



Deb Davis

May 30, 1957 - November 1, 2019

Deb Davis, age 62, of Carroll, died Friday, November 1, 2019 at her home in Carroll.

Funeral services will be held at 10:30 a.m. Wednesday, November 6, 2019 at the Carroll First United Methodist Church in Carroll with Pastor Terry Plocher officiating. Burial will be in the Carroll City Cemetery. Honorary Pall Bearers will be Jeff Cayler, Mark Heino, Kevin Eischeid, Wes Niles, Jim McCullough, and Jon Baak. Current and Former Members of the Carroll Police Department will form an honor guard for the funeral service.

Visitation will be held from 5 until 7 p.m. on Tuesday at the Sharp Funeral Home in Carroll.

There will be no visitation prior to the funeral service on Wednesday morning.

Funeral arrangements are under the guidance of the Sharp Funeral Home in Carroll, and online condolences may be left at www.sharpfuneral.com.

Deborah Kay, daughter of Rev. H. Allen and Eileen (Besch) Wirtz, was born May 30, 1957, in Dubuque, Iowa. As a young girl, Deb lived in Estherville where Deb attended school through her tenth grade year. She subsequently graduated from Davenport Central High School in 1975.

In the eighth grade Deb decided she wanted to be a police officer. She attained her Associate of Science degree in Law Enforcement from Black Hawk College in Moline, IL in 1977, and then a Bachelor of Arts degree in Sociology from Buena Vista College in 1980. That same year, she was hired by the Carroll Police Department as the city's first female police officer and graduated from the Iowa Law Enforcement Academy. In 1997, Deb received trauma to her chest, ending her law enforcement career. She was then employed by Lou Walsh Motors until the business was sold in 2012.

On February 14, 1990, Deb was united in marriage with Leigh Davis. Their favorite place to be was next to each other, they were inseparable. The only time they were apart was in 2004-2005 when Leigh was deployed to Afghanistan. Deb was a Family Readiness Group (FRG) co-coordinator during Leigh's deployment and received many awards in this role. Deb loved being an Army wife and was a great supporter of all soldiers, mailing letters and care packages to over 40 military friends during various deployments and referring to them as "her" soldiers. In 2015, when Leigh's health deteriorated, Deb became his full-time caregiver until his passing on December 29, 2015.

Deb was a faithful member of the First United Methodist Church in Carroll. She was a fan of NASCAR and enjoyed blogging, reading, scrap-booking, and writing letters to family and close friends. She and Leigh enjoyed going on cruises and watching movies at home. Deb took pride in always having a spotless home and considered her pets, Bowser, Bear, Bandit and Blooper, all deceased, her children. Deb donated her hair four times to Locks of Love, and arranged for a 5th and final donation to be made after she passed away. She wanted to be remembered for being kind to everyone.

Left to cherish her memory are her mother, Eileen Wirtz of Carroll, IA; sister, Vicki McGowan of Moline, IL; brother Allen (Nancy) Wirtz of Glendale Heights, IL; nephews and nieces Luther Wirtz (Emily Heninger), Brendyn Wirtz, Sydney

Wirtz, Melissa McGowan, Debbie (Travis Pulse) McGowan, Anna Rath; great nieces/nephews Olivia (Connor Coughlin), Sydney, Brooklyn and Manuel and great-great niece Mikayla; Step-son, Steve (Vanessa) Germany; granddaughter Taryn.

Deb was preceded in death by her beloved husband Leigh in December 2015; her dad, Rev. H. Allen Wirtz; cousins Brian Besch and John "Jack" McCullough; her grandparents and several aunts and uncles.

