



Karen Ehlers Smelser

June 14, 1955 - September 8, 2016

Smelser, Karen E age 61 years of Elkhorn, NE

Survived by husband Rick; Son Ryan of Cedar Rapids, IA; brothers and sisters-in-law Ken and Debbie Ehlers of Marathon, IA, Rich and Marilyn Ehlers of Laurens, IA, Don and Marjean Ehlers of Maryville, MO and Kevin and Bonnie Ehlers of Sioux Rapids, IA; mother-in-law Ann Smelser of Elkhorn, NE; Brother-in-law Gary (Cathy) Smelser of Ames, IA; Visitation Tuesday noon to 8 PM with family receiving friends from 5 to 8 PM at the funeral home; Funeral Wednesday 10 AM at Zion Lutheran Church West (142 & Ida St.) Interment Prospect Hill Cemetery; Memorials to the American Cancer Society.

Condolences to www.reichmuthfuneralhomes.com

Reichmuth Funeral Home

21901 W. Maple Rd. 402-289-2222

Tribute Wall



“ Karen Ehlers Smelser

December 10, 2022 at 09:12 AM



“ Rick - I know it has been years, but I was so sorry to hear about your loss. I was talking to Joe Tucker about his mother's passing and he told me about Karen's death. I hope that all the good memories and your faith give you comfort and strength in these difficult days. After all these years, I still have a place in my heart for that sweet, smiling man I sat next to for so many days in the band room of THS. Again, my deepest condolence. I read of an epitaph on an Irish grave stone that said, "Death leaves a heartache no one can heal, love leaves a memory no one can steal." I'm sure there are a multitude of loving memories that Karen gave you.

Gary Overdorf - November 04, 2016 at 09:56 PM

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“ My deepest sympathies to the entire Ehlers family and to Karen's husband & son. I think all of us in the class of 1973 would agree that Karen was one of the nicest and kindest people ever. I have so many wonderful memories of her...playing basketball together, playing clarinet (she was phenomenal and of course first chair...umm, I was a little further back!), Homecoming week fun, class plays, Home Ec class, overnights at her house...I could go on. I was truly blessed with her friendship. We had a lot of laughs together and she would get so tickled! There is one certain innocent adventure we had (which I can't and won't share!) and we both just belly laughed when it happened! I always think of Karen when this "adventure" has almost happened to me several times since then. Karen, I am a better person for having had you in my life...rest in peace my dear friend.

Sheri (Scheiber) Hotz, Class of 1973 - September 30, 2016 at 12:30 PM

LD

“ Your loss must feel incomprehensible right now. Erin and I were shocked when we were heard the news. We're sorry for your loss. Know that we're here for you to lean on during this difficult time.

Luis & Erin Dietsche - September 13, 2016 at 08:50 PM

JE

“ Rick & Family,

I am so sorry to hear of your loss of wife and mother. Having recently lost my own father I can only image the pain your going through but know that we are thinking of you. Our prayers are with you all during this difficult time.

Jim Elliott - September 12, 2016 at 11:28 AM