



## Peggy O'Dea

June 28, 1950 - December 30, 2020

Peggy O'Dea, 70, of Kearney, passed away, December 30, 2020 at C.H.I. Health Good Samaritan Hospital in Kearney. Memorial services will be 10:30 am, June 25, 2021 at St. James Catholic Church with Fr. Joseph Hannappel officiating. The service will be livestreamed and can be viewed at <https://stjameschurchkearney.org/> Casual attire for the service is requested by the family. In lieu of flowers memorials are suggested to Kearney Public Schools Foundation, Good Samaritan Hospital Foundation, or the Help Care Clinic.

Peggy was born June 28, 1950 in Grand Island, Nebraska to Alex and Des (Demakes) Poulos. She graduated from Grand Island Senior High in 1968 and Kearney State College in 1973.

Peggy married Tim O'Dea on June 15, 1974 in Grand Island, NE. They were blessed with two daughters, Megan and Kate.

Peggy took great joy in her career as an elementary school teacher for 37 years, teaching at Wood River Elementary and Emerson Elementary in Kearney. She retired in 2010. While teaching she was active in local, state, and national educational organizations.

Following her retirement, Peggy continued as a community volunteer serving on the boards of Kearney Public Schools Foundation (served as chair), Good Samaritan Hospital Foundation (served as chair), and Buffalo County Community Partners (serving as co-chair). She volunteered at Good Samaritan Hospital and was an active member of St. James Catholic Church where she helped count the Sunday collection every Monday morning for ten years. Peggy was also an active member of PEO Chapter GG in Kearney. She loved the Kearney community and it loved her right back.

Peggy had many hobbies she loved including quilting & sewing, cooking for others, playing bridge, tending to her flowers, decorating, and lunching with her friends. Together, Tim & Peggy enjoyed road tripping around the country to various destinations, but her favorite was Omaha to see her grandkids. Peggy's greatest joy in life was being 'YiaYia' to

Rex and Poppy. Nothing made her happier than getting to shop for them and read and cuddle during their visits.

Peggy is survived by her husband, Tim O'Dea of Kearney; daughters, Megan and Brian Jenkins of Omaha, NE, Kate O'Dea of Omaha, NE; grandson, Rex Jenkins of Omaha, NE; granddaughter, Poppy Terhaar of Omaha, NE; brother, George and Jody Poullos of Omaha, NE.

Peggy was preceded in death by her parents.

# Previous Events

## Memorial Service

JUN **25**. 10:30 AM (CT)

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

# Tribute Wall



“ *Peggy O'Dea*

January 29, 2023 at 11:14 AM



“ *Lori Bachman purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Peggy O'Dea.*



**Lori Bachman** - June 25, 2021 at 02:41 AM



“ *Tim and family: We are so sorry for your loss. The livestream of Peg's services allowed many of us to join in her services during Covid times. Father Joe provided a wonderful service. He had also done Bruce's service earlier in the week and we had a chance to visit with him. I'm sure he has provided an abundance of support to you, Peg, and your family--as he did for Bruce. When reading Peg's obituary I thought of the fun we had at your wedding and the night before practicing Greek dancing. Fun memories!*

**Al & Sandy Blankenship** - January 08, 2021 at 02:05 PM



“ *1 file added to the album Memorial Service*



**Horner Lieske McBride & Kuhl Funeral and Cremation Services** - January 07, 2021 at 01:36 PM



*A truly beautiful service. My heartfelt condolences to all who knew and loved Peggy. xx  
Lucy Reading-Ikkanda*

**Lucy Reading-Ikkanda** - January 08, 2021 at 11:49 AM

KP

“ Such a beautiful tribute to Peggy! I'm sure she is smiling down in approval. Fr Joe did an outstanding job bringing comfort to you. May her memory be eternal.  
Karen Boosalis Petersen

Karen Petersen - January 07, 2021 at 01:21 PM

DB

“ Tim and family. We don't have a memory to share other than she was a great person and a credit to our community. We are sorry for her passing at a much too early age. Please accept our sympathy in these most difficult times.

