

Obituaries

Kelly Jo Lester

Kelly Jo (Luchtenburg) Lester, 39, of Fort Worth, Texas, formerly of Allison, passed away unexpectedly on Tuesday, Feb. 16, 2021, due to complications from a surgery.

Kelly was born on Dec. 16, 1981, at the Waverly Hospital, the daughter of Gary Luchtenburg and Susan (Bradley) Swingen, both of Allison. She was baptized and confirmed at St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church – Vilmar, in rural Greene, where she was a lifelong member. She had most recently been actively attending worship at Troy Brewer Ministries in Fort Worth, Texas.

Kelly attended school at Allison-Bristow through 11th grade, and graduated from Greene High School in 2000. In 2006, she earned her Associates of Science in Radiograph with honors of Cum Laude from Allen College, and also completed the Registered Radiography Technologist R.T. (R) (ARRT) program from St. Paul, Minnesota. She then moved to Queen Creek, Arizona, where she earned her Bachelor of Science degree from Grand Canyon University with President's List and Alpha Chi honors in 2010. Following that, she moved to Fort Worth, Texas. In 2018, she completed the Registered Magnetic Resonance Imaging R.T. (MR) (ARRT) program from St. Paul, Minnesota. She worked in the radiology department at Texas Health Southwest.

Kelly married Timothy Andrew Lester on July 7, 2007, at the Allison AMVETS in Allison. They enjoyed riding motorcycles together, which was inspired by Kelly's love of traveling. She especially enjoyed her trips to Hawaii. She had a thirst for knowledge and appreciated her education, earning many degrees and certificates. She was very strong in her beliefs and loved her country. She liked reading, and was devoted to studying her Bible. She was passionate about sharing her faith in the Lord with those she loved most, and was an active volunteer at the church in Texas. Above all, Kelly loved her family, and felt very blessed when spending time with her nieces and nephews.

Left to honor her memory include: her husband, Timothy Andrew Lester, of Fort Worth, Texas, and his daughter Alicia (Jamie) Hall, of Alabama; her parents, Gary Luchtenburg, of Allison, and Stan and Susan (Bradley) Swingen, of Allison; her siblings: Amanda (Brad) Chubb, of Ackley; Cory (Melissa) Luchtenburg, of Allison; Megan Swingen, of Evansdale; Rose Swingen, of Evansdale; and Cody Swingen, of Allison; nephews and nieces: Hunter, Hannah, Emma, Jasmine, Ashton, Selena, Tyler, and Timothy; grandparents: Viola Luchtenburg, of Donna, Texas; Lloyd (Janet) Bradley, of Greene; and Marigene Swingen, of Cedar Falls; brother-and sisters-in-law: Jeff (Sandi) Lester and Cindi Lester-Horbelt, all of Texas; her husband's granddaughters, Tristen and Lily; and many aunts, uncles, cousins, and friends.

She was preceded in death by her grandfather, George Luchtenburg, grandmother, Helen Bradley, grandfather, Stanley Swingen Sr., and father and mother-in-law, Billy and Mary Lester, as well as Dorothy Senne, who was a second grandmother to Kelly.

A public ceremony will be held at 2 p.m., on Saturday, March 27 at Wilder Park Lodge near Allison, with a prayer service led by Rhonda Edeker. The Celebration of Life will be held immediately following, with a light lunch served. Burial will take place at the South Vilmar Cemetery in rural Greene at a later date.

Memorials may be sent to the family (16802 Marsh Ave., Allison, IA 50602) for later disbursement as a scholarship in Kelly's memory at Allen College.

Kelly Jo Lester



1981-2021

Prayer Service:

2 p.m., Saturday, March 27
Wilder Park Lodge, Allison

Celebration of Life:

Saturday, March 27
following the Prayer Service

Burial:

South Vilmar Cemetery,
rural Greene, at a later date