



## Sandra J. Bartels

September 10, 1942 - December 18, 2025

A Funeral Service for Sandra will be held on Tuesday, December 23, 2025, at 10:00 a.m. at Zion Lutheran Church in Tobias, Nebraska, with Pastor Alex Bjoraker presiding.

Visitation will be held on Monday, December 22, 2025, at Farmer & Son Funeral Home in Geneva, Nebraska, from 1:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m., with the family present from 5:00 p.m. until 7:00 p.m.

Graveside Services will be conducted following the funeral service at the Zion Lutheran Church Cemetery in Tobias, Nebraska.

Memorials are to be directed to the family to be designated at a later date.

Sandra Jean (Gragert) Bartels was born to Merton and Irene (Schweer) Gragert on September 10th, 1942, in Fairmont, Oklahoma. She passed away on December 18th, 2025, at her home in Tobias, Nebraska, at the age of 83 years, 3 months, 8 days. She was the oldest of three children in her family.

Sandra was baptized on September 30th, 1942. She was confirmed on March 25th, 1956. Sandra began her education at Zion Lutheran Church in Fairmont, Oklahoma, until 8th grade. She then attended Garber High School in Garber, Oklahoma, where she graduated in 1960. She continued her educational

career at Phillips University in Enid, Oklahoma, where she earned her bachelor's degree in business in 1964. She was a lifetime member of Zion Lutheran Church.

On August 8th, 1964, she was united in holy marriage to Laird Bartels at Zion Lutheran Church in Fairmont, Oklahoma. This union was blessed with three children—Lisa, Gary, and James. They made their home on the Bartels family farm near Tobias, Nebraska, where they spent their entire married life. She kept busy raising her family and helping keep books for the family farm. She then worked at Meridian Public Schools as a secretary, where she enjoyed visiting with students and staff.

Sandra had many interests and hobbies that kept her busy throughout her life. She was a part of Tobias Legion Auxiliary Post #311 and the Red Hat Society. One of her greatest hobbies was bowling, where she traveled often with her leagues. She loved to play cards and played countless games of Rook with friends and family. She was an avid reader, often reading more than one book at a time, and loved to travel. She was proud to have made it to all fifty states and seven different countries. Sandra enjoyed watching sports and was a Nebraska fan through and through. She and Laird were Nebraska Football season ticket holders for over thirty years. Above all else, Sandra enjoyed supporting her family. She supported her kids through their activities, and then later kept busy with the activities of her seven grandkids. They could always count on Granny, a name she held in high regard, being a familiar face in the stands, cheering them on no matter the sport or activity.

Sandra is preceded in death by her parents, Merton and Irene Gragert; in-laws, Paul and Renata (Reetz) Bartels; sister and brother-in-law, Willis and LaVona Niederklein.

Sandra is survived by her husband of 61 years, Laird. Their children: Lisa

(Curtis) Cogswell of McCool Junction and their family, Coleman (Brooklyn), and Conner; Gary Bartels of Daykin and his family, Blake and McKehna (Drew), James (Martha) Bartels of Lincoln, and their family Ostynn (Kim), Josie, and Brynley; Great-grandchildren Ella, Mallery, Thomas, Kaspian, Aurelia, and Nikolai; brothers Bruce (Lynn) Gragert of Edmond, Oklahoma, and Mark (Cindy) Gragert of Wylie, Texas; brother and sister-in-law, ElRoy (Alice) Bartels of Gretna, and many nieces, nephews, and cousins.

# Cemetery Details

## Zion Lutheran Church Cemetery

2247 County Road 400  
Tobias, NE 68453

# Previous Events

## Visitation

DEC **22**. 1:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

Farmer & Son Funeral Home  
242 N 10th Street  
Geneva, NE 68361  
(402) 759-3617  
<https://farmerandsonfuneralhome.com>

## Family Present for Visitation

DEC **22**. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Farmer & Son Funeral Home  
242 N 10th Street  
Geneva, NE 68361  
(402) 759-3617  
<https://farmerandsonfuneralhome.com>

## Funeral Service

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DEC **23**. 10:00 AM (CT)

Zion Lutheran Church  
2247 County Road 400  
Tobias, NE 68453

# Tribute Wall



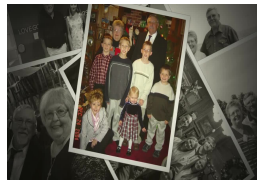
“ 32 files added to the album *Flower Arrangements*



Farmer & Son Funeral Home - December 23, 2025 at 01:46 PM



“ 1 file added to the album *Sandra Bartels Memorial Video*



Farmer & Son Funeral Home - December 22, 2025 at 05:41 PM



“ *The Mustang Family purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Sandra J. Bartels.*



The Mustang Family - December 22, 2025 at 01:23 PM

MF

“ *Mark Gragert family purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of Sandra J. Bartels.*



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**Mark Gragert family** - December 21, 2025 at 10:06 PM

DW

“ *Laird and family, Don & I are so sorry to hear about Sandra. Know our thoughts & prayers are with you and the family. We so enjoyed visiting with her and you each time we had the opportunity. She was beautiful, inside and out and will be greatly missed by all. Sandra seemed to smile all the time! Prayers and hugs, Don and Jean Whiteneck*

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**don whiteneck** - December 21, 2025 at 09:47 PM

WL

“ *William L. purchased the Lavender Reflections S pray for the family of Sandra J. Bartels.*



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**William L.** - December 19, 2025 at 09:47 PM

WL

“ *William L. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Sandra J. Bartels.*

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**William L.** - December 19, 2025 at 09:47 PM