



Funeral of Debra Meilahn February 21st, 2024

FUNERAL OF DEBRA I MEILAHN

January 31, 1953 - February 17, 2024

February 21st, 2024

Pastor: Pastor Matthew Ude

Organist: Ann Sprengeler

Funeral Director:

Todd Michael, Funeral Director

Taylor Boyd, Funeral Assistant



Announcements

The family of Debra Meilahn would like to thank you all for coming. Everyone is invited to join the family for lunch following the service.

Cornerstone Funeral Home 181 S. Main Street Markesan, Wisconsin is honored to be serving the family. You may send flowers or post photos and memories of Debra at www.cstonefs.com

OBITUARY OF DEBRA I MEILAHN

Debra Ilene Muehlenhaupt was born on January 31, 1953. She was called to her Lord on February 17, 2024, at the age of 71 years and 17 days.

In her early years, Deb enjoyed tagging along with her Grandpa Ben Schulz on the farm and in his trucking business. She graduated from Faith Lutheran Grade School and Markesan High School, then went to college at Oshkosh where she earned a degree in accounting.

She married her high school sweetheart Steve Meilahn in 1972. She worked at various accounting positions before becoming an integral part of the family farm with her husband Steve and brother Dale. Dairy cattle and accounting were her focus. And mowing lawn. She loved to mow!!! She also enjoyed playing softball back when Markesan had a women's league. She liked to spend time with her son Aaron doing math and memory work and also introduced him to early personal computers and video games. She looked forward to the phone calls from him on his way home from work. When her nephews, Drew and Kade, were born, she played Command and Conquer and The Legend of Zelda with them. She hosted the best Christmas Eve celebrations, complete with a chocolate fountain. Then the true love affair arrived in the form of

two grandsons, Wesley and Finley. She enjoyed Gator rides, Legos, story time, playing cards and other activities with them. With her husband Steve, she enjoyed winters in Hawaii, Saturday nights at Grey Rock and trips to Brookfield to spend time with the grandkids.

Debbie was a very intelligent and extremely private person and preferred to keep 'her business' to herself. The people that love her know you could have no better friend than Debbie. She will be greatly missed.

She is survived by her husband Steve, son Aaron (Caitlin), their two children, Wesley and Finley, sister Cindy (Jay) Toser, brother Dale (Marie) Muehlenhaupt, two nephews, Drew and Kade Muehlenhaupt, Aunt Verla Schulz and many more relatives and friends.

She was preceded in death by her parents - Guenther and Mary Lou (Schulz) Muehlenhaupt, Uncles and Aunts - Gilbert (Eunice) Muehlenhaupt, Ruth (Wayne) Riese, Wesley (Donna) Schulz, and John Schulz.

The family would like to thank all the people involved in her medical care during her illness, especially Denise and the other nurses in the Ripon SSM chemotherapy wing.

"The Lord giveth and the Lord taketh away. Blessed be the name of the Lord."

ORDER OF SERVICE

Abide with Me!

by Henry F. Lyte, 1793-1847

1. Abide with me! Fast falls the eventide;
The darkness deepens; Lord with me abide.
When other helpers fail and comforts flee,
Help of the helpless, oh, abide with me!

2. Swift to its close ebbs out life's little day;
Earth's joys grow dim, its glories pass away;
Change and decay in all around I see.
O Thou, who changest not, abide with me!

4. Come not in terror, as the King of kings,
But kind and good, with healing in Thy wings;
Tears for all woes, a heart for every plea.
Come, Friend of sinners, thus abide with me.

7. I fear no foe, with Thee at hand to bless;
Ills have no weight and tears no bitterness.
Where is death's sting? where, grave, thy victory?
I triumph still if Thou abide with me.

8. Hold Thou Thy cross before my closing eyes,
Shine through the gloom, and point me to the skies.
Heaven's morning breaks, and earth's vain shadows flee;
In life, in death, O Lord, abide with me!

GREETING AND PRAYER

M: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen

We have come together to seek God's comfort in our sorrow and to rejoice in the promise of the resurrection. Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ, who said, "Come to me, all who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest."

Let us pray . . . Lord Jesus, you wept at the grave of your friend Lazarus, and you consoled Mary and Martha in their distress. Draw near to us who mourn for Debra Meilahn, and dry the tears of all who weep. Calm our troubled hearts, dispel our doubts and fears, and lead us to praise you for having brought her to faith. In your rising from the dead, you conquered death and opened the gates to eternal life. Strengthen us with your Word, and lead us through this earthly life until at last we are united with you and all the saints in glory everlasting. Amen

PSALM 23

The LORD *is* my shepherd; I shall not want. ² He makes me to lie down in green pastures; He leads me beside the still waters. ³ He restores my soul; He leads me in the paths of righteousness For His name's sake. ⁴ Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil; For You *are* with me; Your rod and Your staff, they comfort me. ⁵ You prepare a table before me in the pres-

ence of my enemies; You anoint my head with oil; My cup runs over. ⁶ Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me All the days of my life; And I will dwell in the house of the LORD Forever.

RESURRECTION COMFORT

M Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who comforts us in all our troubles, so that we can comfort those in any trouble with the comfort we ourselves have received from God. The apostle Paul writes to the Romans: “The wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.” Jesus gives us this comfort: “I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in me will live, even though he dies; and whoever lives and believes in me will never die.”

M Death has been swallowed up in victory! Thanks be to God!

