



## Larry Dale Arganbright

January 22, 1948 - December 13, 2018

Memorials to Larry Arganbright Seminary Scholarship Fund or the Worship Arts Ministry at Bethany.

Larry Arganbright, age 70, of Elkhorn, NE, went to his heavenly home on Dec. 13, 2018 after courageously battling brain cancer. "Pastor Larry" lovingly and joyfully dedicated his life to others in ministry for 44 years.

Larry was born January 22, 1948 in Marysville, KS, and was raised by his mother, Alma Arganbright, and his aunts Luetta (Don) Trauernicht and Helen (Raymond) Hogelucht with his four siblings near Wymore, NE. He was involved in high school basketball, football and track and graduated from Barneston, NE in 1966. Being raised on his uncles' farms, throwing hay bales, and milking cows, Larry realized early on that farming was not his "spiritual gift," and he decided to enter Kearney State College to pursue a business education degree. In college, he joined the Beta Sigma Psi (Lutheran fraternity) and made lifelong connections with new brothers.

While attending KSC, Larry met the love of his life, Sharon Dreier, who he spent the next 50 years with. They were married in Arapahoe, NE, on June 8, 1969. During his senior year of college, Larry felt a calling to go into ministry, and entered Wartburg Lutheran Seminary in Dubuque, IA. Their first daughter, Cherrish, was born in his first year in seminary, and then Larry served his internship year at Immanuel Lutheran in Lincoln, IL, where he and Sharon made lifelong friends. In 1974, their second daughter, Honnor, was born while finishing seminary. In the summer of 1974, Larry was ordained at his home church in Wymore, NE, and moved to Oberlin, KS where he began his life of ministry at Faith Lutheran.

For the next 44 years, Larry fulfilled his calling and shared his gifts serving in three congregations. At each church, he built close relationships, connected people, led each church community to a real application of faith in their lives, and lived as an example of Jesus' humble, inclusive love. After serving 7 years at Faith Lutheran, Larry was called to be lead pastor at Bethany Lutheran Church in Elkhorn, NE, in 1981. Sheridan Lutheran in Lincoln, NE invited Larry as their lead pastor in 1998. In 2010, Larry was surprised when

he was contacted by the synod asking him to return to Bethany Lutheran in Elkhorn to revitalize the congregation. During his years of ministry, he was continuously envisioning how the spirit could build each congregational community. Larry oversaw the relocation of two church campuses, led spirited worship services, and exponentially grew congregation sizes by drawing people to a living church where love and acceptance were central. He truly loved sharing intimate moments in people's faith lives including thousands of weddings, baptisms, funerals, and worship services.

Larry was also active in the communities in which he lived. He coached his daughters' youth teams, volunteered at the Elkhorn fire and rescue squad, and energetically supported local schools' athletic and art activities. Because of this dedication to community, he received the outstanding service to youth award in 1988.

Family was another central joy of Larry's life. Larry lovingly welcomed each addition to the original Arganbright foursome: two exchange student daughters, two sons-in-law, and four grandchildren. He often said that his daughters' weddings and the births of his grandchildren were among the best days of his life. He always made time for family, playing cards and board games, attending activities, or playing with grandkids in the yard. In recent years, he loved spending time fishing and relaxing with family at their lake cabin in Minnesota. He loved connecting with his siblings, nieces, nephews, and cousins, and Larry was the most gracious host, always making sure that everyone felt welcomed and cared for and was having a good time.

Larry had the amazing gift of connecting with people where they were, and somehow knowing what a person needed before they themselves knew. Through a handshake, hug, or smile, Larry showed people that they were special, important and loved. Larry will be remembered as a child of God who embodied the grace of God in such a way that drew individuals, families, and communities together. His love of others reflected his deep faith, his transparency and humor were contagious, and his compassion and leadership amplified God's Kingdom wherever he lived and served. There will never be another Larry.

Larry is survived by his wife, Sharon; daughters Cherrish (Matt) Holland and Honor (Joe) Orlando; grandchildren Wolzen and Miller (Holland) and Lorenzo and Gianna (Orlando); brothers Al (Judy) Henrichs and Jerry (Glenda) Arganbright; sister Nancy (Ted) Cook; aunt Luetta Trauernicht; cousin Mark (Joey) Trauernicht; mother-in-law Donna Shafer; and countless loved in-laws, cousins, nieces, nephews, and friends.

