



## Roberta Ann Nansel

November 23, 1934 - August 7, 2024

Roberta Ann Nansel, age 89, passed away on August 7th, 2024 in Grand Island, Nebraska. Roberta's life will be celebrated on Saturday, August 24, 2024 at 11:00 am at First United Methodist Church in Kearney, NE with Pastor Matt Fowler officiating. The funeral service can be viewed by visiting the church website. Visitation will be at Horner Lieske McBride & Kuhl Funeral and Cremation Services in Kearney, NE on Friday, August 23rd from 5:00-7:00 pm. Private family burial will precede the service at Kearney Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, memorials are suggested to Kearney First United Methodist Church, Kearney Faith United Methodist Church and Primrose Retirement Community of Grand Island. Please visit [www.hlmkfuneral.com](http://www.hlmkfuneral.com) to leave a tribute or message of condolence. Horner Lieske McBride & Kuhl Funeral and Cremation Services of Kearney is in charge of arrangements.

Roberta Ann Hoffman was born on November 23, 1934 to Hugh and Faye (Kolbo) Hoffman in Lodi, Nebraska. Roberta attended Milldale and Triumph School Districts. As a child she loved working with her Dad in the fields and learned to milk cows at the age of 5.

Roberta graduated from Callaway High School in 1952. She was the secretary to the Superintendent of Schools her senior year of high school. Following graduation, she was the legal secretary for Richard (Dick) Brega of Callaway.

Roberta was married to Larry Nansel on August 3rd, 1952 at the Callaway Evangelical United Brethren Church. After Larry was drafted into the United States Army and had completed basic training, they moved to Boston, Massachusetts. While living there, Roberta was employed as a legal secretary by Wasserman and Salter Law firm and also the Hurwitz and Hurwitz Law Firm. After Larry was discharged from the Army, they returned to Callaway and in 1958 they moved to Kearney, Nebraska. Three children were born to this union: Kevin, Christine, and Melanie.

After all three children were in school, Roberta went back to work and served for 5 years as the secretary at Faith United Methodist Church in Kearney. In January of 1972, she was appointed Deputy Clerk of the District Court and served in that position for 7 years. She was then appointed Deputy County Clerk and served for 4 years. In 1982, she ran for the office of County Clerk and was elected for a 4 year term. She was re-elected for three more terms and then retired in January of 1999 after serving 27 years in county government.

Throughout her life Roberta served on several organizations and boards. She served on the board of directors of Kearney Area United Way, on the Nebraska Intergovernmental Data Communications Advisory Council, and was the Liaison to the Buffalo County Red Cross.

During Roberta and Larry's 58 year membership at Faith United Methodist church, she was a Sunday School teacher, member of United Methodist Women, Director of Children's Ministries, and served on many committees. Roberta loved serving the Lord through Stonecroft Ministries where she was an Area Representative, a Consulting Coordinator for Stonecroft Bible Studies, a Bible Study Guide for 28 years, and where she received her certification as a Stonecroft speaker. She was chairman of the After Five Christian Women's Club twice and she and Larry hosted at least 75 different

speakers.

Roberta was very active in the Buffalo County Republican Party. She served as Chairman of the Buffalo County Republican Women's group twice as well as serving on other committees. She received the Certificate of Commendations for Volunteerism from the Buffalo County Republican Party at the Lincoln Day Dinner in February 2010.

Roberta was a charter member of the Buffalo County Legal Secretaries Association. In 1990, Gov. Kay Orr bestowed upon Roberta the Certificate of Admiral of the Great Navy of the State of Nebraska for her contribution to County Government and her dedication to her service on the Nebraska Interogovernmental Data Communication Advisory council.

Roberta and Larry enjoyed traveling, having visited 47 of the 50 States. They went to as many activities of their children and grandchildren as they possibly could. They loved to travel and watch their grandson Seth play baseball from the time he was 7 years old in Omaha until he graduated from TCU and was drafted by the Boston Red Sox. They also traveled to Norway and Finland.

