



Darlene F. Slezak

March 16, 1932 - July 30, 2020

Darlene Frances Slezak was born to Albert & Esther (Engel) Duba in Friend, Nebraska on March 16, 1932 and entered into eternal salvation on July 30, 2020 at the Wilber Care Center in Wilber Nebraska at the age of 88 years, 4 months and 14 days. She was the oldest of 4 children in the family.

Darlene was baptized on March 8, 1946 at the Wilber Methodist Church by Rev. K.O. Zavadil. She attended Country School at Fairview District #57 and Pleasant Prairie District #64. Darlene graduated from Friend High School with the class of 1950. She then attended Doane College and received her teaching certificate allowing her to teach at Country School Districts #64, #57, #100, and #30.

On July 24, 1956, she was united in marriage to William F. "Bill" Slezak at the Methodist Church in Friend, Nebraska. To this union, two children born: Terry Ann and William "Billy" Albert. They lived south of Friend for a few years, then moving east of Geneva until the fall of 1969. They relocated to the Slezak Family Farm northwest of Milligan, where they resided until 1998. Upon retirement, they moved to Milligan. After Bill passed, Darlene was very proud to have purchased her own home there.

Darlene was a busy farmwife and mother, raising their two children and preparing delicious meals to take out to the fields for the men during the busy

farming seasons.

As the family grew, she would never turn down a chance to help her family, taking care of their grandchildren and attending all of their activities.

Her many interests included working outdoors, drawing, oil painting, socializing with friends, listening to Sunday polka music radio shows, and caring for Milligan's homeless kitties. Later in life, she loved her job as librarian at the Milligan Public Library, serving in that role for 11 years.

Darlene was a member of the Milligan United Methodist Church, serving as past Sunday school teacher, long time UMW member, member of the Milligan Legion Auxiliary Post #240, and a member of the Saline County Retired Teacher's Association.

She enjoyed socializing any chance she could. Darlene also loved attending the Wilber Czech Festival, proudly celebrating her Czech heritage. She only missed one Czech Days in the entire history of the celebration! She loved visiting with folks of any age.

Darlene rarely missed a chance to ride along to the many dance jobs the Leonard Becwar Orchestra played for...meeting and making many new friends. Bill & Darlene were even able to attend Oktoberfest in Germany and tour Austria and Switzerland with Leonard's band.

Darlene was preceded in death by her husband, Bill; parents, Albert & Esther Duba; brother, Delbert W. Duba; mother & father-in-law, William & Anne Slezak; brothers-in-law, Jimmy Tupa and Jimmie L. Zalesky; sister-in-law, Betty (Slezak) Alfred; and niece, Katherine (Tupa) Bedient.

She is survived by her daughter and son-in-law, Terry Ann & Terry Brandt of

Tobias, Nebraska; son and daughter-in-law, Billy & Jana Slezak of Milligan, Nebraska; grandchildren, Jeremy Brandt and wife, Lee of Crete, Nebraska, Jacob Brandt and fiancé Ivy Lutz of Lincoln, Nebraska, Jessica Brandt of Daykin, Nebraska, Shane Slezak and wife Jasmine, Shawn Slezak and wife Jennifer, Taylor Slezak and fiancé Joey Gilmer all of Milligan, Nebraska; sisters, Shirley J. Zalesky of Omaha, Nebraska, Esther M. Tupa of Wilber, Nebraska; sister-in-law, Carol Duba of Milligan, Nebraska; great grandchildren Kailee, Brittany and husband Joe, Jake, Emily and husband Josh, Lyla, Beau, Tyler “TJ”, Noah, Lily, Kaydence, Jade, Kasen, and Lennon; great great grandchildren Kinlee, Julius and Charlotte; nieces, nephews and a host of other relatives and friends.

A Funeral Service for Darlene was held on Thursday, August 6, 2020 at 10:30 a.m. at the United Methodist Church in Milligan, Nebraska. Kim Dunker officiated the Services. Karen Kohler provided was the organist and she accompanied the congregation in the singing of “The Old Rugged Cross” and “In The Garden.” The recorded recessional “You Are Mine” was also played.

Pallbearers for the service included Jeremy Brandt, Jake Brandt, Shane Slezak, Shawn Slezak, Delbert Duba, Jr., Albert Duba, Joey Gilmer, and Jake England.

A Graveside Service was held in the Bohemian National Cemetery following the Funeral Service.

Farmer & Son Funeral Home was in care of the arrangements and online condolences can be left at www.farmerandsonfuneralhome.com.

Memorials are suggested to the United Methodist Church in Milligan, Milligan Fire & Rescue, and the Milligan Public Library.

Cemetery Details

Bohemian National Cemetery

Milligan, NE 68406

Previous Events

Visitation

AUG 5. 1:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

Farmer & Son Funeral Home-Kotas Chapel
Main Street
Milligan, NE 68406
(402) 759-3617
<https://farmerandsonfuneralhome.com>

Family Present for Visitation

AUG 5. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Farmer & Son Funeral Home-Kotas Chapel
Main Street
Milligan, NE 68406
(402) 759-3617
<https://farmerandsonfuneralhome.com>

Funeral Service

AUG 6. 10:30 AM (CT)

Milligan United Methodist Church
580 N Street
Milligan, NE 68406

Tribute Wall

WC

“ We didn't know Darlene very well, but always enjoyed our visits at the Wilber Czech Festival , we always seemed to sit close enough to visit while eating our meal at the church. We will miss not seeing her. Our sympathies to the family.