C He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

M When Christ, who is our life, appears,

C **Then we also will appear with him in glory.**

M We will be before the throne of God

C **And serve him day and night in his temple.**

M Never again will we hunger;

C **Never again will we thirst.**

M For the Lamb at the center of the throne will be our shepherd; he will lead us to springs of living water.

C **And God will wipe away every tear from our eyes.**

M Let us pray . . . God of all grace, you sent your Son Jesus to destroy the power of death and to open the kingdom of heaven to all believers. Make us certain that because he lives, we too shall live. Comfort us with your promise that neither death nor life nor things present nor things to come shall be able to separate us from your love which is in Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen

READINGS

Ecclesiastes 3:1-8 To everything *there is* a season, A time for every purpose under heaven: ² A time to be born, And a time to die; A time to plant, And a time to pluck *what is*

planted; ³ A time to kill, And a time to heal; A time to break down, And a time to build up; ⁴ A time to weep, And a time to laugh; A time to mourn, And a time to dance; ⁵ A time to cast away stones, And a time to gather stones; A time to embrace, And a time to refrain from embracing; ⁶ A time to gain, And a time to lose; A time to keep, And a time to throw away; ⁷ A time to tear, And a time to sew; A time to keep silence, And a time to speak; ⁸ A time to love, And a time to hate; A time of war, And a time of peace.

2 Timothy 4:7-8 ⁷ I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. ⁸ Finally, there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will give to me on that Day, and not to me only but also to all who have loved His appearing.

John 11:20-27 ²⁰ Then Martha, as soon as she heard that Jesus was coming, went and met Him, but Mary was sitting in the house. ²¹ Then Martha said to Jesus, "Lord, if You had been here, my brother would not have died. ²² "But even now I know that whatever You ask of God, God

will give You." ²³ Jesus said to her, "Your brother will rise again." ²⁴ Martha said to Him, "I know that he will rise again in the resurrection at the last day." ²⁵ Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in Me, though he may die, he shall live. ²⁶ "And whoever lives and believes in Me shall never die. Do you believe this?" ²⁷ She said to Him, "Yes, Lord, I believe that You are the Christ, the Son of God, who is to come into the world."

In Christ Alone

By Keith Getty and Stuart Townend

i. In Christ alone my hope is found,
He is my light, my strength, my song;
This Cornerstone, this solid Ground,
firm through the fiercest drought and storm
What heights of love, what depths of peace,
when fears are stilled, when strivings cease.
My Comforter, my All in All,
here in the love of Christ I stand.

2. In Christ alone, who took on flesh,
fullness of God in helpless babe!
This gift of love and righteousness,
scorned by the ones He came to save.
Till on that cross as Jesus died,
the wrath of God was satisfied.
For ev'ry sin on Him was laid;
Here in the death of Christ I live.

3. There in the ground His body lay,
Light of the world by darkness slain;
Then, bursting forth in glorious Day,
up from the grave He rose again!
And as He stands in victory,
sin's curse has lost its grip on me;
For I am His and He is mine,
bought with the precious blood of Christ.

4. No guilt in life, no fear in death,
this is the pow'r of Christ in me;
From life's first cry to final breath,
Jesus commands my destiny.
No pow'r of hell, no scheme of man,

can ever pluck me from His hand;
Till He returns or calls me home,
here in the pow'r of Christ I'll stand!

SERMON: HIS LOVE ENDURES

1 Corinthians 13:13 ¹³ And now abide faith, hope, love, these three; but the greatest of these is love.

APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord; Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, Born of the virgin

Mary; Suffered under Pontius Pilate, Was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From there He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit; the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins, The resurrection of the body and the life everlasting. Amen.

On Eagle's Wings

By Michael Joncas (1979)

You who dwell in the shelter of the Lord
Who abide in His shadow for life
Say to the Lord, "My refuge, my rock in whom I trust!"

And He will raise you up on eagles' wings
Bear you on the breath of dawn
Make you to shine like the sun
And hold you in the palm of His hand

Snares of the fowler will never capture you
And famine will bring you no fear
Under His wings your refuge, His faithfulness your shield

And He will raise you up on eagles' wings
Bear you on the breath of dawn
Make you to shine like the sun
And hold you in the palm of His hand

For to His angels He's given a command
To guard you in all of your ways
Upon their hands they will bear you up
Lest you dash your foot against a stone

And He will raise you up on eagles' wings
Bear you on the breath of dawn
Make you to shine like the sun
And hold you in the palm of His hand
And hold you, hold you in the palm of His hand

PRAYERS THE LORD'S PRAYER

All: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name, Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

BLESSING

M: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious to you. The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace. Amen.

Here I Am, Lord

By Daniel L. Schutte (1981)

I, the Lord of sea and sky
I have heard my people cry
All who dwell in dark and sin
My hand will save
I, who made the stars of night
I will make their darkness bright
Who will bear my light to them?

Refrain: Whom shall I send? Here I am, Lord
Is it I, Lord? I have heard You calling in the night
I will go, Lord If You lead me
I will hold Your people in my heart

I, the Lord of snow and rain,
I have borne my people's pain.
I wept for love of them.

They turn away.

I will break their hearts of stone,

Give them hearts for love a-lone

I will speak my word to them. [refrain]

I, the Lord of wind and flame

I will tend the poor and lame

I will set a feast for them

My hand will save

Finest bread I will provide

'Til their hearts be satisfied

I will give my life to them



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