired his commitment to the Himanchal Foundation that supports educational efforts in rural Nepal. He also established a student teaching site in Houston, TX that provided an urban and culturally diverse site for UNK student teachers. Under Leonard's leadership, UNK was the first to provide an ESL program to respond to the changing demographics in Nebraska in the 90's. Leonard's legacy was the College of Education's respected undergraduate and graduate education programs that served schools statewide.*

*Galen and I send our sympathies to Leonard's family.  
Marilyn Hadley*

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**Marilyn Hadley** - November 19, 2020 at 02:24 PM

VK

“ To the family of Dr. Skov



*I am sorry to hear about the sad demise of Dr.Skov*

*My sincere condolences to the family on your irrevocable loss ..May his soul Rest in peace*

*I have known Dr.Skov during my tenure at UNK and have worked with him on the Himachal foundation Committee. Words are inadequate to describe his dedication to UNK and the work on this Committee. He will be dearly missed by all of us, the College and the Community .*

*Vani Kotcherlakota*

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**vani kotcherlakota** - November 19, 2020 at 02:19 PM

KL

“ *Please except condolences from the Livingston family. My father-in-law Les Livingston taught physical education and coached during some of Leonard's tenure at KSC. He spoke very highly of Leonard and considered him a good friend. I worked in administration at KSC/UNK, and had the opportunity to work with him on many occasions. Leonard brought joy to the workplace, and innovation when we needed it. I respected him and his dedication to students.*

*With sympathy,  
Kathy Livingston*

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**Kathy Livingston** - November 19, 2020 at 01:36 PM

DB

“ To the family of Leonard. Please accept our sympathy on Leonards recent passing. He will be missed by many both professionally and community. I enjoyed working with him at UNK. Always wanted to help in any way he could for students, colleagues, and others. He will be remembered by all of us.

*Dick and Barb Beechner*

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**Dick Beechner** - November 18, 2020 at 07:03 PM

SM

“ Mike, Jeff, Steve and Randy,

*I was extremely sorry to hear and read about your dad's passing. I remember him always being very engaging and easy to be around, even as a young kid in the neighborhood. He often had a riddle tp share that often helped me look at problems a different way. He did a lot of great things for the city of Kearney, my favorite being the airshow he helped bring to town.*

*Please enjoy your time together as you celebrate his life.*

*Warm Thoughts,*

*Scott Morling*

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**Scott Morling** - November 18, 2020 at 05:47 PM