She is a woman of strength and dignity, and has no fear of old age. When she speaks, her words are wise, and kindness is the rule for everything she says. She watches carefully all that goes on through-out her household, and is never lazy. Her children stand and bless her; so does her husband.

Proverbs 31:25-28

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be directed to the family of Kim Ernst to be used towards memorial benches and tables at the Pipestone County Fairgrounds in memory of Kim's love for 4-H.

Celebrating
THE LIFE OF
Kim Ernst

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Funeral Service
Monday, November 9, 2026 - 2:00 PM
Faith Community Church - Pipestone, Minnesota

Clergy - Pastor Jennings Wallace

Scriptures
Psalm 46 Isaiah 40
Matthew 5:13-16 Luke 22:24-27

Recorded Music
"Heaven Was Needing a Hero"
- as recorded by Jo Dee Messina

Special Recording
"Memories of my Sister" - as recorded by Kammy Stueven

Pianist - Sara Harper

Congregational Hymns
"Church in the Wild Wood" "Victory in Jesus"
"I'll Fly Away"

Casket Bearers
Garrod Ernst Kaden Ernst Brett Stueven
Jessica Folk Chantelle Klaassen Adalie Pritchett

Honorary Casket Bearers
Kammy Stueven Shawn Pritchett Scott Pritchett
Chuck Pritchett Keith Pritchett Ryan Pritchett

Interment
New Woodlawn Cemetery - Pipestone, Minnesota

Arrangements by
HARTQUIST FUNERAL HOME

IN LOVING
Memory



Kim Ernst

October 8, 1958 - October 26, 2026

Kimberly "Kim" Ernst was born and raised on a farm Northwest of Pipestone, Minnesota to Keith and Pearl (Zeinstra) Pritchett. She was a proud big sister of 6 younger siblings. Animals, house chores, church and 4-H involvement was a big part of her youth.

She helped her mom prepare meals for her dad, brothers, and anyone who happened to stop by for a visit. Her childhood was filled with the simple joys of farm life, family, and community. She was active in 4-H where she developed practical skills, made lifelong friendships, and enjoyed spending time with neighborhood friends. That eventually evolved as she continued her love of attending fairs and watching her son Kaden show numerous projects at the Rice County Fair as well as her nephews and niece show their animals at her hometown fair in Pipestone, MN.

Some of Kim's favorite childhood memories included bullhead fishing with her dad and brothers. They would all gather around and fillet their catch on big wooden spools. She also enjoyed attending church camp on Lake Koronis each summer. Kim was baptized on November 3, 1958, at Lake Benton English Evangelical Lutheran Church and confirmed in 1974 at Zion United Methodist Church. She graduated from Pipestone High School in 1977 and went on to attend Augustana University in Sioux Falls, SD. From approximately 1981 to 1986, she lived in Beverly Hills, CA. where she worked as a nanny for the Moosa Soomekh family.

When she returned to Pipestone she built a career in the legal and business fields, working as a legal secretary for the Evans Law Office from 1986 to 1989. At that office is where the man of her dreams walked into her life one summer day. He swept her off her feet and she followed him back to Eagan, MN to start her next chapter of life. From 1989 to 1993, She worked as a legal secretary for Morrison & Fenske Law Office in Bloomington.

On September 19, 1992, Kim was married in Pipestone, Minnesota to Greg Ernst the love of her life. Kim and Greg and son Garrod found their dream home on Union Lake by Northfield, Minnesota.

Kim became co-owner and office manager of GA Ernst & Associates, Inc., a position she held from 1991 until this past September. During that time their son Kaden was born.

Her family was always the center of her world and she devoted herself to making a loving home and creating special memories with those she cherished. Faith was an important part of Kim's life. Beginning in high school, she taught Sunday School and continued sharing her faith with children for more than 40 years. She participated in church choir and treasured the friendships she made through the United Methodist Women group. Her church involvement also included Vacation Bible School, the church youth group, and countless activities, games, and gatherings hosted in her home. Kim was the leader and volunteer for the Full-O- Pep 4-H club. Always willing to give her time and encouragement to young people.

Kim lived her faith through her actions. She was a woman of strong faith and moral values, known for her patience,kindness, courage, empathy, and generosity. She was as good as they come and had a way of making everyone feel welcome. She was often the first to help clean up after a gathering, making sure others could visit, and enjoy themselves. She wanted everyone to feel included and to have the opportunity to get to know one another. Her motherly nature extended far beyond her own family.

Kim never missed an important event in her children's lives, which also included Garrod's hockey games throughout his childhood to High School, and every detail was carefully recorded in her scrapbooks, calendar and business calendar. Her home was always filled with toys for kids of every age, and she had a knack to recognize when someone felt uncomfortable and She would immediately offer a kind word or a little extra attention to make them feel at ease. Her boys' friends were treated just like her own, and everyone who entered her home knew they were welcome. Kim had many interests that brought her happiness. She loved visiting historical sites, especially those featuring Victorian history or patriotic themes. Playing board games with her brothers was a favorite pastime that continued into her married life. She enjoyed playing board games with her boys as well. Kim loved spending time in her 20-foot camper, especially at her favorite spot, Maple Springs near Forestville State Park in southeastern Minnesota. Summer meant traveling to as many fairs, carnivals, and parades as possible, with a personal goal of attending ten or more each year.

Some of those fairs even required two-day visits! A perfect day for Kim was spent reading a historical romance novel from beginning to end, followed by a firepit dinner with all her boys beside the lake. She also loved music and dancing. When she lived in Pipestone she always made sure to take her sister to Many area street dances, even if there was an age gap between them, she Always made sure she included her in her social life. In 1998, Kim added her sister Kammy as an employee of G.A. Ernst & Assoc. so she too could work from home and raise her kids. They were both blessed to have 28 years of working together! Kim passed away peacefully at her home in Northfield, Minnesota on October 26, 2026, surrounded by her loving family. Above all,

Kim will be remembered for her generous heart unwavering faith, and the love she gave so freely. She was someone who made a difference simply by being present, by noticing others, and by making sure no one felt alone. She was an amazing gift to her family, friends, and everyone fortunate enough to know her. Kim's legacy will live on through the countless memories she created, the people she encouraged, and the love she shared throughout her life. She will be deeply missed and remembered by all whose lives she touched.

Kim is lovingly remembered by her husband, Greg Ernst of Northfield, Minnesota; her children, Garrod (Micah) Ernst of Burnsville, Minnesota and Kaden (fiance Abby Beaver of Owatonna, MN.) Ernst of Northfield, MN., Mother Pearl Pritchett of Pipestone, Minnesota; Siblings, Keith Pritchett Jr. of Flandreau, South Dakota, Chuck (Julie) Pritchett of Derby, Kansas, Scott (Deb) Pritchett of Tea, South Dakota, Kammy (Mark) Stueven of Pipestone, Minnesota, Shawn (Erin) Pritchett of Sioux Falls, South Dakota and Numerous nephews and nieces and Great nephews and nieces. Kim is preceded in death by her father, Keith Pritchett; brother, Peter Pritchett; grandparents, Peter (Winnie) Zeinstra , Charles (Elsa) Pritchett and Bill (Darlene) Ernst.