



Margarete K. McGraw

April 8, 2015 - April 8, 2015

Margarete K. McGraw, 81, of Kearney died Wednesday, April 8, 2015 at CHI Good Samaritan Hospital. Funeral services will be on Monday, April 13, 2015 at 10:30 a.m. at Horner Lieske McBride & Kuhl Funeral and Cremation Services in Kearney. Rev. Roy Rasmussen will officiate and burial will follow at Kearney Cemetery. Visitation will be Sunday, April 12, 2015 from 4:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. at Horner Lieske McBride & Kuhl Funeral and Cremation Services in Kearney and also 1 hour prior to services on Monday. Memorials are suggested to the family to be designated later. Please visit www.hlmkfuneral.com to leave a tribute or message of condolence. Horner Lieske McBride & Kuhl Funeral and Cremation Services in Kearney are in charge of arrangements.

Margarete was born on August 15, 1933 in Kuppingen, Germany to Jakob and Karoline (Kohler) Roller. She attended school in Kuppingen, Germany. She married Leland G. "Mack" McGraw, Jr. on September 22, 1952 in Kuppingen, West Germany. To this union were born four sons and two daughters. In 1955 she traveled to America aboard the USNS Gen. Alexander M. Patch with their first born and arrived on Ellis Island. She then traveled to Niobrara, NE to live with her husbands' family until he could join her back in Nebraska. She and Mack lived in many places including Creighton, Grand Island, Neligh, Pilger,

Leesville, LA, Phoenix, AZ and Kearney for the last 17 years. She enjoyed being with her friends and family both in the USA and also in Germany. She loved people and made lifelong friendships everywhere. She also loved her birthplace and was always eager to share her German heritage and traditions, but she was extremely proud of being a Nationalized Citizen of the USA.

Surviving relatives include her Sons, Gary Lee and Vonda McGraw of Leesville, LA, Leeland III and Barb McGraw of Grand Island, NE, Mike McGraw of Kearney and Hans McGraw of Kearney; Daughter, Nancy and Roger Cunningham of Hereford, AZ; Daughter in law, Wanda Frink of Kearney; Brother, Peter and Waltraut Roller and family; Nieces, Nephews and other family in Germany. Sister in law, Carol Mokert; Niece, LaDonna and Ricky Moore and family in Texas; Grandchildren and Great Grandchildren, Matthew and Lindsay McGraw of Gretna, David and Michelle McGraw and Daughter Aubrey of Massachusetts, Derek McGraw, Egan Harper, Dusty and Tonya Harper and Children Aribella and Newt all of Leesville, LA, Ryan McGraw, Brianna McGraw, Jakob McGraw and daughter Amarie all of Kearney, Scarlett and Greg Herdman of Jacksonville Beach, FL, Roger Jr. and Aly Cunningham of Sierra Vista, AZ; Also Cindy Erpelding and all of her other lifelong and newest friends.

She was preceded in death by her Parents; Husband; Infant Daughter, Margarete Ann; 3 Brothers and Sisters in Germany.

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Previous Events

Visitation

APR 12. 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM (CT)

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

Funeral Service

APR 13. 10:30 AM (CT)

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

Tribute Wall



“ *Margarete K. McGraw*

January 29, 2023 at 11:14 AM



“ *Margaret was a wonderful lady who I am honored to have known, I first met her when the family moved in across the street in Grand Island. My brothers and I became fast friends with the McGraws and enjoyed a lot of “kid time” together. I have so many great memories of Margaret, Mack and the family, swimming at Mormon Lake, lunch Margaret made us, cards and other activities. Margaret was always kind and complimentary to me as a young girl which was much appreciated and remembered and I’m glad my mom and I got to see her a couple years back in Kearney, NE. She certainly made this world a better place! My condolences to Gary, Leland, Mike and Nancy and everyone in her family.*

Marcia (Hughes) Woerman

Marcia Woerman - April 14, 2015 at 12:00 AM



“ *Margarete was such a lovely lady and good neighbor. We missed seeing her on her walks since we moved. Our sincere sympathy to Mike, Hans, and all of her family.*

Jim & Susan Bstanndig - April 13, 2015 at 12:00 AM

“ *A Letter From Heaven*

*When tomorrow starts without me
and I'm not here to see
If the sun should rise and find your eyes
All filled with tears for me*

*I wish you wouldn't cry
The Way you did today
While thinking of the many things
We did not get to say*

*I know how much you love me
As much as I love you
Each time that you think of me
I know you will miss me too.*

*So When Tomorrow starts without me
Do not think we're apart
For every time you think of me
Remember I'm right here in your heart.*

*Margarete, you said that you liked this poem that we put on John's
Program when he passed. I am the only one left from the four of us-
-the good ole days. We all go way back. I miss our daily talks, when
it is about the time we would talk I find myself watching the clock,
either to call you or for you to call me. My heart is heavy.
Von dienen lebens lange Freundin, und Schwester von Herzen,
Hilde*