Dick and Barb Beechner

Dick Beechner - January 05, 2021 at 09:04 PM

DK

“ I was fortunate to have Mrs. O'Dea for TWO years at Wood River Elementary. No, it was not because I failed but I was fortunate that she moved up a grade after having her for a year (: I know she would appreciate that humor). She was simply the best. A wonderful teacher, counselor and person that you felt cared about you as a young person and student. My thoughts and prayers go out to her family. Just know she impacted many lives in a very positive way. That is a life worth living.



David Kavanaugh - January 05, 2021 at 08:58 PM

SM

“ Tim, Megan, and Kate - so sad to hear this. Peggy was a wonderful, wonderful human being and we are blessed to have known her. We have many great memories, and her life has had such a positive impact on so many people. Rest easy, Peg - you were one of the best. God bless.

Scott, Cindy, Madi & Mason - January 04, 2021 at 05:43 PM

LT

Tim, Megan, Kate, Rex & Poppy, I have been so saddened to hear of our dear Peggy's passing. How lucky you are to have been loved by her. She loved deeply. She was my college friend first, my life friend after that. Work took me east & I got to see Peggy. State cross country took me east & I got to see Peggy & Tim. I shared her excitement & joy of Rex's coming. I'm so glad she got to experience grands. She will be greatly missed, yes, but you could never be more loved. She is watching over you. Rest in peace my dear friend. Linda (Bentley) Thoms

Linda (Bentley) Thoms - January 07, 2021 at 02:24 PM

LT

*Glad she got to experience grands.*

**Linda (Bentley) Thoms** - January 07, 2021 at 02:26 PM

LB

*Tim, Megan, Kate, Rex and Poppy. There aren't enough words, or the right words to describe our love for Peggy. She was like a second daughter to Mom and a big sister to me. All of the memories of growing up on John St., sharing Thanksgiving dinners (and Alex and Dad arguing politics!), watching Alex tend to his garden, seeing her fall in love with you, Tim, and marry, her joy in the births of Megan and Kate, and her overflowing love for her grand babies. We never came back to GI from Colorado without stopping to see our Peggy. We miss her and look forward to the day we will see her, and hug her, again. :)*

**Lori Bachman** - June 25, 2021 at 02:30 AM

FG

“ *Peg was a wonderful friend!! Always a wonderful smile and a positive attitude!! We have such good memories of our times with her. Loved her family so much!!*  
*Fred and Nancy George*

**fred and Nancy George** - January 04, 2021 at 03:12 PM



“ *Fairest of All was purchased for the family of Peggy O'Dea.*



January 04, 2021 at 10:11 AM

CK

“ *Sorry for your loss. You are all in my thoughts and prayers. Cindy Krolikowski*

**Cindy Krolikowski** - January 04, 2021 at 09:57 AM



“ *Serene Retreat was purchased for the family of Peggy O'Dea.*



January 03, 2021 at 07:46 PM

JS

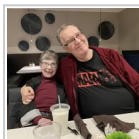
“ Our thoughts and prayers are with you as you mourn the loss of our loved one. Peggy was a very special person. I will always cherish her friendship and the good times we had together. May God bless you all.

Janelle Stadler - January 03, 2021 at 04:57 PM

PF

“ What a wonderful tribute to Peggy! Yes, she always had a smile and comforting words for everyone! We will all miss her dearly! My thoughts and prayers are with the whole family!

Pat Fenoglia - January 03, 2021 at 02:52 PM



“ Tim, I am really sorry for your loss. I didn't really know Peggy having only met her a couple of times at YRTC gatherings, but I know you really loved her so I know she was a special person. My wife Carolyn is also 70 and we were married just a couple of months after you guys were, so I can't imagine the pain that must be in your heart right now. I will be praying for God's help for you and your family to get through the grieving process. -Keith Scheidies

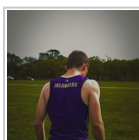
Keith Scheidies - January 03, 2021 at 01:23 PM

MK

“ I had the opportunity to work with Peggy at Wood River Elementary for several years. She was an outstanding teacher and a joy to have on our staff. My thoughts and prayers go to Tim, Megan & Kate.

