



## Stanley N. "Stan" Longfellow

February 5, 1933 - June 5, 2019

Stanley N. "Stan" Longfellow, 86, of Kearney, died Wednesday, June 5, 2019, at Mother Hull Home in Kearney. A celebration of his life will be at 11 a.m. Wednesday at Horner Lieske McBride & Kuhl Funeral Home and Cremation Services with Stan Dart officiating. Visitation will be 6:30-8:30 p.m. Tuesday at the funeral home. Memorials are suggested to the University of Nebraska at Kearney Foundation or Peru State College Foundation.

He was born Feb. 5, 1933, in Green Forest, Ark., to Ernest and G.D. (Norris) Longfellow. He was the middle child of three siblings and said that explained a lot. The family moved to Peru, Neb., in about 1935 and made Peru their home.

He graduated from Peru Prep High School in 1951 and from Peru State College with a BA in 1954. He served in the U.S. Army Medical Corps from 1954-1956 and was stationed at Seattle. He earned his master's degree from Peru State College in 1961 and did graduate work at the University of Wisconsin under a National Science Foundation grant in 1961-62. He was awarded his Ph.d from Kansas State University in 1980.

He taught biology and science for four years at Brock High School and taught biology for three years at Lyons High School and was the principal there.

While at Lyons, he met the home economics teacher, Gay Nelson, and they were married on Aug. 28, 1965. They had three children, twins Jay and Kent (who died in childhood) and Vance.

The family lived in Peru from 1965-66 while he taught at Peru State College. He then began a 33-year career of teaching biology at Kearney State College and the University of Nebraska at Kearney. He was published in the Platte Valley Review, was a member of the Ornithology Union and was a member of the Beta Beta Beta biology honorary. He enjoyed teaching and was always pleased when years later former students told him they enjoyed his classes. He taught gun safety classes for the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission and was proud to have passed that information on to young people. He loved the outdoors, hunting, fishing and morel mushroom hunting. Stan was fascinated with birds and his knowledge about them was endless. His other passion was golf, and he had three holes -in-one in his playing days. Stan loved all sports, especially watching his boys play. He was an excellent volleyball player and bowler. He followed the Huskers, the Kansas City Royals and all Loper sports.

As a family, the Longfellows enjoyed attending the College World Series and watching Storm hockey. Family vacations usually included geography investigations, biology adventures and golf games.

Stan is survived by his wife, Gay of Kearney; sons, Vance and his wife, Kim, of Kearney and Jay of Minden; and grandson Jaden of Kearney.

He was preceded in death by his son, Kent; his parents; his brothers, Jack and David; and his nephew Michael Lane.

# Previous Events

## Visitation

JUN 11. 6:30 PM - 8:30 PM (CT)

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

## Memorial Service

JUN 12. 11:00 AM (CT)

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

# Tribute Wall



“ *Stanley N. "Stan" Longfellow*

January 29, 2023 at 11:14 AM



“ *Dear Gay, Vance and Kim, Jay and Jaden, Charles and Nancy Peek send our sympathy to you all. We truly value the friendships and connections we have through UNK and other happy Kearney associations. We pray for peace and comfort as you go forward, and we wish all of you well. Gay, we will send a memorial to the UNK Foundation.*

*Love, Nancy and Charles Peek*

**Nancy Peek** - June 10, 2019 at 04:57 PM



“ *Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Stanley N. "Stan" Longfellow.*



June 10, 2019 at 04:26 PM



“ *The UNK Biology Department purchased the Serene Retreat for the family of Stanley N. "Stan" Longfellow.*



**The UNK Biology Department** - June 10, 2019 at 03:03 PM

KM

“ *My deepest condolences to the Longfellow family. It is impossible to think about my teenage years and not remember the Longfellow's. Jay and I played baseball together for 5 years and we spent many afternoons at the Longfellow house raiding the fridge (thank you!) and picking on Vance (sorry!). Stan would frequently drive us to away ball games and was constantly pointing out different species of birds. Stan was always generous and happy, even though we tested his and Gay's patience with our antics. I have always remembered their kindness and friendship with great fondness. Thank you for the love and guidance you provided. Stan will be missed but never forgotten.*



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**Kevin Methe** - June 10, 2019 at 02:20 PM

DP

“ *Daren Pittman lit a candle in memory of Stanley N. "Stan" Longfellow*



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**Daren Pittman** - June 09, 2019 at 08:36 PM

BH

“ *Kathy and I would like to send our condolences to the Longfellow family. We would like to send our sympathy to Gay, Vince, & Jay. Kathy and Gay sold real estate in the same office for several years and we became acquainted with their family through this contact. At this time we pray you can draw from your memories and the good times you had with your husband and father. Stan enjoyed life and the people around him.*

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**Bill Holliday** - June 08, 2019 at 09:08 PM