



Marisa "Risa" Carlson

May 15, 1956 - October 30, 2025

Marisa (Risa) Carlson, 69, of Central City, NE passed away on October 30, 2025 surrounded by her family. The funeral service will take place on Friday, November 7, 2025 at 10:00 a.m. at the United Methodist Church with Pastor Gordon Paulsen officiating. Visitation will be held on Thursday, November 6, 2025 at the United Methodist Church from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. A luncheon will be held at the Solt-Wagner Community Room following the burial of ashes at the Central City Cemetery.

Solt-Wagner Funeral Home is assisting the family. Memorials are suggested to the Merrick County Child Development Center and the Central City Library. Condolences can be sent to the family at www.soltwagnerfuneral.com

Risa was born on May 15, 1956 in Central City to Tom and Gloria (Hruban) McHargue. She grew up in Central City most of her life. From 1965-1967 her family lived in Irving, Texas where her father was a mechanic for Braniff Airlines. This is where she grew to love flying. Her family spent many happy hours at the airport and enjoyed flying back to Central City for visits. Even though living in Texas was a wonderful experience, her family loved moving back home to Central City. Her parents bought the flower shop (Central City Florist) from her grandmother Albina Hruban, and it was a magical place to play and explore. Many hours were spent planting seedlings, delivering flowers, and helping in the shop. In 1972, the family sold the shop and moved

out to the family farm so her dad could be a full-time farmer. Risa and her sister Minette got the pleasure of irrigating, helping with the cattle, and almost anything that came along with living on a farm. Risa graduated from Central City High School in 1974. She graduated from the University of Nebraska in 1978 with a teaching degree and then eventually went on to obtain her Master of Education from Doane College in 1994.

On June 16, 1978, she married the love of her life, Jeff Carlson. They made their home in Central City where they raised their children Shyla, Nathan, and Kayla surrounded by a loving family.

She taught at the Central City Elementary School for 40 years, retiring in 2018. She loved the relationships she had with the children, but she especially loved the lifelong friendships formed with fellow teachers. She always said how special it was to go to work every day with so many friends. Risa grew up as a member of the Christ Episcopal Church but later attended the United Methodist Church for many years, including teaching Sunday school for two years and many years playing chimes. She also attended the Library Book Club and was a member of a very special "Winery Book Club" with longtime friends. Once in a while a book was discussed. Risa had a love of reading and always had a book around. Some of her favorites were Harry Potter, Lord of the Rings, and the Outlander book series. She also loved walking on the trail, dabbling with musical instruments, and passionately watching The Office. She cherished her high school friends, especially her very dearest friend Elaine, and her two sisters Roxanne and Minette. With her sister Roxanne, she shared the love of history and family genealogy. Minette gave her the love of the white sands of Florida. Additional special memories include a vacation exploring New Zealand and Hobbiton with husband Jeff, a big journey to China with the whole family to visit Nathan while he served in the Peace Corps, and trips to Florida with extended family relaxing on the white sandy beaches. She had such an obsession with the Beatles that as kids, she and

her sisters would pretend to be the band - Risa and Roxanne as George and Paul on tennis racket guitars, and Minette as Ringo on a red trash can. Most of all, she was a dedicated grandmother to Rubie, Scarlett, Gray, and Orin. She embraced every moment with them.

Risa enjoyed life and felt truly blessed. Those left to cherish her memory are her husband, Jeff; daughter Shyla Carlson and her children, Rubie and Scarlett; son Nathan (Brittany) Carlson; daughter Kayla (Mike) Hruskoci and their children, Gray and Orin. She is also survived by her sisters Roxanne (Evan) Brandes and Minette (Mike) Malm; brother Dan McHargue; brothers and sisters-in-law Randy (Lorraine) Carlson, Barry Carlson, Kent (Deb) Carlson, and Mark (Mel) Carlson; along with many beloved nieces, nephews, great-nieces, and great-nephews.

Risa was preceded in death by her parents, Tom and Gloria McHargue; parents-in-law, Ned and Bonnie Carlson; and sister-in-law, Karen Carlson.

Cemetery Details

Central City Cemetery

Central City, NE 68826

Previous Events

Visitation

NOV 6. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Central City United Methodist Church
2601 18th Ave
Central City, NE 68826
(308) 946-2853

Funeral Service

NOV 7. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

Central City United Methodist Church
2601 18th Ave
Central City, NE 68826
(308) 946-2853

Tribute Wall

RD

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



ron dahlke - November 16, 2025 at 03:55 PM

LS

“ Lauren Stuekerjuergen purchased the Beautiful i
n Blue for the family of Marisa "Risa" Carlson.