Tribute Wall

FC

“ *Farmon Childress lit a candle in memory of Deb Davis*



Farmon Childress - November 07, 2019 at 05:26 PM



“ *My sympathies to Deb's family. She was a sweet person who gave all she could. May she Rest In Peace with her dear husband, Leigh and their 4- legged children. I remember getting to know her and Leigh through community theater. She had a zest for life and people!*
Tam Milligan

Tam Milligan - November 06, 2019 at 07:02 AM



“ *Serene Retreat was purchased for the family of Deb Davis.*



November 04, 2019 at 08:39 PM

GA

“ *I was one of Deb's soldiers and will miss my Veterans Day card that I received every year. Rip and now you are back with Leigh*

gary - November 04, 2019 at 02:31 PM

LA

“ We lived next door to the Wirtz family in Estherville and Deb often was a babysitter for our young children. We loved the Wirtz family and will always have fond memories of Deb.
Les Aasheim

Les Aasheim - November 04, 2019 at 12:26 PM



“ I was one of the few that had the privilege of being part of Deb's "blue family". She touched so many lives, both those in uniform and out. Her law enforcement career was cut short by health problems and thoroughly HATED leaving the job, but she continued to "Back the Blue" years after her medical retirement right up until her death.

Anyone who knew her knows there were four passions in her life: The Chicago Bulls, her law enforcement career, God and her husband Leigh. Leigh and Deb's relentless love and affection for one another had no equal. The day Leigh died, no doubt a big part of Deb died with him. We should all strive to have a love like the one they shared.

So now, my friend, your long wait is over and you are once again reunited with your beloved Leigh. Give him a hug from Theresa and I and say hi to Phil, Dave, Bill and the rest of the "old crew" that preceded you.

You will be missed, Officer Deb. God bless and God speed.

-Tim (CPD 1993-1999) and Theresa Brown

Tim Brown - November 04, 2019 at 11:49 AM

JP

“ I graduated with Deb at Davenport Central. She was a great gal and I enjoyed staying in touch with her via Facebook. I know she was a wonderful caregiver to Leigh and she struggled so much after his passing. God has now wrapped them both in his arms. Peace to all the family.

janet Justin Potter - November 04, 2019 at 06:12 AM

TK

“ I'm saddened to hear of the loss for so many that loved her. Rest in peace as I know you will Deb. You're Home!

Terri Kraus - November 03, 2019 at 04:37 PM

CD

“ Cindy Demers lit a candle in memory of Deb Davis



Cindy Demers - November 03, 2019 at 02:20 PM



“ You will be missed

Laurie Bruning - November 02, 2019 at 03:55 PM



“ Laurie Bruning lit a candle in memory of Deb Davis



Laurie Bruning - November 02, 2019 at 03:53 PM

GH

“ Gail and Ralph Heninger purchased the Sweet Tenderness for the family of Deb Davis.



Gail and Ralph Heninger - November 02, 2019 at 03:40 PM

JN

“ JOANNE NEPPL lit a candle in memory of Deb Davis



JOANNE NEPPL - November 02, 2019 at 03:06 PM

JN

REST IN PEACE. NOW YOU ARE WITH LEIGH

JOANNE NEPPL - November 02, 2019 at 03:08 PM

LH

Deb and I went to college together at Buena Vista and reconnected when I lived in Carroll back in the late 80's. I was at her surprise wedding! Leigh and I worked together at the paper. I moved away in 1989. She reached out to me on facebook. She was an extremely upbeat and kind person. She absolutely loved Leigh. I'm glad they are finally together. Rest in Peace Deb. You will be missed. Lori Hudson

Lori Hudson - November 04, 2019 at 05:23 PM



“ *Deb was a kind warrior...those words may not sound right together, but they are true. She was the female law enforcement, survived many health issues, champion of many causes...and loved her husband with warrior devotion to her last breath. I am proud to have known her...*

When it was maybe my 6 or 7th bday, she pulled me aside and gave me a j m&m necklace and told me that I was sweet and that necklace reminded me of her.... life long impression...

I am so deeply saddened at her earthly passing, yet thankful... she was faithful to the end — loving God and sharing her lens of life as one who was facing the end. She shared her last live video on FB a couple weeks prior to death And I gut wrenchingly sobbed with her, as I watched. That was one more way she was transformative.

Everyone was a friend. Kindness was her way. She had no agenda - she just loved people.

I'm all the better for knowing her. I will miss Deb forever.... I am thankful she has flown to Jesus and reunited with beloved Leigh...