# Cemetery

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# Events

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## Lynden Cemetery

**DEC 17**   **Visitation**   10:00AM - 08:00PM

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Bethany Lutheran Church  
4200 N 204th Street, Elkhorn, NE, US, 68022

**DEC 18**   **Service**   01:00PM

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Bethany Lutheran Church  
4200 N 204th Street, Elkhorn, NE, US, 68022

**DEC 19**   **Graveside**   02:00PM

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Lynden Cemetery, Hendley, NE  
US

# Comments

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“ An external video has been added.



**Reichmuth Funeral Home** - December 17, 2018 at 11:57 AM

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“ Pastor Larry was instrumental in bringing my husband, Dean Ubben, back to God in 1999 after Dean survived cardiac arrest. I was so grateful that I could be sure Jesus welcomed Dean into Heaven when he passed away in 2005 and I will see him again. I just learned that Pastor Larry has gone to Heaven as well. I am sorry for your family's loss. May God bless and keep you and your family.

**Judi Ubben Carpenter** - May 17, 2020 at 10:29 PM

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“ My deepest sympathy to the family for the loss of such a wonderful person.

**jeannette huxoll** - December 18, 2018 at 11:04 AM

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“ Having Pastor Larry, Sharon, and the girls was such an awesome time at Faith Lutheran and the whole Oberlin community. Larry confirmed my oldest son Jarl and also Heidi. Jared was in Cherrish's class Marty and I had the Coast To Coast store and Carol Witt and I had the womens ready to wear store called The Peddlers Two. Will always remember the good times and thoughts and prayers to you Sharon, Cherrish and Honor. .

**Sharon MartinsonSmith** - December 18, 2018 at 10:57 AM

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“ Pheasants Forever Development Team purchased the Country Basket Blooms for the family of Larry Dale Arganbright.



Pheasants Forever Development Team - December 18, 2018 at 10:23 AM

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“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Larry Dale Arganbright.



December 18, 2018 at 01:01 AM

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“ Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Larry Dale Arganbright.



December 17, 2018 at 11:26 PM

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“ I have so many wonderful memories of Larry, from the first time we met when he and his siblings came to live with Uncle Don & Aunt Luetta, they were not the "other side of the family", they were immediately cousins and I have so many wonderful memories of childhood shared. We then reconnected my first year at Kearney State, I think it was Larry's last year there. On to his pastoring us at Sheridan Lutheran in Lincoln and officiating our vow renewal on our 35th wedding anniversary. Through all I remember someone who was kind, funny (sometimes even goofy), and had the biggest smile in the world. I feel so privileged to have him as family and friend. I mourn your loss with you as I know what a large part of your hearts went with him. I pray that you can take comfort knowing he is in the arms of his Lord and Savior, no longer hurting, and in the promise that all of us who believe will be reunited with those we love.

Diane Trauernicht Baird

Diane Trauernicht Baird - December 17, 2018 at 05:13 PM

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“ Florist Choice Bouquet was purchased for the family of Larry Dale Arganbright.



December 17, 2018 at 12:40 PM

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“ Pastor Larry was such an important part of Rick and my life. He ministered to us every time I called and needed some guidance. He was the BEST pastor we have ever had, his smile was awesome as were his hugs. He greeted everyone into our church with wonderful hospitality. We will miss his wonderful sermons with the jokes in them and then as he continued to preach the spirit bumps would come. One time I called them goose bumps and he said, "no Marie those are Spirit bumps". The Holy Spirit is moving you! Ever since that time when they come to me I think of him. We will miss him but he was ready to go be with his Father in heaven. Our love and sympathy to Sharon, Cherrish, Honor and all his family. May God give you all peace, strength and love. Love, Rick & Marie

Marie Witt - December 17, 2018 at 11:29 AM

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“ Thank you Reverend Larry Dale Arkansas right for all of your years of service and the Lutheran Church and a memory of growing up I have with you and your separate liens with your mother Elma and Wymore Barnes to Nebraska around her and the memory of my parents Irvine and Darlene Mailande and a family my condolences to your awesome airplanes and the app family epp and Jerry and I want to thank you for your education of Christianity to so many families and you throughout Elkorn Nebraska love and God bless your family love for all our Wymre Nebraska family's and friends Marlene Mailahn and family

**William Kinney** - December 16, 2018 at 10:21 PM

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“ Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Larry Dale Arganbright.



