

**Kevin Joseph Brungardt**, age 63, of Lexington, Nebraska passed away on Saturday, January 6, 2024, at his home near Lexington, Nebraska. He was born on January 24<sup>th</sup>, 1960, at Garden City, Kansas.

It is believed that Kevin was born with a fishing pole in one hand and a shotgun in the other. His love for hunting and fishing was a passion he shared with many. From the National Grasslands near Elkhart, Kansas to several lakes and reservoirs at Wakeeney, McConaughy, Johnson Lake, Elwood Reservoir. If you need him, good luck looking in these spots. He would teach anyone either subject if you were willing to listen to his "fish stories" or "hunting excursions".

He enjoyed playing softball and football with the neighbors. At the age of 17, he joined the US Marine Corp in 1977 where he learned heavy equipment operator. He was proud to serve his country until his country failed him. He worked in the area for Nebraska by Products, Paulsen's, and some area farmers.

When he returned from the service, was going to teach his little brother that he would not get past the tough Marine with a football move. Well... Little brother face planted the big bad Marine. He spent the later part of his life with Judy Epp as a loving companion and compassionate spouse.

He was a true patriot, he loved the 4<sup>th</sup> of July at Johnson Lake, where he gained the nickname 4x4. Being with family meant the world to him. Kevin could speak with conviction in his voice but when you looked in his eyes, they were filled with nothing but love and compassion. He would do anything for anyone who needed anything.

He is survived by his fiancée Judy Epp, parents, Shirley Thompson of Johnson Lake, NE, Tom & Betty Brungardt of Garden City, KS, sisters Karen (Randy) Reinertson of Elwood, Karl Brungardt of Garden City, KS, Kyle Brungardt and Susan Miller of Garden City, Kansas, Preston Tony Martin of Garden City, KS, Shelly (Mike) Cott of Spring Hill, Kansas, Karol Brungardt of Cozad, NE, godson Aaron Brungardt, 6 nieces, 3 nephews, 3 great-nieces, 2 great-nephews. Judy's kids; Justin (Jessica) Epp of Ravenna, NE, Heather Epp of Ravenna, NE, Anthony Epp, of Elwood, NE, Makayla Buell, of Elwood, NE, Grandchildren 14 and 2 great-grandchildren.

Preceded in death by grandparent Joseph Mader, sister Carol Brungardt, Grandparents Adam & Emma Brungardt, Anna Long, several aunts and uncles, niece Keisha Wilson Wright

Celebration of Life will be Wednesday, January 10, 2024, from 2 PM till 4 PM at Elwood Funeral Home, Elwood, Nebraska. Inurnment at a later date. Elwood Funeral Home, Elwood, Nebraska is in charge of the arrangements.

Special thanks to his best friends John Murphy, Doyle Daake, Aaron. Everyone with Brookstone Home Health & Hospice for getting the family through the toughest of times. Thanks to Makayla Buell and Anthony Epp for helping when needed. His Kansas family would like to thank Judy for all her help. Thanks to Karol for being able to take care of his mother through the hard times. He came from a very large, blended family and always wanted his own. He finally received that with Judy and her family.