



Bernard E. "Bernie" Bliefernich

November 25, 1924 - August 13, 2023

A Funeral Service for Bernard will be held on Saturday, August 19, 2023 at 10:30 a.m. at Prince of Peace Lutheran Church in Geneva, Nebraska with Pastor Tim Stacy presiding.

Visitation will be held 1 hour prior to the funeral service at Prince of Peace Lutheran Church in Geneva, Nebraska.

Military Graveside Services will be conducted at the Geneva Public Cemetery in Geneva, Nebraska.

Memorials are to be directed to The Heritage at College View or Adams Central School Foundation.

Bernard Eugene Bliefernich passed away in Hastings, Nebraska, on August 13, 2023, at the age of 98. He was born November 25, 1924, in Hyde, Colorado, to Henry Fredrick Bliefernich and Lena Spanjer Bliefernich.

As a child, Bernard lived in Colorado, Idaho and Nebraska. He graduated high school from Burr Public Schools in Burr, Nebraska, and was very proud to have served in the Navy in World War II. Bernard graduated from Peru State College and taught in Plymouth and Deshler. For the majority of his career, he

was the superintendent of schools at Geneva Public Schools and was very honored to oversee the building of a new elementary building and a new high school. Bernard later was the superintendent at Davenport Public Schools until his retirement 1988.

In 1949, Bernard married Mary Elaine Juilfs and they enjoyed 50 years together until Elaine's death in 1999. Both served in education and were proud to have an impact on many children's lives including their three children, Mary, Bill and Marcia.

In 2002, Bernard married Mildred Gerdes and moved to Kearney, Nebraska. They were married until her death in 2019.

Bernard was known for his woodworking abilities making intricate furniture for his grandchildren. In 1988, he built his retirement home in Geneva, Nebraska. He was an avid golfer and at the age of 70 hit two holes-in-one and continued golfing into his early 90s.

Bernard was a long-time member of Prince of Peace Lutheran Church in Geneva and later a member of First Lutheran Church in Kearney. Bernard was very much a gentleman, a faithful servant to the Lord and instilled the German work ethic in his family. He was a servant leader to the many teachers he hired throughout the years. He enjoyed travel throughout his life, and was a father and grandfather who would do anything for his children and grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his mother and father, his brother, Arnold; his wife, Elaine Bliefernich; his daughter, Mary Riggleman and a grandson, Joel Riggleman and his second wife, Mildred Gerdes Bliefernich.

Bernard leaves a legacy of children, grandchildren and great grandchildren

who also value education and hard work. He is survived by his son, Bill Bliefernich (Cheryl) of Juniata; his daughter, Marcia Baumann (Larry) of North Platte; and son-in-law, Pat Riggelman of Gordon. His grandchildren Teresa (Mike) Shukei, Kelly (Philip) Schafer, Kate (Jeff) Portenier, Mark (Bridget) Bliefernich; Liz (AJ Wolkins) Riggelman and Christine (Matt) Dregalla; Chele (Michael) Norrie/Nyffeler, Jennifer (Chase) Hansen, Abby (Barrett) Brown, Jeff (Bailey) Baumann, Brenda (Russ) Pulling and Andrea (Jim) Renshaw and 30 great grandchildren.

Cemetery Details

Geneva Public Cemetery

Geneva, NE 68361

Previous Events

Visitation

AUG 19. 9:30 AM - 10:30 AM (CT)

Prince of Peace Lutheran Church
1026 O St
Geneva, NE 68361

Funeral Service

AUG 19. 10:30 AM (CT)

Prince of Peace Lutheran Church
1026 O St
Geneva, NE 68361

Tribute Wall



“ 25 files added to the album Flower Arrangement



Farmer & Son Funeral Home - August 19, 2023 at 01:19 PM

PM

“ Pat Mathiesen lit a candle in memory of Bernard Bliefernich



Pat Mathiesen - August 19, 2023 at 09:11 AM

BK

“ Brandon & Terri Kelliher planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Bernard E. "Bernie" Bliefernich.

Brandon & Terri Kelliher - August 18, 2023 at 02:59 PM

BK

“ Brandon & Terri Kelliher purchased the Lavender Reflections Spray for the family of Bernard E. "Bernie" Bliefernich.



Brandon & Terri Kelliher - August 18, 2023 at 02:59 PM

SP

“ I was fortunate enough to become friends with two of "Grandpa Bliefernich's" granddaughters while in the University of Nebraska marching band and therefore got to meet him on a few gameday Saturdays. He was such a sweet and kind man who belonged to one of the best families I know. He will be dearly missed by them and all those who knew him.

Sara Penn - August 17, 2023 at 02:50 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Bernard E. "Bernie" Bliefernich.

August 16, 2023 at 11:48 PM



“ Serene Retreat was purchased for the family of Bernard E. "Bernie" Bliefernich.



August 16, 2023 at 11:48 PM



“ *Bill, My sincere condolences to you and your family during this difficult time. I have fond memories of your dad as superintendent of GHS. He was a kind and highly respected man. We were lucky to have him as our leader.*

Deb Doud - August 16, 2023 at 09:35 PM



“ *Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Bernard E. "Bernie" Bliefernich.*



August 16, 2023 at 11:29 AM



“ *Bernie was such an intelligent, kind man, with a great smile. He was fun to be around and will certainly be missed.*

Sam Rundle - August 16, 2023 at 11:08 AM



“ *My condolences to the family. I was a student when Bernard was the Superintendent in Davenport. He was a kind man. Always fair and thoughtful. I'm so sorry for your loss and hope you take comfort in the Lord.*

Treva Tegtmeier - August 15, 2023 at 12:57 PM



“ *Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Bernard E. "Bernie" Bliefernich.*



August 15, 2023 at 11:57 AM



“ *Marcia and families, my most sincere sympathy. Your Dad was one of a kind. Bernie was kind, considerate and a bit intimidating when necessary. He towered over the students at GHS (literally), but will never be forgotten!*
Blessings to all of you! Nancy (Ward) Hansen



Nancy (Ward) Hansen - August 15, 2023 at 08:34 AM



“ *George Jason lit a candle in memory of Bernard Bliefernich*



George Jason - August 14, 2023 at 08:20 PM



“ *Kent Rose Theobald lit a candle in memory of Bernard Bliefernich*



Kent & Rose Theobald - August 14, 2023 at 05:17 PM