



Phyllis Svoboda

March 14, 1950 - April 11, 2019

Phyllis Eileen Svoboda, age 69 of Elkhorn, died in the early morning hours of April 11, 2019, at peace and in her home. She was preceded in death by her parents, Paul and Clara Grabenstein. She is survived by: her husband, Jon Svoboda of Elkhorn; sons, Daniel (Chrissy) Svoboda and Nicholas (Stefanie Zahourek); grandchildren, Clara and Grant – lottery winners all for being a part of the family she created and nurtured. She is also survived by her brothers, Gene (Linda) and Lyle (Lona) Grabenstein; and a sister, Janet (Don) Fleischmann.

Phyllis was a gifted musician and vocalist and performed publicly and privately for decades and continued to do so until very recently. But she found her greatest fulfillment in music by passing on her knowledge and skill to a great number of students, whether piano, organ, or voice. She was passionate and demanding as a teacher, but always supportive. She tended to attract incredibly accomplished young people and was absolutely elated to get them to the next level. Phyllis graduated from UNL in 1973 with a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Music (Voice Major, Organ Minor). She was an active teacher for 50 years.

She was stunningly beautiful on the outside as well, and has a room full of pageant hardware. Her goal was never to exploit her good looks, but was always most interested in the talent portion of various pageants. Those who

knew her well know that she did all this without a trace of vanity.

A Celebration of her life will be held at 2 pm, Monday, April 22, 2019 in the Great Hall at Lauritzen Gardens in Omaha with Rev. Chad Anglemeyer officiating. Burial of her ashes will be at a later date at the Mt. Calvary Cemetery in Elkhorn.

Cemetery Details

Mt. Calvary Catholic Cemetery

Elkhorn, NE 68022

Previous Events

Celebration of Life

APR **22**. 2:00 PM (CT)

Lauritzen Gardens
100 Brancroft Street
Omaha, NE

Tribute Wall



“ *Phyllis Svoboda*

December 10, 2022 at 09:12 AM



“ *Graceful Wreath was purchased for the family of Phyllis Svoboda.*



April 21, 2019 at 10:53 PM



“ *Dear Grabenstein/Svoboda Family,*

Lee, Brian, and I extend our sincerest thoughts and prayers to all of you. It was a shock when I read Phyllis's obituary in the newspaper. I'm sorry you lost her at such a young age. My mom was 65 years old when she passed away in 2005. Imagine the incredible music that cousins Lavonne and Phyllis will play for all of us in Heaven! What a gift they both were to all of our lives!

*With love,
Vicki (Harris) and Derrin Hansen
Abby and Erica
Brian and Lynn Harris
Danica, Jackson, Callen, and Cora Wilson
Derek
Lee Harris*

Vicki (Harris) Hansen - April 21, 2019 at 09:41 PM

BW

“ Jon ,Nick and the rest of your family our thought and prayers are with you If Linda and I can do anything let us know. Prayers again and will miss the sound of the piano.
Love Bill Linda Welch

Bill Welch - April 20, 2019 at 08:03 AM



“ Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Phyllis Svoboda.



April 19, 2019 at 03:02 PM



“ Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of Phyllis Svoboda.



April 18, 2019 at 11:25 PM



“ Strength & Solace Spray was purchased for the family of Phyllis Svoboda.



April 18, 2019 at 09:32 PM



“ *Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Phyllis Svoboda.*



April 18, 2019 at 03:27 PM



“ *Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Phyllis Svoboda.*



April 18, 2019 at 10:18 AM



“ *We went to school together. She was always full of energy and she always was an important part of our class. I will miss her smile, her great way she kept a little humor in every thing we did.*
Gary Darnall

Gary Darnall - April 17, 2019 at 09:59 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Phyllis Svoboda.*



April 17, 2019 at 06:26 PM

DO

“ *Phyllis always had so much energy and joy. She lit-up the room everywhere she went.
I had the pleasure of taking photos at her wedding and the gathering of friends at her parents home after. We sang, laughed and had a great day.
Sympathy and hinge to Jon and family. Phyllis will be missed by fondly remembered.
Deb Oman, Lincoln*

Deb Oman - April 17, 2019 at 11:37 AM

CR

“ *I am honored to have had the pleasure of taking care of Phyllis at home before going on hospice. She never complained and worried about everyone else before herself. My thoughts and prayers go out to Jon and family. She was truly a remarkable woman!*

Cindy Larson RN VNA Home care

Cindy Larson RN - April 17, 2019 at 07:38 AM

KH

“ *Phyllis sang at my wedding, I'll always remember her beautiful voice. My sympathy to Jon, Dan, Nick and all of Phyllis' family. May the perpetual light shine upon her.
Kathy Huslig*

Kathy Huslig - April 16, 2019 at 09:46 AM

LH

“ Sending condolences to the Svoboda family and to Gene, Janet, and Lyle and their families. I remember Phyllis as being such a beautiful lady with a wonderful voice. Our families always celebrated New Years Eve together and I always enjoyed being with your family. So many years have passed but the memories remain the same. May God bless all of you at this time of sorrow and may Phyllis be at peace with the Heavenly Father. Love you all so much.....Linda (Montgomery) Holmberg.

Linda Holmberg - April 12, 2019 at 03:59 PM

DB

My sympathy to all of Phyllis` family. I remember her as a 2 year old at my wedding; my husband, Daniel, was the oldest of the Grabenstein cousins and she was the youngest. Then there was her confirmation and high school graduation. I was not fortunate to live close in later years, but did correspond with her and enjoyed pictures of the grandchildren. You will all miss her so much but just remember what a blessing her life was! May God grant you all peace! Dorothea Riensche Berke

Dorothea Riensche Berke - April 13, 2019 at 04:45 PM

DF

Phyllis was my classmate from k-12. She loved horses and her special dog Buster. I will always remember Phyllis for her vitality, her musical ability and the good times growing up in small town Nebraska. Donna Farlow

Donna Farlow - April 18, 2019 at 03:10 PM

SO

We had the privilege of having Phyllis teach our two children piano right from the beginning when we moved here in 2013. I could tell she loved teaching music as I sat there while my children would have their lessons. She taught them the fundamentals as well as to feel the music as they played. I loved to listen to her play along with them and sing. She always encouraged my children to sing when they played. After she got sick and stopped teaching for a while my daughter came to me and said, "Mom, I miss Ms. Phyllis." She made them so much better musicians. She is going to be truly missed and I send my condolences to John and the whole family.

Sheri O'Neel - April 20, 2019 at 11:29 AM