Lauren Stuekerjuergen - November 08, 2025 at 11:20 AM



“ I'm a 53 year old now and she has stuck in my mind as one of the
sweetest and kindest(Even new to teaching) educator I remember
distinctly and see what a heartbreaking loss this is for all of you.
Yes, she is gone. But not gone away, especially in the hearts of the
kids she made great impressions on and although it feels empty
right now, that space you have in your heart for her will not ever go
away. Treat that emptiness with the same tender loving kindness
she radiated to all.. my best to you.

Jason Beck

Jaysen Beck - November 07, 2025 at 07:22 PM

JO

*Just now responded to her lovliness on face book. So sorry to hear if it is one and the same. Jerry Felt Omaha
God bless her and hers*

Jerry Felt Omaha - January 17 at 07:24 PM

WM

“ *Sincere sympathy in your loss.
Wendy Maser*

Wendy Maser - November 06, 2025 at 10:05 PM

JK

“ *I don't think I've ever laughed harder than when we were with you and your family. Summer days at the pool, holidays, the New Year's Eve confetti catastrophe. I will miss you, cousin, and I will cherish the memories.
Judy Hruban Kracl*

Judy Hruban Kracl - November 06, 2025 at 05:05 PM

AH

“ *Rest in peace, cousin. Ice skating, New Year's Eve and spook houses are my favorite memories. Anthony Hruban and family.*

ANTHONY HRUBAN - November 06, 2025 at 02:28 PM

DC

“ *DuWayne and Karen, Alex, Jordan & Colby purchased the Emerald Garden Basket for the family of Marisa "Risa" Carlson.*



DuWayne and Karen, Alex, Jordan & Colby - November 06, 2025 at 12:48 PM

KC

“ Kraig, Alyssa, Addisyn & Ella Charron purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Marisa "Risa" Carlson.



Kraig, Alyssa, Addisyn & Ella Charron - November 05, 2025 at 06:23 PM

HC

“ Heartland Health Center purchased the Emerald Garden Basket for the family of Marisa "Risa" Carlson.



Heartland Health Center - November 05, 2025 at 02:45 PM

HC

“ Heartland Health Center planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Marisa "Risa" Carlson.

Heartland Health Center - November 05, 2025 at 02:45 PM

JF

“ Johannes family purchased the Simply Elegant S pathiphyllum for the family of Marisa "Risa" Carlson.



Johannes family - November 05, 2025 at 02:45 PM

MZ

“ *Mr. and Mrs. Tom and Dianna Zoucha purchased the Sweetest Sunrise Bouquet for the family of Marisa "Risa" Carlson.*



Mr. and Mrs. Tom and Dianna Zoucha - November 05, 2025 at 11:39 AM

MZ

“ *Mr. and Mrs. Tom and Dianna Zoucha planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Marisa "Risa" Carlson.*

Mr. and Mrs. Tom and Dianna Zoucha - November 05, 2025 at 11:39 AM

TF

“ *Theresa Farnik purchased the Serene Retreat for the family of Marisa "Risa" Carlson.*



Theresa Farnik - November 05, 2025 at 10:55 AM

CH

“ *Coldwell Banker Action Holdings purchased the Days of Sunshine Bouquet for the family of Marisa "Risa" Carlson.*



Coldwell Banker Action Holdings - November 05, 2025 at 09:28 AM

CH

“ Coldwell Banker Action Holdings planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Marisa "Risa" Carlson.

Coldwell Banker Action Holdings - November 05, 2025 at 09:28 AM

GR

“ Grandma, Dave & Rita purchased the Sentiments of Serenity Spray for the family of Marisa "Risa" Carlson.



Grandma, Dave & Rita - November 04, 2025 at 09:19 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Marisa "Risa" Carlson.