Hildegard F. Reed - April 12, 2015 at 12:00 AM

LH

“*Margarete, I have known you all off my life, to include your German family as well. I remember coming to Ne after my dad got back from Viet Nam and you guys had the Restaurant and all, and when you guys would visit us and come in the big travel trailer, then when you all moved to Leesville too. I would get to talk to you when you and mom were on the phone together, always such a pleasure. We have a lot of fond memories. You were one in a Million with a heart of Gold!*

*May you rest in peace,
Fond memories always,
We love you always,
Luis and Bill Hyatt*

Luis and Bill Hyatt - April 12, 2015 at 12:00 AM

IG

“*My condolences to the family of Margarete-- Isolde Gustafson, St.Petersburg ,Florida (a German friend,used to live in Nebraska,friend of Trudy Anderson)*

Isolde Gustafson - April 12, 2015 at 12:00 AM

DD

“Margarete, you touch so many with your warm and friendly smile and your gentle loving heart. Knowing you all my life, when I was little I thought you and mama were sisters. Then found out were two met in your younger years and marring Army buddies. I was blessed to have two mamas. Cause thats how I seen you as my second mama. I remember when daddy came back from Viet Nam and we visited you all in Nebraska. Mack and you had a restaurant and remembering watch you put those delicious pies you made in the pie case. You always loved to cook especially to bake. You made awesome cookies. When you all moved to Leesville Louisiana we spent alot of time together. I know your in heaven and baking cookies. Love you and miss you.

Doreen & Del Deaton - April 12, 2015 at 12:00 AM

DD

“Margarete, you always had a warm and friendly smile, with a gentle loving heart. Knowing you all my life. I always thought you and mama were sisters. Then I was told you two were friends in your youngers years and married Army buddies. When daddy came back from Vietnam we visited you all in Nebraska. Mack and you had a restaurant, I remember sitting at the counter and watching you put your delicious pies you made in the pie case. You loved to cook and bake. You always baked some awesome cookies. When you and Mack moved to Leesville Louisiana we spent lots of time together. I was so blessed to have two mamas. I know your in heaven baking your awesome cookies. Love you and miss you.

Doreen & Del Deaton - April 12, 2015 at 12:00 AM

SA

“Margarete made the world a better place. A beautiful smile and a dear friend to many. She will be sadly missed.

Sue Anderson - April 10, 2015 at 12:00 AM

KG

“*Margarete was such a sweet little lady. I loved her and I will miss her so much. I looked forward to our little talks.*

God bless her family.

Kim Gates - April 10, 2015 at 12:00 AM

“ *Liebe Tante Gretel,
this was the beginning of all these letters we wrote over years.*

I cant believe you're not here with us anymore.

Grandpa told me I have to surprise you, I booked tickets in June for America. Did I ever told you that I have an American Boyfriend? Like you- many years ago-Onkel Mike.

I couldn't wait to see you for the really first time in my life.. I've been so excited to see this wonderful woman after 19 Years. I really hoped you make this until we could see each other, and now you're gone and I can't tell how much it hurts.

My Mom told me today what happend, and I called my Grandpa- your lovely little brother in Germany. Opa is really sad, we talked so often about you- how much they miss you- how beautiful strong and awesome your been your whole life. This strong woman who married an American, became a Baby in Germany and took the long way with the ship to this wonderful place-America.

I think about this story since I'm in a relationship with this perfect man. Thought about how you made this, how strong you been to leave your family. And Grandma said you married the best man in this whole world. My Mum said Onkel Mike was a big huge awesome man, and you was so tender, small and beautiful. He protect you like you are his queen! I'm so sad I never saw you both together.

Oma and Opa are married 60 years next week and they have this picture on their invitation- camping with you and mike in a little tent in the middle of nowhere. They are still really happy together, but you can see that a piece in Opas life is missing. It's you!

I think it's weird right on this page about all this stories and feelings. But how else I can do it. I saw that your funeral is on Monday i wish I could be there with you and your Family. But we all are going to the cemetery in Kuppingen were your place of birth is, and were you

parents are. We will light on a candle for you and think about you!

And now Tante Gretel, i look at this picture on this page and hope you Rest in Peace.

You are the most amazing woman even if I just know you from the phone and our letters.

I will miss this, writing letters with you ! And I'm sorry that i didn't wrote back the last few weeks, now I would do everything to write you a last letter.

*You will be in my little world, in my little heart for the rest of my life!
I will think about you all the time. I hope I still can visit you in June-
Thank you for everything!*

Ich vermisse dich! Und ich werde dich niemals vergessen! Du bleibst fuer immer in meinem Herzen.

And I am really sorry for all your Children and Grandchildren.

God bless your awesome family.

We will think about you all!

With love your little one, Lia

Lia - April 10, 2015 at 12:00 AM