



Please join the family of Jim Klooz in thankful celebration for the life of Velda Faye Klooz. On Friday, August 24, 2018, a precious child of God – met her Savior in eternity and fully realized her purpose.

Velda was born on December 29, 1950, in Ainsworth, Nebraska to Eldon Gale and Ila Maxine (Moore) Horner. She grew up on a ranch near Rose, Nebraska, 30 miles south of Bassett. The oldest of 8 children, Velda forged a path for those who followed her. She was an active member in the drama program at Rock County High School, under the leadership of Kay Lynn Kalkowski, with whom she developed a treasured lifelong friendship. She also was involved in music through church and school, singing solos and trios with her sisters. Velda worked her way through college and graduated from Kearney State College with a degree in education. On a Saturday night in April of 1971, Velda participated in and was crowned queen of the Miss North Central Nebraska beauty pageant. The local newspapers reported that she sang excerpts from Brigadoon and then when the final question on religion was asked, she answered without hesitation. Velda's littlest sisters were very excited to be in the company of a celebrity when they went home that night.

On May 6, 1972, she married Jim Klooz and began a 46-year journey of love. Living on the farm west Taylor, Nebraska and most recently six miles east of Purdum, her endeavors ensured sustainment and success through both favorable and troubling markets. She came alongside Jim, serving in their community churches and she especially enjoyed helping to plant the Taylor Evangelical Free Church. She devoted her time to her children to help them in various activities: 4-H horse and club calf shows, Make-It-With-Wool contests, and sporting events.

Velda was, first of all, a follower of Christ. While attending a country church at Rose, she was especially touched by the metaphor Jesus shared in Matthew 23:37 to listen to God's call for repentance and salvation and run to Him as a baby chick seeks the shelter of his mother's wings. She understood that she was a sinner and needed Christ to bridge the gap between her and a righteous God. As she grew, her heart's desire was to be more like Jesus.

Velda tried to have food ready for Jim when he would come into the house... knowing that a little food kept a busy man going. Sometimes she stepped aside in her kitchen to let Jim be Chef. She praised his ability to put together a tasty meal, confident that he made mashed potatoes like no one else could. She also enjoyed running lunches out to the hayfield, and with a similar goal, she eagerly planned road trips across the hills to Arthur, east to Ord, or down south to Kansas and Texas, not only to visit the grandkids she adored, but to spend precious time with the love of her life.

Velda enjoyed homeschooling her children; although at times, her health made it a challenge. She loved sharing about their accomplishments. She was a wife, mother, grandmother, friend, teacher, artist, seamstress and tailor, party planner, avid reader, encourager, political activist, networker, and a connoisseur of life's simple pleasures.

Velda believed that even the simplest endeavors could be improved with just the right finishing touches. She appreciated the smallest details and the heart they revealed. She could look past the world that was and envision what could be. Her legacy and memory live on through the relationships she formed with those she loved, the stunning features of her grandchildren, and most importantly the Biblical Truths she and Jim passed on to their children. One of Velda's favorite verses was from 3 John 1:4 which says, "I have no greater joy than to hear that my children walk in truth."

Throughout her life, Velda would have readily admitted that the journey was always more interesting than the destination, that is... until Friday when she met her Savior. Please join our family as we celebrate a journey completed and in testifying to a life lived through the power of Christ.

Velda is survived by her husband Jim Klooz of Purdum, Nebraska. Five children, Julie and James Hawkins of Arthur, Nebraska, Jeana and Tanner Hackel of Ord, Nebraska, Stephanie and Mario Regier of Whitewater, Kansas, Josh and Ashlee Klooz of Houston, Texas and John and Jessica Klooz of Purdum, Nebraska. Thirteen grandchildren, 46 nieces and nephews, and 53 great nieces and nephews. Six sisters, Carolyn and Stan Clark of Long Pine, Nebraska, Teresa and Larry Brauser of Ft. Collins, Colorado, Joyce and Brian Grinder of Cheney, Washington, Mary and Tom Boehm of Elbing, Kansas, Rachel and Gordon Busenitz of Newton, Kansas and Genia and James Entz of Benton, Kansas.

Velda was preceded in death by her parents, her Father-in-law Clark Klooz, a daughter, Kayla Joy, her brother, Warren Horner, her sister-in-law Barb Klooz and brother-in-law Jonathan Busenitz.

Funeral services will be 10:30 a.m. Thursday August 30, 2018 at the Burwell Baptist Church in Burwell, Nebraska. Burial will be in Duff Cemetery near Rose, Nebraska. Pastor Lee Wonch will officiate. Visitation will be Wednesday, from 5 – 7 p.m. at Hitchcock Funeral Home in Burwell, Nebraska. Memorials are suggested to Camp Witness in Long Pine, Nebraska.

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