



## Ruth P. Schmitz

October 29, 1942 - June 13, 2024

Ruth Patricia Schmitz, 81, of Kearney, died June 13, 2024 in Tucson, Arizona. A Funeral Mass will be 10:30 am, June 25, 2024 at Prince of Peace Catholic Church with Fr. Paul Colling officiating. Burial will follow the service at Kearney Cemetery. Visitation will be 5:00 to 7:00 pm, June 24, 2024 at Horner Lieske McBride & Kuhl Funeral and Cremation Services and one hour prior to the service Tuesday at the church. Memorials are suggested to the University of Nebraska Foundation to the Glen Schmitz Family Scholarship Fund. The service will be streamed and can be viewed by visiting <https://www.youtube.com/@princeofpeacecatholicchurc9605/streams> and selecting live video Schmitz Funeral. The stream will be live at approx. 10:20 a.m.

Ruth Patricia Schmitz was born in Deer Park, Washington on October 29, 1942 to Rev. Frank and Hazel Workentine. She was raised in Ekalaka, MT and Eagle Butte, SD and attended college at Rocky Mountain College in Billings, MT and Northern State College in Aberdeen, SD. While she was teaching business in high schools near Aberdeen, she completed her Masters in Bus. Education at Northern and then moved to California to teach in a Business College in Los Angeles for 1 year before moving to teach at Central State College in Warrensburg, Missouri. During the 4 years she taught at Warrensburg, she earned her Specialist in Bus. Administration degree and co-authored a college-level computerized accounting practice set text published by Macmillian Publishing. Ruth moved to Kearney in 1972 to begin teaching at

Kearney State College. On May 17, 1974, Ruth was united in marriage to Raymond John Schmitz, who also taught at Kearney State College. She continued to teach as well as being Program Director for her department for 3 years and Department Chair for 4 years. While teaching, Ruth went on to write 9 more college level, computer related textbooks published by Mitchell Publishing and Mc-Graw Hill Publishing. Ruth retired from U.N.K. in 2004. She was a long-time member of the Eagles Auxiliary, American Legion Auxiliary, and several school associations. She was also a member in Prince of Peace Catholic Church. Ruth enjoyed playing cards—especially bridge, traveling—frequently to Arizona or California during winter, and reading.

Ruth is survived by her daughter Keli Viereck and husband Dave Naehring of Houston, TX; son John Schmuser of West Fargo, ND; granddaughters Amanda Viereck and Nicollet Schmuser; sister Olive and Billie Cochran of Green Valley, AZ; brother John Workentine and Rebecca of Charlotte, NC; as well as several nieces and nephews.

Ruth was preceded by her husband, son Glen Schmitz, parents, and sister Grace Thorson.

# Cemetery Details

## Kearney Cemetery

4400 Avenue I  
Kearney, NE 68847

# Previous Events

## Visitation

JUN **24.** 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

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

## Funeral Mass

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

Prince of Peace Catholic Church  
2407 W 56th Street  
Kearney, NE 68845

# Tribute Wall

VK

“ I have known Ruth at Unk as a colleague in the College of Business and Technolgy and she has been a great mentor to me when I first came in 1986. She was a kind, thoughtful and affectionate person and helped me in several ways for which I am always thankful. May her Soul Rest in Peace and my sincere condolences to the family



*vani Kotcherlakota*

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**vani kotcherlakota** - July 01, 2024 at 11:46 AM

SC

“ Sharon C. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Ruth P. Schmitz.

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**Sharon C.** - June 21, 2024 at 07:00 AM

SC

“ I’m grateful that I had the opportunity to meet Ruth many years ago and spend time with her, she is a lovely lady and she is my daughter’s birth mother. There has always been, and will continue to be, a place in my heart filled with gratitude for her. If not for Ruth, our family would not have this lovely, wonderful, smart, kind, generous and loving wife, mother, sister, daughter and aunt in our lives today. I’m very grateful my daughter had the opportunity to meet and become friends with Ruth, it was such a sweet blessing for both of them. I’m also grateful that Ruth was able to meet and come to know my dear and precious granddaughter. I’m happy she had the opportunity to know her son and his daughter as well. We are all God’s children, one family living together in harmony, loved and loving. God bless you, Ruth, He’s holding you in His heavenly arms. Sharon Crandall and family

Sharon Crandall - June 21, 2024 at 06:45 AM

JS

Thank you for sharing such loving thoughts. Sincere condolences to the entire family. She will be missed.  
Janet Syrup Moorhead MN

Janet Syrup - June 25, 2024 at 07:38 PM

PZ

Beautiful message.

Patty McCarthy Zarybnicky - June 26, 2024 at 10:05 PM

AV

“ Amanda Viereck planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Ruth P. Schmitz.

Amanda Viereck - June 19, 2024 at 06:59 PM

AV

“ Amanda Viereck purchased the Beautiful Dreams for the family of Ruth P. Schmitz.



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**Amanda Viereck** - June 19, 2024 at 06:59 PM

ES

“ We’ve known and enjoyed Ruth for over 30 years. Always pleasant and fun and a great administrator; former UNK colleague of Don’s. We know Ruth now rests comfortably in the arms of our Lord. We will always remember her fondly.

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**Elaine Sluti** - June 19, 2024 at 12:32 PM

SC

*I’m grateful that I had the opportunity to meet Ruth many years ago and spend time with her, she is a lovely lady and she is my daughter’s birth mother. There has always been, and will continue to be, a place in my heart filled with gratitude for her. If not for Ruth, our family. Would not have this lovely, wonderful, smart, kind, generous and loving wife, mother, sister, daughter and aunt in our lives today. I’m very glad my daughter had the opportunity to meet and become friends with Ruth, it was such a sweet blessing for both of them. I’m also grateful that Ruth had the opportunity to meet and come to know my dear and precious granddaughter. I’m happy she had the opportunity to know her son and his daughter as well. We are all God’s children, one family living together in harmony, loved and loving. God bless you, Ruth, He’s holding you in His heavenly arms. Sharon Crandall and family*

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**Sharon Crandall** - June 20, 2024 at 04:42 PM



“ *Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Ruth P. Schmitz.*



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June 18, 2024 at 08:38 PM



“ *Kaitlyn, Kara, Kendall & Kam Angeletti planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Ruth P. Schmitz.*

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**Kaitlyn, Kara, Kendall & Kam Angeletti** - June 18, 2024 at 08:38 PM