Roberta is survived by her children Kevin and Pat Nansel of Grand Island, Chris and Terry Garrison of Dallas, TX and Melanie and Terry Sheen of Grand Island. Grandchildren Jason Peterson (Kari Rodehorst), Kara Nastase (Sebastian), Seth Garrison (Lauren), Kelsey Johnson (Mark), and Callie Friesen (Luke). Great Grandchildren Aryanna, Vincent, and Elliott Nastase, Abigail, Andrew, Ashton, and Annabelle Garrison, Will, Cora, and Reed Johnson, and Cameron and Brooks Friesen. Also survived by sisters and brothers-in-law Bernita and Craig Meads, Gaylene and Bill Rudy, and Jerry Jorgenson. Other survivors include brothers-in-law and sisters-in-law Lane Nansel, Linda Lawrence, Lee Ann Young, Ron and Em Jorgenson; numerous

cousins, nieces, nephews and friends.

She was preceded in death by her husband Larry, parents Hugh and Faye (Kolbo) Hoffman, parents-in-law Charles and Kitty Nansel, grandson Corey Sheen, sister Dee Olson and in-laws Jim Olson, Karen Nansel, Barb Nansel and Kelly Young.

# Cemetery Details

## Kearney Cemetery

4400 Avenue I  
Kearney, NE 68847

# Previous Events

## Visitation

**AUG 23.** 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

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

## Celebration of Life Service

**AUG 24.** 11:00 AM (CT)

First United Methodist Church  
4500 Linden Drive  
Kearney, NE 68847

# Tribute Wall

TF

“ *The Collins and Bergstrom families planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Roberta Ann Nansel.*

The Collins and Bergstrom families - August 21, 2024 at 10:32 AM

TF

“ *The Collins and Bergstrom families purchased the Enchanted Cottage for the family of Roberta Ann Nansel.*



The Collins and Bergstrom families - August 21, 2024 at 10:32 AM



“ *Kevin, Chris and Melanie.*  
*Sirkku and I are very sorry for your loss and you have our deepest condolences. You were blessed to have such a warm and loving mom. Aunt Roberta lived a good and long life with many family members and friends around her.*  
*As you all know I first met her in 1977 when I came to the USA as an exchange student and joined the Youngs and the Nansels for a year. She made me always feel as a real family member.*  
*Sirkku and I will always remember Aunt Roberta as a person with a heart of gold and we feel fortunate that we got to know her and also have her twice as our quest here in Finland.*  
*Now she is in Heaven with those loved ones who passed away before her. Aunt Roberta will always remain in our hearts.*

*With love, Pekka and Sirkku*

Pekka Niiranen - August 19, 2024 at 02:48 PM

JH

“ I'm so very sorry for the loss of the beautiful Roberta. I feel so blessed to have met her a few years ago at Primrose. I can only imagine the amazing reunion she had with all of her loved ones, but especially sweet Corey! What glory and pure joy. May God bring you all comfort and strength and may all the wonderful memories bring your hearts peace until you meet again. Love Jacy Rodysill Horst, Haley and Braden

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**Jacy Rodysill Horst** - August 16, 2024 at 02:17 PM

LF

“ Lawrence & Stryker Families planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Roberta Ann Nansel.

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**Lawrence & Stryker Families** - August 14, 2024 at 04:38 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Roberta Ann Nansel.



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August 14, 2024 at 04:38 PM

LA

“ Heaven has gained a beautiful angel when she was invited into God's kingdom.

When Larry and Roberta moved to Primrose we gained a very special couple to be a part of the Primrose family. I helped walk with them through some challenging times with Larry. We learned to lean on each other, pray with one another and laugh with each other.

We loved baseball together. They loved TCU and I loved A&M.

Roberta and I would text back and forth during the College World Series or Little League World Series.

Roberta started drawing pictures and sharing a word of encouragement during the early stages of COVID when we had to deliver lunches to the apartment! She knew just what we needed.