November 04, 2025 at 05:34 PM

RA

“ it was such a blessing having you and Jeff as neighbors for the 8 years we lived in Central City. I loved watching you sitting in your back yard reading to your granddaughters --Rick and Ramona

RamonaJacques - November 04, 2025 at 03:55 PM



“ *Blue Caribbean Bouquet was purchased for the family of Marisa "Risa" Carlson.*



November 04, 2025 at 02:39 PM



“ *Love, the '99 CC Softball Crew planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Marisa "Risa" Carlson.*

Love, the '99 CC Softball Crew - November 04, 2025 at 02:39 PM



“ *Medium Dish Garden was purchased for the family of Marisa "Risa" Carlson.*



November 04, 2025 at 02:11 PM



“ *Jennifer, Rachel, & Chera planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Marisa "Risa" Carlson.*

Jennifer, Rachel, & Chera - November 04, 2025 at 02:11 PM

AS

“ Ashlee Courtney Jackie Megan Molly Sam purchased the Small Garden Dish for the family of Marisa "Risa" Carlson.



Ashlee Courtney Jackie Megan Molly Sam - November 04, 2025 at 01:43 PM

AS

“ Ashlee Courtney Jackie Megan Molly Sam purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of Marisa "Risa" Carlson.



Ashlee Courtney Jackie Megan Molly Sam - November 04, 2025 at 01:37 PM

RV

“ Condolences to your family from ours. Norris, Kay, Nora, Nik, and Shannon Vetter.

R Kay Vetter - November 04, 2025 at 09:14 AM



“ Beautiful Dreams was purchased for the family of Marisa "Risa" Carlson.



November 04, 2025 at 06:51 AM

GS

“ Gregg, Rhonda, and Mark Stephens planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Marisa "Risa" Carlson.

Gregg, Rhonda, and Mark Stephens - November 04, 2025 at 06:51 AM



“ Enchanted Cottage was purchased for the family of Marisa "Risa" Carlson.



November 04, 2025 at 06:34 AM

TF

“ The Varley Family purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Marisa "Risa" Carlson.



The Varley Family - November 03, 2025 at 08:30 PM

TF

“ The Varley Family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Marisa "Risa" Carlson.

The Varley Family - November 03, 2025 at 08:30 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Marisa "Risa" Carlson.*



November 03, 2025 at 05:20 PM



“ *From the Staff of Andrew Simmons CPA, PC purchased the Country Basket Blooms for the family of Marisa "Risa" Carlson.*



From the Staff of Andrew Simmons CPA, PC - November 03, 2025 at 05:01 PM



“ *Holly and Lyle Roberts & Cassie purchased the Arrive in Style for the family of Marisa "Risa" Carlson.*



Holly and Lyle Roberts & Cassie - November 03, 2025 at 02:25 PM



“ *My deepest sympathy to all of Risa's family. I'm so very sorry! Risa was a wonderful friend, great teacher and a very special person.*
Holly Roberts

Holly Roberts - November 03, 2025 at 02:15 PM



“ Our deepest sympathies to the families. May she rest in peace now. I truly enjoyed working with Risa at school, what a wonderful lady she was! Prayers Monte & Patricia Hopkins 🙏🙏🙏🙏

Patricia Hopkins - November 03, 2025 at 11:42 AM

VB

“ Jeff, I'm so sorry to hear about Risa's passing. I've prayed every night for a miracle for her. She was loved by so many and we will miss her dearly! I have so many memories that I will keep in my heart. 🙏
Vicki Boord

Vicki Boord - November 03, 2025 at 11:33 AM

SN

“ I was so sorry to read this sad news, she will be missed by many. I so enjoyed the many years working with Risa at the Elementary School, lots of fun memories. Sympathy and prayers to the family.

Shirley Nelson - November 03, 2025 at 09:58 AM

RB

“ Jeff, so sorry with this great loss. She was such a kind person.

Robni Bogatz - November 03, 2025 at 09:45 AM

DW

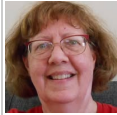
Our condolences and prayers to Jeff and the family, Risa was loved by many remembering her at school she was so good with the kids, they all enjoyed being with her Don & Joyce Williams

Don & Joyce Williams - November 03, 2025 at 03:21 PM

KD

Oh Jeff--I can't imagine how hard this is and has been for you to bear. The thing I will always remember about Risa is her smile. It is the first thing I noticed about her when I met her years ago..and the last picture of her in hospice still showed that beautiful "embrace the world" smile. She was a lovely person and the world will be a little less beautiful without her in it. .

kathy dewispelare - November 03, 2025 at 07:34 PM



*Risa will be missed. She was such a genuinely kind person. Loved by both the kids and staf at CCES. Prayers and sympathy for the family.
Joyce Rodrigfuez*

Joyce Rodriguez - November 04, 2025 at 08:09 PM