



## Diane Lynn Collins

April 25, 1961 - October 19, 2015

Diane Lynn Collins, 54, of Grand Island, died on October 19, 2015, at Saint Francis Medical Center in Grand Island surrounded by family and friends. Diane passed away from an 8 month battle with pancreatic cancer. Visitation will be on Wednesday, October 21st at Messiah Lutheran Church in Grand Island from 4-8 p.m. Funeral services will be on Thursday October 22nd at 1:00 p.m. at Messiah Lutheran Church in Grand Island with Rev. Bill Schroder officiating. Interment will be at the Central City Cemetery immediately following the funeral service. The family welcomes anyone who can't make the funeral to join them at the cemetery for the committal service. Condolences may be sent to the family at [www.soltwagnerfuneral.com](http://www.soltwagnerfuneral.com).

Diane Lynn was born on April 25, 1961 to Donald E. and Nancy Joan (Sorensen) Hansen. Diane grew up in Central City, graduating from Central City High School in 1979. She then attended Kearney State College, where she graduated with her B.S. in 1983. Following her schooling, Diane received her first job with the State Probation Office in Grand Island. Diane would remain with them as a probation officer for 29 years where she had a positive influence over the people she guided in her work. She then took a job in 2012 in Broken Bow with the Central Plains Center for Services, where she remained until her health would no longer allow her to work.

On March 23, 1996 Diane Hansen and Ellis Collins were united in marriage at

Messiah Lutheran Church. They would later have two boys; Braden and Samson, who were the absolute loves of her life. She always embraced, and loved to be a wife, and mother to her two boys. She was extremely involved in all of their activities, and wouldn't have traded that for anything. In 2003 Diane won a Harley Davidson, and from that day on she was hooked on motorcycles. She loved to ride her motorcycle, she was a member of the Patriot Guard Riders, and annually made the trip to Sturgis, South Dakota for the Sturgis Motorcycle Rally. She was a huge Husker football fan, she loved to go to concerts and never missed an opportunity to do some shopping.

Diane was a member of the Grace Lutheran Church in Central City, until moving to Grand Island where she then became an active member at the Messiah Lutheran Church. She was an accomplished pianist and organist who loved to play for church services, weddings, and funerals. She was also a committee member for the Nebraska Law Enforcement Memorial.

Those left to cherish her memory are her husband, Ellis Collins of Grand Island; her two boys, Braden and Samson Collins of Grand Island; one step-daughter, Madilyn Collins of Sarasota, Florida; her twin sister, Deb (Scott) Hawthorne of Central City; her three nephews Matt (fiancé Bobbi Arends), Jon (Brooke) Hawthorne, and Joe (Hannah Hines) Hawthorne; great nephews, Jaxon and Jameson Hawthorne; mother and father-in-law, Lila and Richard Collins; sister-in-law, Sharon Larson and the late Glenn Larson; brother-in-law, Richard and Edie Collins; sister-in-law, the late Darlene (Jeffery) Hill.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Joan and Don Hansen; nephew, Samuel Hawthorne; brother, Gary Hansen; and infant brother, Richard Hansen.

Memorials are suggested to an education fund to be setup for Diane's two boys, or to the Messiah Lutheran Church - Music department.



# Previous Events

## Visitation

OCT **21.** 4:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

Messiah Lutheran Church  
122 W. 7th  
Grand Island, NE 68801

## Funeral Service

OCT **22.** 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM (CT)

Messiah Lutheran Church  
122 W. 7th  
Grand Island, NE 68801

# Tribute Wall

SL

“ She was my best friend in the whole world. My whole family loved her as well. I will miss her. There is not enough words to describe her as a person. Beautiful inside and out. 2 precious sons who were her life. My heart breaks for her twin sister as well, they were inseparable ! We made a ton of memories, Diane, Deb and myself. Thank you Lord for showing me what it's like to have a best friend who means the world to you. I love you Di. Sue



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**susan (Butt) linebaugh** - October 29, 2015 at 12:14 PM

MI

“ Diane was a wonderful woman who took time for those she encountered. She was a mother who would be there no matter what to support her boys. She will be remembered with a smile and is safe from pain in God's hands. May Ellis, Braden, Samson and anyone who was fortunate enough to have known her you be blessed in the memories of her smile.



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**Mike and Heidi Isley** - October 22, 2015 at 06:30 AM

DA

“ Diane was one of my favorite customers at Victoria's Secret. She was always so friendly and someone who you were glad to see time and time again. What a great woman!. She will be missed. Thoughts go out to the family.



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**Danielle** - October 22, 2015 at 12:43 AM

TL

“ Ellis and boys. You were all very fortunate to have a beautiful wife and mother like Diane. She was loved and admired by many including me. Be comforted by your memories of her and the love she had for you.

Terry Loschen

Terry Loschen - October 21, 2015 at 11:39 AM

BM

“ I knew Diane through her work at the Probation office. She always had a smile and a great se



Brenda Minet - October 21, 2015 at 10:07 AM



“ Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Diane Lynn Collins.



October 20, 2015 at 10:59 PM

DL

“ My heart goes out to Deb and her family and also to Ellis and their boys. She was just such a fun loving person to know and I'm glad I had that opportunity. I didn't get to see much of her after she moved to Gl. but around highschool age. She always had a smile for you and a beautiful laugh, that just made you laugh with her. She will be missed very much by her family and friends. God be with you all in this trying time. Love to all, Dee Luebbe

Dee Luebbe - October 20, 2015 at 06:12 PM

AA

“ When at the GI school administration building, I have good memories of Diane's work with the kids who got into trouble with the law. She had a very positive impact on them all and on all of us fortunate to work with her. I also enjoyed her piano playing at church. Such a beautiful lady with so many talents. A real loss to her husband and sons. May they continue to have beautiful memories of her. Alvera Anderson

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**Alvera Anderson** - October 20, 2015 at 02:10 PM

SE

“ So very sorry about your loss Ellis, Boys, and Deb.....Diane was such a great great lady, she always had a smile and treated everyone so good!! Praying for strength and healing for all four of you in the coming days and weeks.

*Mark and Shelly Elstermeier and family*

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**Shelly Elstermeier** - October 20, 2015 at 01:54 PM

SP

“ To The Family, I enjoyed meeting and talking with Diane @ Westridge FB games a few years ago. Our thoughts and prayers are with the family! So very sorry for your loss!  
Sincerely, Bob & Sandy Peterson, Savana,  
Sierra & Paxton.



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**Sandy Peterson** - October 20, 2015 at 10:41 AM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Diane Lynn Collins.*



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October 20, 2015 at 10:00 AM



“ *Ellis and families,*

*Sending you all of our love and sympathy in the loss of Diane. She was such a sweetheart. Was happy to get to know her when she worked at Dillard's. Been a long time since I have seen any of you since I moved away. Know that my thoughts and prayers are with you.*

*Love,  
Annie and Dennis Colvin*

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**Annie Colvin** - October 20, 2015 at 04:17 AM



Elizabeth Watson

*To Ellis & Family--I got to know Diane, while working with her at the Probation Office. She befriended me and was always kind and fair. I loved her. I'm so sorry for your loss. I wish I would have known she had cancer. I have battled cancer myself. I know she loved the Lord. I will look forward to seeing her in her heavenly home someday. You'll be in my prayers. Elizabeth (Betty) Watson*

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**Elizabeth Watson** - October 20, 2015 at 12:37 PM