



Arnold & Rita Topf

November 16, 2024

Arnold "Arnie" and Rita Topf, of Lennox, SD, formerly Harrisburg, SD, and Hartington, NE, passed away tragically in a motor vehicle accident, south of Harrisburg, on November 16, 2024. Arnold Richard Topf was born on April 25, 1945, at Randolph, NE, the son of Richard and Anna (Ronspies) Topf. He grew up and attended St. Frances Catholic School, Randolph, NE, graduating high school in 1963. He served in the SD Army National Guard for several years. Arnie worked as a meat cutter for Cimpl Meats in Yankton, SD. He and Rita owned and operated Arnie's Market from 1979 until 1998. He then worked in sales for Affiliated Foods until fully retiring in 2012. Rita Ardell Schliem was born on April 20, 1945 at Watertown, SD, the daughter of Myron and Darleen (Willers) Schliem. She grew up and attended school at Hills Beaver Creek, MN and Lyons, SD, graduating from Lyons High School in 1963. She attended Mount Marty College, Yankton, SD for several years. She was a devoted homemaker and together with Arnie owned and operated Arnie's Market. After the sale of the store, she worked in retail until fully retiring in 2012. On December 28, 1968 Arnold and Rita were married at Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Yankton, SD. Four children were born to this union. The couple made their home in several locations and then Hartington, NE, Harrisburg, SD and recently Lennox, SD. Arnold and Rita were devoted to their children and grandchildren. They shared the a passion for Nebraska Cornhusker and Kansas City Chief's football. Arnie, in younger years enjoyed pheasant hunting and golf. He was known for his jovial outgoing personality

and sense of humor. Rita enjoyed sewing, reading, golf and baking. She was known for her Grandma cookies and banana bars. She will be remembered as a kind and giving, good hearted person. Arnold was preceded in death by his parents and sister, Margie Haverkamp. Rita was preceded in death by her parents and sister, Gayle Hanson. Grateful for having shared their lives are their children: Jim Topf, Charleston, SC, Paula (Brian) Stahl, Albany, OR, Curtis (Stacy) Topf, Omaha, NE and Pam (Matt) McCready, Lennox, SD; five grandchildren: Jordynne Stahl, Gavin Topf, Connor McCready, Brooke McCready and Kenedi McCready; Rita's siblings: Vicki (Bernie) Scheppers, Papillion, NE and Carlyle (Gloria Bellonger) Schliem, Sioux Falls, and brother-in-law, Ned hanson, Crooks, SD, as well as a host of other relatives and friends. Memorial services will begin at 10:00 a.m. Saturday, November 23, 2024 at St. Magdalen Catholic Church, Lennox, SD with burial to follow in the Worthing Cemetery. Visitation, also at St. Magdalen Catholic Church, with the family present, will be 5 to 7 p.m. Friday, with the Rosary at 7:00 p.m. In lieu of flowers, memorials are preferred to a charity of your choice or to the family for charities to be determined later.

Tribute Wall

SB

“ *I am praying that Jesus will comfort the family and surround them with love.*



Sharon Burns - November 26, 2024 at 12:00 AM

TS

“ *Oh my, the family is in our thoughts*



Tom & Tasha Simoneau - November 25, 2024 at 12:00 AM

SD

“ *Jim*
So sorry to hear about the tragic loss of your folks. My heart goes out to you and the family. I have many memories of your family and mine at the "block parties" over at my Grandpa Lee's shop.
Sending my love and prayers.
Suzi Dooley



Suzi Dooley - November 24, 2024 at 12:00 AM

MF

“ *I am truly sorry at the passing of Rita and Arnie.*

MARCIA FOSSUM - November 22, 2024 at 12:00 AM

M(

“ *My deepest sympathies for the family. Your in my thoughts and prayers.*

Michelle Hansen (Froistad) - November 22, 2024 at 12:00 AM

WK

“ *Jim, Paula, Curtis, Pam and your family's. Duane and I are so sorry to hear of the loss of your parents. We enjoyed knowing them when they owned the store in Hartington. We are sending prayers to you throughout this difficult time. Our hearts hurt for you. May they rest in peace.*