My deepest sympathies to her special family. May you find peace in each new day.

Lisa Asche

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**Lisa Asche** - August 14, 2024 at 02:08 PM

JN

Roberta was a great woman. I always enjoyed seeing her at the Nansel reunions.

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**Jeanette Nansel** - August 14, 2024 at 06:39 PM

NG

Our sincere sympathy in the passing of your mother and grandmother. May your many memories be special blessings. Norma & Tony Gauthier

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**Norma Gauthier** - August 15, 2024 at 01:24 PM

TS

“ Melanie, Chris and Kevin,  
Deepest sympathy to you during this time. As Janelle has said, your parents were such good friends to our parents. Larry and Roberta touched many lives. I remember always being greeted in church with a smile and genuine interest in you.  
Thoughts and Prayers,  
Tim Storer

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Tim Storer - August 14, 2024 at 12:01 PM

JL

“ Roberta was a sweetheart! When we adopted our son and had no clothes or supplies, she immediately put together a shower for us!  
□. Special blessings to your family Kevin! Your parents were very dear to us!!!!💜. JoAnn

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JoAnn. Lilly - August 12, 2024 at 11:15 AM

MV

Roberta and my mom Marlys Bauer were great friends went to Bible studies together and in the same church for years . The Nansel family name was one that came up often.  
The last time I saw Roberta was at my mom's funeral two years ago. My deepest condolences to the family. She was a wonderful lady and woman of God.

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marci van vleet - September 03, 2024 at 01:53 AM

MV

Van Vleet

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marci van vleet - September 03, 2024 at 01:54 AM

KL

“ *Roberta was such a good Bible study teacher. If you didn't understand something she would clear it for you. She will be missed.* ”



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**kathleen larson** - August 09, 2024 at 01:17 PM

TE

“ *We sure have great memories of Bert! Steve and I both treasured their friendship and look forward to seeing them down the road! Death takes the body BUT GOD takes the soul - !* ”

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**Terri** - August 08, 2024 at 08:34 PM

MM

“ *Kevin and family I send you my sympathy and condolences. May your Mother rest in peace and may your memories be of comfort.* ”

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**Monica Ayoub McClure** - August 08, 2024 at 07:18 PM

PC

“ *Many early morning Bible Studies with this fine lady.....* ”

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**Patty Candy** - August 08, 2024 at 10:01 AM

TE

*Me too!*

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**Terri** - August 08, 2024 at 08:35 PM

JB

“ Dear Kevin, Chris and Mel,  
I have wonderful memories of your family from my childhood. Your parents were great mentors for us. They were such good friends to our parents. I won't forget how wonderful she was.  
Thoughts and prayers,  
Janelle Scheetz Beatty

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**Janelle Beatty** - August 07, 2024 at 09:28 PM

JJ

Melanie, Chris and Kevin, I am so sorry for your loss. Your parents were both true gems and they both leave a huge hole in your lives. I'll always be thankful for your mom as a boss and mentor.  
Sincere sympathy extended along with love and hugs  
Judy Jobman

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**Judy Jobman** - August 09, 2024 at 09:52 AM

EB

Kevin, Chris and Melanie, Your mother was very special. Your family was a very important part of our lives when we lived in Kearney. My thoughts and prayers to each of you.  
Esther Storer Burgland.

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**Esther Storer Burgland** - August 10, 2024 at 07:31 PM

MD

Roberta, your mind was as sharp as a tack! You were the one to go to if we needed any information.....how you remembered so many birthdays, I'll never know. So proud to have you in our family. The Lord decided to give you a rest.....lucky Larry!!!!

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**Marguerite Doucet** - August 14, 2024 at 11:53 AM

PS

Kevin, Chris, and Mel  
So sorry for your loss. Bert was so good at organizing the Mason reunions we all enjoyed. So sorry we are no longer able to travel to be with you but will remember all the fun we had together. Pat Scott

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**Pat Scott** - August 17, 2024 at 12:47 PM