



Shelly Lynn Achterberg

February 6, 1961 - March 29, 2026

Shelly Lynn (Crawford) Achterberg aged 65 of Alma Nebraska passed away March 29 at Kearney Regional Medical Center from complications of small cell lung cancer.

She was born February 6, 1961, in Hastings Nebraska, the oldest of two children born to Gaylord Crawford and Carolyn (Schutte) Crawford. She was baptized at Faith Lutheran Church in Hastings Nebraska. As a small child she moved with her parents to Lexington Nebraska where her father was employed by Capitol Bridge of Lincoln, Nebraska building bridges and overpasses on Interstate 80. Her brother Scott joined the family in 1963. They later moved to Wahoo Nebraska then to David City Nebraska where her father was employed by the Nebraska State Patrol for 7 years. They then moved back to the Hastings area when her father purchased Willow Lake Fish Hatchery from her maternal grandparents.

Shelly attended Zion Lutheran School in Hastings from 5th grade through 8th grade. She was confirmed at Zion Lutheran Church. Her confirmation verse was Matthew 28:19-20. She attended Adams Central High School for two years, then Hastings High School graduating in 1979. She continued to work and live in the Hastings area. Her daughter Kendra was born in 1982. In 1998 she met Larry Achterberg from Amherst Nebraska. They were married August 27, 1999, at Holy Cross Lutheran Church in Kearney Nebraska. They lived on

a farm northwest of Amherst for the next 15 years. They sold their farm in 2014 and moved to Alma Nebraska. She loved lake life and being a prayer warrior for countless people. She was a member of Mt Calvary Lutheran Church in Holdrege and attended Grace Lutheran in Franklin.

She is survived by her husband Larry of Alma, Father Gaylord of Hastings, Daughter Kendra of Orleans Nebraska, 4 grandchildren Gabby Bly of rural Phillipsburg Kansas, Christian, Seth, and EJ Bly of rural Kenesaw, niece Hanah of Hastings, and several aunts and uncles and numerous cousins and friends.

She was preceded in death by her grandparents, her brother Scott and her mother.

Memorial services will be at a later date at Mt Calvary Lutheran Church Holdrege Nebraska. Memorials are suggested to Mt. Calvary Lutheran Church.

Jude 24-25!!

Tribute Wall



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Shelly Lynn Achterberg.

April 17 at 09:49 AM



“ Serene Retreat was purchased for the family of Shelly Lynn Achterberg.



April 17 at 09:49 AM



“ Larry, I am so sorry for your loss. Shelly was always so sweet when I visited with her at church. I pray that God grants you peace of heart and mind knowing that one day we will be reunited with her in heaven.

Nancy Hanson - April 06 at 11:04 AM



“ So sorry to hear of Shelly's passing. We are waiting to hear when the memorial service will be held. Larry, you are in our thoughts and prayers for comfort and peace during this difficult time. Love, Dale and Cinda

Cinda Hladky - April 02 at 03:28 PM

SM

“ Sue May lit a candle in memory of Shelly Lynn Achterberg



Sue May - March 31 at 12:04 PM

SM

“ I am going to miss her. She always would send me a text message every day saying, " Sis, how can I pray for you and Leonard." She looked forward to the daily devotional that I sent her every night from my YouBibleVersion app.

She also texted and prayed for our son, Andy, Lauren, and their son, Nico. Missionaries for Campus Crusade for Christ.

Sue May - March 31 at 12:02 PM