



Keefe Lorn Lodwig

August 3, 1943 - January 27, 2023

Keefe Lorn Lodwig was born in Omaha Aug. 3, 1943. Parents were Opal and Keefe Lodwig Sr and he had two older sisters Loretta and Sue. Keefe's father passed away when he was 4 years old and his mother and sisters raised him. They lived in South Omaha and the children went to St. Anthony's elementary.

Keefe's mother wanted to keep him out of trouble and since he did not have a male role model, she decided to have Keefe join the swimming team at the downtown YMCA. After 6 months of learning how to swim, Keefe won the Omaha City championships for the 10yrs and under in freestyle. And that is when his true love for swimming began. Keefe graduated from Benson H.S in 1962 and proceeded to get a scholarship for swimming at the University of Nebraska Lincoln. At the University he became an All American and made a name for himself as a respectable competitor. In his senior year at UNL he was invited to the White House as a nationally ranked swimmer and part of the Olympic training team. After graduating from UNL, in 1966, Keefe married Bonnie Wells.

Keefe was active member of his community. Keefe and Bonnie started selling items to schools such as combs, calendars, candy bars etc and that is how All American Fund Raising began, in 1969. As the business grew more lucrative, they built a warehouse in Waterloo, which Keefe had a basketball court and weight room added on to it to help encourage community fitness and youth

sports. Keefe, being heavily involved, created All American teams in the community for kids, coaching and supporting every child that he came into contact with. He sponsored all kinds of sports and welcomed them at the gym such as basketball, dance, gymnastics, karate.

Throughout his life he had over 50 individual world records, 60 world relay records and approximately 150 national records. Keefe was an All-American/Masters swimmer, but despite that, he always stayed true to his home...Nebraska. He continued to donate to UNL and participate in the Cornhusker Games throughout his years. He did not go a day without working out or swimming. It was his lively hood, his passion. He always went 110% and was always positive, even when faced with this deteriorating disease. Most would give up, but Keefe stayed true to who he was and continued to make his sassy remarks, jokes and living the best he could, given the circumstances. He was a true inspiration for many people. He left a huge mark on this world and will be greatly missed.

Keefe is survived by wife; Bonita (Wells) Ludwig, Children; Tanya Ludwig Memoli, Keefe Derek Ludwig, Tasha (Michael) Urban, Shea Ludwig, Grandchildren; Tavia Memoli, Hunter Urban, Parker Keefe Urban, Sisters; Loretta Gibbons and Suzanne Ludwig-Moore, Nieces; Terre Jacobs, Tracy Moore, and Andrea Gibbons; Nephews; Elliott Moore and Jay Moore. Funeral Services will be held Tuesday 01/31/2023 at 1:00pm at Reichmuth Funeral Home, Elkhorn, NE. Visitation with family will be from 11:00 - 1:00pm prior to the service. Interment will follow at Prospect Hill Cemetery. Memorials are suggested to the family for later designation. Family and friends are invited to Tasha & Michael Urban's home (16905 Sarah Street, Bennington, NE 68007) following the graveside service for continued stories and fellowship.

Cemetery Details

Prospect Hill Cemetery

21907 West Maple Road
Elkhorn, NE 68022

Previous Events

Funeral Ceremony

JAN **31**. 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM (CT)

Reichmuth Funeral Home - Omaha / Elkhorn
21901 W. Maple Rd.
P.O. Box 711
Elkhorn, NE 68022
402-289-2222
services@reichmuthfuneralhomes.com
<https://www.reichmuthfuneralhomes.com/>

Tribute Wall

TC

“*Late in this memory. I live in Colorado, and did not know of Keefe's passing. He and I were roommates our 2nd year at N U and swim team members. We were on the NU swim team for 2 years, however, he red-shirted our 3 yr. He was a good friend and swim buddy. We had some good "social" times together. Tom Chambers*

Thomas Chambers - December 02, 2025 at 03:37 PM

SG

“*Tom and I will always be grateful to Keefe for all the ways he taught our sons to be great competitors in sports and a great friend to others. He taught them how to lift weights the right way, how to be a teammate, the fundamentals of football and basketball, and having a laugh and fun as they played. He was always generous with his time and attention, spending effort with kids who might not be great athletes as well as those who were. Our deepest and heartfelt sympathy to Bonnie, Derek, Tanya, Tasha and Shea and the grandkids and extended family. — Susan and Tom Gregory*

Susan Gregory - February 20, 2023 at 03:59 PM

JJ

“*To: To the Ludwig Family: Bonnie, Tonya, Derek, Tasha, and Shea. From: Joe & Joy Brown. Our heart felt sympathy is with all of you. May we all have comfort in our knowing we had Keefe in our lives. I have so many fond memories of my friend and roommate. I am always here for you to share such fond memories. Much love, Joe & Joy.*

