



## Sheryl Lynn Elder

April 19, 1956 - June 22, 2018

Sheryl Lynn Elder, 62, Topeka, Kansas, went to meet her Lord and Savior on Friday, June 22, 2018. She was born April 19, 1956, in Salina, Kansas.

Sheryl attended Kindergarten in Salina before her family moved to Junction City, Kansas. She attended public schools at Lincoln Elementary, Junior High and High School, graduating in 1974. Jesus became her personal Savior in high school, where she devoted the rest of her life to Him. Her journey started when she began teaching in the church nursery. Through the encouragement of two high school teachers, Miss Clutter and Mrs. Denison, Sheryl enrolled at Kansas State University in the fall of 1974. Her field of study was Early Childhood Education. Sheryl and Connie were roommates at Moore Hall from 1974-1976.

Sheryl married Roderic on July 24, 1976, at First United Methodist Church in Junction City, and then took up residence at Jardine Terrace Married Student housing at K-State while finishing their studies. In the spring of 1978 she graduated with a degree in Early Childhood Education. After Sheryl graduated from K-State, they moved to Harlingen, Texas, for about a year where she taught at a local daycare center. They moved to Salina where she taught at Whittier and Sunset preschools.

After giving birth to her first son, Lance, in 1983, she began her favorite time in her adult life, by being a full time stay at home mom. She continued on this happy journey when her second son, Jordan, was born in 1987.

In spring of 1993, God began the process of making beauty out of ashes, when Sheryl interviewed and was hired by Prince of Peace Preschool in Topeka, Kansas. Sheryl especially enjoyed studying God's word at Wanamaker Woods Church of the Nazarene in her Sunday school class and her small group Bible study that met at the home of Rick and Melody for over 12 years.

God encouraged her heart by bringing her from a place of sadness, disappointment,

questions and uncertainty to one that was purposeful and love filled through her interactions with young children. Over the years at Prince of Peace Preschool, Sheryl had been blessed to work with many wonderful team teachers. Her most current team teacher, Cindy, had been a tremendous blessing both professionally and personally. They both loved to sparkle and shine as they planted seeds of faith as well as nurturing young children in their growth and development.

In 2002, Sheryl began working a part time job at Weight Watchers, where she enjoyed encouraging and helping others on their journey to a more healthful lifestyle.

Sheryl has had over a year of wonderful memories with her fiancé, Rodney, who was the love of her life.

Besides loving to teach young children, she found complete joy in spending time with her grandchildren who they called Grandmom. Sheryl loved taking them to the library, zoo, riding the train, the carousel in Gage Park and going to the Discovery Center. They also enjoyed bike rides, swimming, playing games and catching fireflies. They liked having sleepovers with hot chocolate, bacon and bubble bread. Sheryl also loved sharing her faith with them, taking them to church and reading Bible stories. They loved singing songs and being silly together.

Sheryl had some wonderful trips to NW Montana with Rick and Melody, where she enjoyed kayaking, rock hunting and four-wheeling in the mountains.

Sheryl was so thankful and blessed to have her sister, Pam, and Melody care for her during her illness. A day never went by that one or both of them weren't lovingly caring for her.

As most of you know, Sheryl loved the color red, and would love it if you wore red or a bright color to her celebration of life.

Sheryl is survived by her sons, Lance and Jordan; daughter of her heart and mother of her grandchildren, Sarah; four grandchildren, Caden, Cameron, Cora and Elaina; sister, Pamela (Ron); brother, Sean; several nieces, nephews, great-nieces and great-nephews; fiancé, Rodney. Sheryl was preceded in death by her parents.

Visitation will be 5 to 7 p.m. Tuesday at Kevin Brennan Family Funeral Home, 2801 SW Urish Road, Topeka KS 66614.