December 16, 2018 at 03:46 PM

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“ Peace and comfort to you all at this sad time of loss. May God Be With You--  
Sincerely, Carol Meyer

**Carol Meyer** - December 16, 2018 at 03:02 PM

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“ Jim and Susie Ladd purchased the Emerald Garden Basket for the family of Larry Dale Arganbright.



**Jim and Susie Ladd** - December 16, 2018 at 02:43 PM

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“ What a wonderful Pastor to work for and with for two years before I retired! Pastor Larry was the same in the office as he was preaching on Sundays and greeting his congregation. He was an honest, warm and loving man of GOD!!

He loved to joke and kid around.... he would come into the office in the morning and say, "good morning Constance" (which I only went by Connie); so I decided to return with a "good morning, Lawrence". His smile always lit up the room.

Bethany has been blessed with a true servant of GOD!!

Deepest Sympathy and Love,  
Connie Miller

**Connie R Miller** - December 16, 2018 at 11:39 AM

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“ He was such an amazing person, and truly made a difference in my life! He will be missed.

**William and Carolyn Diaz** - December 15, 2018 at 10:24 PM

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“ Nothing we can say would make the hurt go away -- but know our prayers are for peace and comfort for you, Sharon, and all the family. Suzanne & Chan Tyrrell

**Suzanne Tyrrell** - December 15, 2018 at 03:36 PM

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“ Lavender Reflections Spray was purchased for the family of Larry Dale Arganbright.



December 15, 2018 at 01:13 PM

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“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Larry Dale Arganbright.



December 15, 2018 at 12:01 PM

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“ Larry was always a positive person with a broad smile and caring manner. Loved beyond words and will be greatly missed. God's peace.

**Mary Wolzen** - December 15, 2018 at 11:26 AM

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“ Small Garden Dish was purchased for the family of Larry Dale Arganbright.



December 14, 2018 at 10:04 PM

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“ Larry was a fellow Beta Sig at UNK. In 1979 Larry was gracious enough to preside over my brother's funeral service in Benkelman, Nebraska while he was at Faith Lutheran in Oberlin, Kansas. I will be forever grateful for that. A few years ago I was privileged to worship with his congregation and fellow Beta Sigs in Lincoln. May brother Larry Rest In Peace with our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

**Rod Ochsner** - December 14, 2018 at 09:43 PM

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“ No words.....Just Love and long "full of comfort" Hugs !  
Your Friend: Smitty  
and Dan

**Janet** - December 14, 2018 at 11:31 AM



“ Davane and Brenda Dreessen purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Larry Dale Arganbright.



**Davane and Brenda Dreessen** - December 14, 2018 at 11:04 AM

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“ Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Larry Dale Arganbright.



December 14, 2018 at 10:40 AM

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“ We loved Pastor Larry and we're happy he'll be with his heavenly father now. We pray for our living Lord to comfort his family and all who mourn his loss. He was a wonderful pastor who will be sorely missed. Dennis and Julie Johnson, Sheridan Lutheran Church

**Dennis and Julie Johnson** - December 14, 2018 at 09:37 AM

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“ Every Sunday we will always remember sitting in our seat before service and Pastor Larry coming by with a big smile and shaking our hands and saying "Good morning Kids". Being "80" he always made us feel so warm and happy. Wonderful person. Thank you Larry for all you have done.  
Gary and Donna Lortz

**Gary and Donna Lortz** - December 14, 2018 at 08:25 AM

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“ I will never forget Pastor Larry’s bright smile when he came to see me in the hospital. I was very sick, but he brought hope, energy and even a laugh or two during a time that was pretty crazy difficult for me and my family. His ability to find humor yet show incredible compassion at the same time is pretty empowering. Pastor Larry fought the good fight and he finished the race here on earth well, bravely and with faith. Such a privilege to know him and Sharon as well

**Angie Jorgensen** - December 13, 2018 at 11:08 PM