Wanda Kruse - November 22, 2024 at 12:00 AM

CB

“ *So sorry for your family's loss I worked for Arnie and Rita in the grocery store great people to work for. Carol Bruning*

Carol Bruning - November 21, 2024 at 12:00 AM

JW

“ *Typi correction I graduated from st have de Chantal high school with Arnold class of 1963*

Joan Walker - November 21, 2024 at 12:00 AM

AC

“ Dearest family of Arnie and Rita;
words cannot express how sad I am for all of you at this time.
I knew your parents when I taught at HPS and they always treated
me with the utmost respect and kindness. I loved their grocery store
and at Christmas time, Arnie would give me paper sacks to have my
students decorate for the customers.
I have very fond memories of them.
May you feel God’s presence as you navigate the days ahead.
Please accept my sympathy at this challenging time.
Alicia Cornemann

Alicia Cornemann - November 21, 2024 at 12:00 AM

MR

“ Dear Jim, Paula, Curtis, Pam & families: We extend our sympathies
in the loss of your parents Arnie & Rita in such a tragic way. Our
prayers are with your family and we hope you find comfort in your
memories. Your parents were great supporters of the Hartington
community and we have many wonderful memories of chamber
events, booster club events and holiday events with Arnie & Rita.
God Bless them both!

Max & Bert

Max & Bert Rossiter - November 20, 2024 at 12:00 AM

BH

“ So sorry for your loss. May the happy
memories of Arnie & Rita give you comfort in
times of grief.



Becky Hosch - November 20, 2024 at 12:00 AM

JK

“ So sorry for your loss!! Prayers to you and family

Joe Kuehn - November 20, 2024 at 12:00 AM

KH

“ Prayers to Jim, Paula, Curt and Pam. Spent a lot of time with your folks at school functions. Prayers to your family.
Dareld and Kim Hively

Kim Hively - November 20, 2024 at 12:00 AM

SM

“ My thoughts and prayers are with your family during this tragic loss. May God give you Peace.



Sarah R McClure - November 20, 2024 at 12:00 AM

TD

“ Much love to you and your family during this time.



The Duncans - November 20, 2024 at 12:00 AM

CR

“ Family of Arnold & Rita Topf you have my Deepest Sympathy!
I worked for your parents at Arnie's Grocery Store, back in Hartington, NE
God be with you all! 🙏🙏

Cheryl Rupiper - November 20, 2024 at 12:00 AM

CH

“ Dearest kids and families, I am so sorry this happened! We were good friends w/both Arnie & Rita when you lived here in Hartington in your Dooley Drive home. (We lived at the bottom of that cul de sac). My kids were Heather, Paul, Mieke, Gina and since, Cassandra. We are all so very sorry for your unbelievable loss! Our prayers are with you all and may the angels lift you up in strength to carry on!

Cynthia (Cindy) Howey - November 20, 2024 at 12:00 AM

TB

“ We are so sorry for your loss! We wish you peace and comfort In this very tough time.

Tami Bittner - November 19, 2024 at 12:00 AM

JW

“ To the family of Arnold and and his wife my deepest sympathy to you all I went to highschool with Arnold and graduated class of 1953 I saw Arnold and his wife at our highschool 50 reunion a few years back

Joan Korth walker - November 19, 2024 at 12:00 AM

MN

“ Dear Family of Rita Topf,
I send you my deepest sympathy. God is with you always. You will meet again in Heaven.

Michelle Nuss - November 19, 2024 at 12:00 AM

MN

“ *Dear Family of Arnold Topf,
I send you my deepest sympathy. I promise you will reunite
someday soon. God is with you always.*

Michelle Nuss - November 19, 2024 at 12:00 AM