Celebration of Sheryl's Life will be 10 a.m. Wednesday at Wanamaker Woods Church of the Nazarene, 3501 SW Wanamaker Road, Topeka KS 66614. Burial to follow in the Czech Moravian Cemetery, NW 94th Street, Rossville KS 66533.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Prince of Peace Preschool, Prince of Peace Church or Wanamaker Woods Church of The Nazarene, sent in care of the funeral home.

# Events

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**JUN**   **Visitation**      05:00PM - 07:00PM

**26**

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Kevin Brennan Family Funeral Home  
2801 SW Urish Road, Topeka, KS, US, 66614

**JUN**   **A Celebration of Life**                      10:00AM

**27**

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Wanamaker Woods Church of the Nazarene  
3501 SW Wanamaker Rd, Topeka, KS, US, 66614

# Comments

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“ An external video has been added.



**Kevin Brennan Family Funeral Home** - June 25, 2018 at 04:24 PM

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“ I'm so sorry for the loss of such a great woman. She always took time to give me a big hug. She was always smiling. She showed the love of God.

**Sandra Cummings** - June 26, 2018 at 11:32 AM

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“ Sheryl was our son Milo's teacher last year at Prince of Peace Preschool. She loved what she did and touched so many young lives. My favorite memory of her was how much she enjoyed our homemade coffee cake that my husband makes. It was always her request when it was Milo's day to bring treats! She was such a warm and loving lady and impacted so many lives. Our thoughts and prayers to Cora and all of the family. She will be deeply missed.

-Katie, Kris, Milo and Zoey Holm

**Katie Holm** - June 25, 2018 at 09:40 AM

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“ Sheryl was always so sweet & kind to all she met. I had the privilege of working with Sheryl at Weight Watchers a few years back. God bless your family during this tough time. I know she will be missed very much.

**Sara** - June 25, 2018 at 07:16 AM

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“ I had the pleasure of knowing Sheryl she was a beautiful caring sweet person may God wrap her in his loving arms  
Deana Sample

Deana Sample - June 24, 2018 at 11:11 AM

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“ I met Cheryl through her fiancé and my long time friend Rodney. As my deceased hubby would say “she’s as beautiful on the inside as she is on the outside” which was something I noticed right off about Cheryl. It was also great to meet you Pam and your husband in February when Rodney brought y’all by on your way back to Topeka from Big Cedar. Thank you too for taking wonderful care of her in her own home where we all are most comfortable. She’s pain free now and in her final home.  
Sandie Paul, Hollister, MO.

Sandie Paul - June 24, 2018 at 09:01 AM

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“ Sheryl and I were best friends in high school. We shared a lot and she was like a sister to me. I just wish we kept in closer contact through the years. I love you Sheryl and will miss you dearly!

pam grogg - June 23, 2018 at 09:42 PM

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“ Thinking of you all, with love and concern, at the loss of your sister, mother, Grandmother, fiance’ and Friend. Pam and Melody, you did a fabulous job of taking care of Sheryl and helping her to be in, and near, her home all throughout her illness. Thank you. A corner of our world isn’t as bright as it was when she was here with us. May her memory always be a blessing. Love, the Korf’s: Cliff, Lavetta, Jonathan, Benjamin and Rachel.

Lavetta Korf - June 23, 2018 at 08:12 PM

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“ I met Sheryl through my friend, Robin. The three of us would get together and share meals and watch Christian movies. We would share about our families and about our Lord. We would also pray together. Those were fun times together. Ocassionally, I would see Sheryl at a child care conference,since we both worked with young children. I will miss Sheryl but take comfort in knowing that she is with Jesus. I will keep her family in my thoughts and prayers. In Christian love, Susan Richardson

**Susan Richardson** - June 23, 2018 at 07:23 PM



“ Sheryl made the best coffee cake in the world and was a wonderful cook. She always made me feel welcome in the family. I will remember her with a smile on her face, always positive and encouraging, a wonderful mother and grandmother. I am glad to know that she is in the embrace of Jesus and knows no pain but only happiness now.

**Michelle Elder-Mullin** - June 25, 2018 at 02:45 PM