*May her sweet loving ways never be forgotten. ❤️ Love you, Deb 🙏
❤️ Jen*

Jenny Squibb-Sharp - November 02, 2019 at 12:24 PM

KW

“ *I am amazed as I read through Debs obituary. I have such fond memories of her at Estherville and was able to reconnect with her a few years ago. I remember her as a kind and gentle soul and it looks like serving others was a fixed part of her character and life. My deepest sympathies to your family 🙏*

Kay Wilson - November 02, 2019 at 11:57 AM

MW

“ RIP Deb!!



Mary Wernimont - November 02, 2019 at 11:23 AM

VM

“ Although Debs family did not know anyone at the Carroll Police Department, Debs family wanted you to know she loved the Carroll Police Dept. A special thanks to the captain of the police department for taking her car home from the hospital when she went home, because she was unable to drive. Vicki Wirtz McGowan and entire family..

Vicki Wirtz McGowan - November 02, 2019 at 10:14 AM

VM

“ Debs family would also like to thank Hospice for everything they did for Deb. Deb was so grateful for you all. She commented to me several times how wonderful hospice was to her. It made her final days much easier.

Vicki Wirtz McGowan - November 02, 2019 at 10:05 AM

VM

“ My entire family would like to thank Ann Wenck, for all she did for Deb in her final days. What a wonderful example of the human spirit you showed Deb. We all appreciate you so very much. We will be forever grateful. Vicki Wirtz McGowan and entire family.

Vicki Wirtz McGowan - November 02, 2019 at 09:59 AM

DP

“ Deb & I started on the Carroll Police Dept. in 1980. We were the same age. She would tease me about being older by just two weeks. We worked together regularly until she had to leave due to her heart condition. She was good with the people of the community. When someone dies, you realize how fragile life can be. So many emotions & memories flood your mind. God's speed. Officer Deb Davis 10-42. Doug Peters, Denison PD

Doug Peters - November 02, 2019 at 09:47 AM

VM

“ Rest in peace to my sister. Now you are with leigh. I miss our daily texts and calls. Fly with the angels sis....

Vicki Wirtz McGowan - November 02, 2019 at 08:50 AM



My deepest sympathy to all of you Vicki. I have wonderful memories of your family and with you.

Terri George - November 02, 2019 at 09:21 AM

VM

Thank You Terri...

Vicki Wirtz McGowan - November 02, 2019 at 09:54 AM

MS

“ Mollie Sander lit a candle in memory of Deb Davis



Mollie Sander - November 02, 2019 at 07:18 AM

ST

“ Susan Teter-Lord sent a virtual gift in memory of Deb Davis



Susan Teter-Lord - November 02, 2019 at 12:58 AM

AG

“ Alissa Grace lit a candle in memory of Deb Davis



Alissa Grace - November 01, 2019 at 10:30 PM

SZ

“ She was always kind & took the time to stop and say hello when she saw you .



Sheryl Zimmerman - November 01, 2019 at 10:14 PM

LB

“ Linda Bluml lit a candle in memory of Deb Davis



Linda Bluml - November 01, 2019 at 04:56 PM

JM

“ Joe & JoAnn Morlan lit a candle in memory of
Deb Davis



Joe & JoAnn Morlan - November 01, 2019 at 04:41 PM

DB

“ David And Deb Beyerink lit a candle in
memory of Deb Davis



David and Deb Beyerink - November 01, 2019 at 03:12 PM

MA

What a awesome lady now your with your Leigh

mary ambrose - November 01, 2019 at 03:31 PM

CR

A dedicated, wonderful colleague and friend, with a spirit that lifted all who knew her. Knowing her as I did, she's probably giving St. Peter tips on how to interview prospective tenants. Honor, Virtus, Gloria...forever.

Captain Mark Heino, CPD retired - November 01, 2019 at 04:17 PM

KJ

This awesome lady has left our earth to go through Heavens pearly gates and be with her beloved Leigh. She is at peace and enjoying her heavenly home with Leigh. May she rest in peace. Kathy Jones

Kathy Jones - November 01, 2019 at 04:52 PM

PF

Debbie and her siblings were my favorites growing up as their babysitter in Garner, Iowa. It was wonderful to reconnect with her these last few years. My love and deepest sympathy to you, her family...both biological and professional. She was such a very special person that she will not be forgotten.

Pam Landon Fallesen

Pam Landon Fallesen - November 10, 2019 at 03:02 PM