Wayne & Betty Kolar Cline of Fort Collins, CO.

wayne cline - August 14, 2020 at 08:14 PM

IH

“ I went to school with her sisters and spent time with her whenever I went to Milligan and enjoyed talking to her on the phone. She was always so caring. Darlene was a wonderful dancer. Her husband was friends with my husband LeRoy Becwar and when both of them passed away we talked on the phone. I will miss her. Thanks for posting the video, I could not go to the funeral.

Sympathy goes to the family.

Irene Becwar Hartman

Irene Hartman - August 06, 2020 at 03:59 PM

TB

Irene, mom cherished your longtime friendship so much. Thankyou for being a dear friend to her. We have many good memories of your family and all the good times spent together in Milligan. ❤️

TerryAnn Brandt - August 07, 2020 at 09:00 AM



“ 70 files added to the album Flower Pictures



Farmer & Son Funeral Home - August 06, 2020 at 02:33 PM



“ Cheryl Weyers & Family purchased the Small Garden Dish for the family of Darlene F. Slezak.



Cheryl Weyers & Family - August 04, 2020 at 02:57 PM



“ My sympathy to the Slezak and Duba families. Darlene, Shirley, Esther, & Delbert were my neighbors when we were young and I have many fond memories with them. As happens in life, we move on with our lives but the memories will be there forever.
As ever,
Marv Kraus

Marvin Kraus - August 04, 2020 at 09:37 AM



Marv, Thankyou so much for the kind words! Mom will forever be in our hearts and memories!

TerryAnn Brandt - August 06, 2020 at 03:19 PM



“ *Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Darlene F. Slezak.*



August 03, 2020 at 02:26 PM



“ *Tender Tribute was purchased for the family of Darlene F. Slezak.*



August 03, 2020 at 11:22 AM



“ *Darlene was such a joy when she came into the Assessor's Office! She had so much energy and enthusiasm for life! she will be missed, but never forgotten.*

Lynn Mussman - August 03, 2020 at 09:30 AM



Thankyou, Lynne, for the kind words. She loved life and now she has an eternal life with joy unknown! ❤️

TerryAnn Brandt - August 06, 2020 at 03:17 PM

LM

“ Lynn Mussman lit a candle in memory of Darlene F. Slezak



Lynn Mussman - August 03, 2020 at 09:27 AM

HR

“ Holly Rippe lit a candle in memory of Darlene F. Slezak



Holly Rippe - August 03, 2020 at 08:17 AM



“ Spirit - Memorial Globe Candle Holder was purchased for the family of Darlene F. Slezak.



August 01, 2020 at 04:38 PM

DB

“ Darlene loved making me deviled egg as much as I loved eating them! I will miss talking with her!

Doug Bergenske - August 01, 2020 at 01:44 PM

TB

She loved that you loved her deviled eggs! And she loved visiting with you always! Now mom & Judy are catching up. ❤️

TerryAnn Brandt - August 06, 2020 at 03:22 PM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Darlene F. Slezak.*



August 01, 2020 at 11:00 AM



“ *Jesse and I loved her story of Bobby Dale the raccoon, she and her siblings had as a child. Since then we only refer to raccoons as Bobby Dale. We also loved spending time with her at Christmas and Thanksgiving. She was never afraid to try something I served that was out of tradition. She would always ask me what I brought, so she could try it. Love and Prayers*

Danielle Duba - August 01, 2020 at 09:55 AM



Oh, that Bobby Dale! He will be a legend! Thankyou ,too, for including Aunt Dar in your holiday get togethers....she always loved spending time with you all! Family meant so much to her....and us!❤️

TerryAnn Brandt - August 06, 2020 at 03:25 PM



“ *A very lovely lady - I treasure having known Darlene - many memories of long ago; and I pray for her soul and for her family and sisters.*

Rogene Tesar

Rogene Tesar - August 01, 2020 at 09:27 AM

TB

Thankyou, Rogene, for your kind words. Mom cherished her friendships...every one of them was important to her! Thankyou for the prayers...they do help!

TerryAnn Brandt - August 06, 2020 at 04:07 PM

KF

“ *Terry Ann ,Billy and family*

Your mom was a friend of the family and a neighbor for life. Growing up our dad's worked together and played in the band together and Darlene was always there enjoying every minute. Even though we were a farm yard apart we managed to get together whenever we could. Living next to Darlene in town we spoke just about every day she loved her out doors and her cats. Every Christmas I made her jars of vegetable soup and was so very appreciative and and always returned the jars waiting to be filled the next time. She had a kind heart and loved her family very much. Prayers and blessings to you all.

Dean and Karen Filipi

Karen Filipi - August 01, 2020 at 08:58 AM

JU

“ *Janine Uldrich lit a candle in memory of Darlene F. Slezak*



Janine Uldrich - July 31, 2020 at 06:21 PM