Mike Kavanaugh

Mike Kavanaugh - January 03, 2021 at 10:11 AM



“ Sorry for your loss. Mrs. O'Dea was one off my favorite teachers at Wood River.

Ben Sidders - January 02, 2021 at 03:29 PM

GS

“ My thoughts and prayers for Tim, Megan & Kate. What a wonderful person and a great person to teach with at Emerson Elementary. I will always remember her smile and positive attitude. Such a fun caring person. Gloria Stover

Gloria Stover - January 02, 2021 at 12:08 PM

KP

“ So sorry to hear of the passing of Peggy. I have known Peggy for well over 50 years. In fact I caught up with her again at our 50th H.S. Year Reunion in Grand Island a few years ago. Her smile could light up a room. She was always so kind and so positive. I am a better person for having known her.

*Our condolences during this difficult time.*

*Kathy Rinder Prentice and husband, Bob  
Arbor Vitae, Wisconsin*

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**Katherine Prentice** - January 02, 2021 at 09:22 AM

LK

“ Larry and Marlene Kuskie purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of Peggy O'Dea.



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**Larry and Marlene Kuskie** - January 01, 2021 at 10:43 PM

DW

“ Prayers of peace and comfort to your family!

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**Diana Walford** - January 01, 2021 at 03:55 PM

CW

“ Peggy was a great friend and colleague at Emerson Elementary. Many Taco John's lunches and so fun to shop for needy families at Christmas. She had a heart of gold and was willing to give to others. We had many laughs together. Prayers to Tim, Megan and Kate and her beautiful grandchildren

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**Cheryl Walker** - January 01, 2021 at 01:17 PM



“ Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Peggy O'Dea.



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January 01, 2021 at 11:57 AM

LB

“ I always loved to visit with Peggy. She was so proud of her girls. Your mother was kind and thoughtful. I am thankful to have known her.

Lorie Berndt - January 01, 2021 at 10:59 AM

GK

“ Sorry to here about Peggy, The Katrouzos Family..

George Katrouzos - January 01, 2021 at 10:42 AM



“ Medium Dish Garden was purchased for the family of Peggy O'Dea.



December 31, 2020 at 10:42 PM

DD

“ You were one of my favorite teachers. Even when you and Mrs Dalton had to pull all of the boys into the classroom and tell us to stop kicking each other in the groins at recess. You were always smiling. And we got to have lunch while I was in college so we could catch up and you could make sure "I was on my way". Loved you as a teacher and more as a friend. Your family is in my thoughts.

Darriel Driml - December 31, 2020 at 10:29 PM

CL

“ Prayers for the Super Tim O'Dea and family. Great family!!

craig loeffelholz - December 31, 2020 at 09:26 PM

MK

“ Mary Kulhavy lit a candle in memory of Peggy O'Dea



Mary Kulhavy - December 31, 2020 at 07:02 PM

CD

“ On my walks I always loved seeing Peggy out in her yard and chatting with her. She was always so cheerful. I could tell from our conversations that Tim, her daughters and those sweet grandchildren meant the world to her. She will be missed. I send my love to her family.

Cherie DeFreece - December 31, 2020 at 05:04 PM

LK

“ Peggy will be missed by her Chapter GG sisters!!! She always brought the fun and the smile to our group....especially through our daytrips she so graciously planned!! Rest In Peace, Peggy. 💕💕

Lori Klone - December 31, 2020 at 02:47 PM

AD

“ She was a joy to work with. Always had that beautiful smile.

Ann Day - December 31, 2020 at 10:10 AM

DF

“ Darleen Farwell lit a candle in memory of Peggy O'Dea



Darleen Farwell - December 30, 2020 at 06:14 PM

DF

“ What a great lady and friend, Peggy, was to me and so many others. I will so miss her - love and hugs to everyone!

Darleen Farwell

Darleen Farwell - December 30, 2020 at 06:14 PM