Joy and Joy - January 31, 2023 at 11:15 AM

KW

Loved growing up on the lake with the Ludwig family, they were like family. So many wonderful memories & you all made a difference in each of our lives! Love you Bonnie & Tanya ❤️

Katie Waed - January 31, 2023 at 07:22 PM

CD

“ *So sad to hear of Keefe's passing. Time has gotten away from all of us so quickly. I'll forever remember Keefe as young man, just out of college - ambitious, active, engaging, fit, and funny. I'll never forget the time, when i was a kid, helping build a fence, out behind Keefe and Bonnie's house, out at the lake. The neighborhood association president stopped by, didn't like the fence, got hot-fiery-mad, threatened to throw me in the lake. Keefe showed up, didn't say much, just flexed his muscles, literally, and the guy suddenly got very apologetic, quite congenial. Those were funny, quirky days. Keefe had so many great qualities that predicted he'd be successful in life. Sorry to see you go so soon, Keefe. Thoughts and prayers to Bonnie and the kids, grand-kids.*

Craig (and Alyce)

Craig D. - January 31, 2023 at 10:56 AM



“ *Jennifer Beale sent a virtual gift in memory of Keefe Lorn Lodwig*



Jennifer Beale - January 30, 2023 at 12:18 PM



Saw this and was reminded of my time working at All American Fund Raising. Keefe and the rest of the Lodwigs always made you feel like family. I'll always look back on my time there with great memories.

Jennifer Beale - January 30, 2023 at 12:20 PM

PS

Condolences to Keefe's family. The loss of Keefe is sad for all of us who have known him. Have only known Keefe for about 4-5 years. He showed up swimming at our Master's swimming practices in Muskegon. He was a wonderful guy, a real good swimmer and competitive, but nice as could be. I drove him to two swim meets, Lansing and Grand Rapids and we talked the entire time.

Peter Shireman, MD

Peter Shireman - January 30, 2023 at 05:15 PM

DA

I would like to express my sadness for Keefe's family for their loss. He was most certainly they stand out individual. I too have the pleasure of swimming with him when he showed up in Muskegon at the Masters program. A fantastic competitor, a fantastic teammate, always smiling always positive attitude. And often he would have suggestions on Strokes , two of which I've kept with me and think of him when I use them. I live in Michigan I have not seen him for a couple of years, but I can picture him walking out on the deck, tan, smiling he was one of those folks that when you saw him and he showed up that made you glad. Daniel Bailey.

Daniel - January 31, 2023 at 06:45 AM

TL

“ I have known Keefe for approx 65 plus years. First contact with Keefe was at the downtown YMCA. I learned to swim at about 9 or 10 yrs old at the old Kings Lake. Even though we went to different grade schools we became close friends in HS not just a HI how doing but to kicking it and hanging out. This is where Keefe taught me how to be a competitive swimmer proper hand arm stroke breathing flip turn etc (yrs 59 and 60), Keefe went on to UN became a all american and I went to war, It was because of Keefe I became a swimmer for the NTC, I will never forget. Have many memories of Keefe but this one I will never forget. Now he is with our blessed Lord a happy place, Love ya keefe and will always have a place for you in my heart.

Ted Lee - January 30, 2023 at 10:52 AM



“ Strength & Solace Spray was purchased for the family of Keefe Lorn Lodwig.



January 29, 2023 at 06:01 PM

TS

“ Tammy Seibert purchased the Love Everlasting Bouquet for the family of Keefe Lorn Lodwig.



Tammy Seibert - January 29, 2023 at 12:50 PM



“ *Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Keefe Lorn Lodwig.*



January 29, 2023 at 11:41 AM



“ *Be My Love Bouquet with Red Roses was purchased for the family of Keefe Lorn Lodwig.*



January 29, 2023 at 08:37 AM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Keefe Lorn Lodwig.*



January 28, 2023 at 11:29 PM



“ *Serenity Wreath was purchased for the family of Keefe Lorn Lodwig.*



January 28, 2023 at 08:42 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum* was purchased for the family of Keefe Lorn Lodwig.



January 28, 2023 at 08:29 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum* was purchased for the family of Keefe Lorn Lodwig.



January 28, 2023 at 07:59 PM



“ *Arrive in Style* was purchased for the family of Keefe Lorn Lodwig.



January 28, 2023 at 07:50 PM



“ *Sentiments of Serenity Spray* was purchased for the family of Keefe Lorn Lodwig.



January 28, 2023 at 05:47 PM



“ *Summer's Light Bouquet was purchased for the family of Keefe Lorn Lodwig.* ”



January 28, 2023 at 05:09 PM