



## John A. Vonnahme

October 23, 1984 - January 25, 2017

Mass of the Christian Burial for John Vonnahme, age 32 of Arcadia, will be celebrated at 10 a.m. Saturday, January 28, 2017 at St. John's Catholic Church in Arcadia. The Celebrant will be Fr. Mark Stoll. Fr. Richard Remmes and Fr. John McGuirk will Con-Celebrate the funeral mass. Music will be by Sharon Bierl and the St. John's Choir. Mass Servers will be: Max Vonnahme, Sam Vonnahme, and Maggie Vonnahme. Lector for the funeral mass will be Danny Wittrock. Gift Bearers will be: Rob Venner, Chase Andersen, and Brian Willenborg. Eucharistic Ministers will be Mary Lueshen and Allison Bramlet. Casket Bearers will be: Eddie Vonnahme, Paul Vonnahme, Joe Vonnahme, Karen Hursh, Scott Vonnahme and John Kreikemeier. Burial will be at St. Ann's Cemetery near Vail.

Friends may call at St. John's Church in Arcadia after 4 p.m. on Friday, where there will be a Christian Wake Service followed by a Rosary at 7 p.m. There will be no public visitation before the funeral mass on Saturday.

In lieu of flowers memorials may be left at the church to be directed to the John Vonnahme Children Education Fund.

Funeral arrangements are under the direction of the Sharp Funeral Home in Carroll, and online condolences may be left for John's family at [www.sharpfuneral.com](http://www.sharpfuneral.com).

The story of John Vonnahme's life began on October 23, 1984. He was born the fourth child to Dave and Jan (Wittrock) Vonnahme. John entered in eternal rest on Wednesday, January 25, 2017 in Carroll, Iowa. After spending his younger years in the Ar-We-Va school district he later graduated from Kuemper High School with the class of 2003. He furthered his education at Iowa State University and received a degree in Construction Engineering. John then accepted a Superintendent position with the Weitz Company in Norwalk, Iowa where he also purchased a house.

During the wedding of a friend he met the woman who would turn the house into a home and complete him. John and Jenna Kreikemeier were married on June 11, 2011 at St. Mary's Church in West Point, Nebraska. The Kreikemeier family turned out to be a wonderful loving and supportive addition to all the family. To this marriage welcomed 3 beautiful children: Luke, Grace, and Hope. John loved his role as father and did it very, very well. As we watch the children today and into the future, we take comfort by seeing the little pieces of him-both in their demeanor and the visual features they possess.

After spending at brief time in Norwalk and working at Weitz, John and Jenna decided to move closer to family and begin farming. John split his time working with his father and his uncle and learned the many details of running a farm operation. His brothers would often ask if he was happy he chose to move back and the response was always and enthusiastic "YES". To anyone that knew John well, they find comfort in the fact that John was doing what he truly loved to the end.

If there was one aspect of John's quiet life he can be remembered for it is his selfless personality. This was true no matter what hat he wearing: husband, father, son, brother, friend; the list could go on for days. Whenever someone asked John how he was doing, he always said "good" no matter the internal

struggle he was going through and that demeanor lasted through his final days. He didn't want to burden anyone with his problems no matter how much you wanted him to share. John always put the other person first, and I can imagine now, he's reading this and wondering why we wrote so much about him.

Some would say this story has a tragic ending. He was taken too soon, why did John have to carry this cross? As Jenna so plainly put it, I was expecting to spend 50 or 60 years of my life with him, not 5.

John, we love you, we will miss you, but we know that while John's earthly life may have been too short, death does not conquer, rather Hope lives on in us all.

John's earthly life ended much like it began, surrounded by family members who loved him dearly.

Left to cherish his memory is his wife Jenna Vonnahme of Arcadia; his children: Luke, Grace, and Hope, all at home; his parents: Dave and Jan Vonnahme of Westside; his parents-in-law, Kevin and Cherie Kreikemeier of West Point, NE; his maternal grandparents: Fred and Lucille Wittrock of Audubon; his siblings: Eddie (Katie) Vonnahme of St. Charles, Karen (Warren) Hursh of Bennington, NE, Paul (Courtney) Vonnahme of Colfax, Joe Vonnahme of Colfax, and Scott Vonnahme of Wall Lake; his brothers-in-law and sisters-in-law: John (Emily) Kreikemeier of Omaha, NE and Mary (Matt) Lueshen of West Point, NE; as well as many nieces, nephews, aunts, uncles, other extended relatives and many friends.

John was preceded in death by his paternal grandparents, Clarence and Caroline Vonnahme.

"He has been a servant to his loved ones providing help whenever help was

needed. He has had the joy to work the land you created and to realize the beauty of nature. The sunny days, the gift of rain, and the beauty of the goldfinches and bluebirds that live in his pasture.”

# Tribute Wall

SB

“ Cherie gave me a gift when she invited me to pray with John...the gift was John ...a young man with kind eyes & an infectious smile ...I watched as God's peace came over him. Later Cherie would say God had healed his pain...praise God! Heaven got a great man...I only wish he could have stayed here to continue to be the great man to his wife Jenna & children...to his parents & brothers & sister ...to his friends. ...again I was honored to know this wonderful man if only briefly ...rest in peace John ...to his family so so sorry💜✝️

Sue Batenhorst - January 29, 2017 at 02:38 PM

BM

“ To Jenna and the children, I only got to meet John a few times and I have to say he was a wonderful Man. I met him at Warren and Karens Home for family gatherings. I am so so sorry for your loss. I know you loved him very much and he loved you. You will always cherish the goodtimes in your heart forever and ever til eternity.

Love From Warren Hurshes, Aunt Bernadette (Bernie) If you ever need help  
I am a phone call away.

Bernadette Mollica - January 28, 2017 at 08:45 AM

AW

“ Jenna, Luke, Grace, and Hope,  
I'm so sorry for your loss. John was an amazing man! I'm keeping all of you in my thoughts and prayers. Sending hugs to all.



Alison Weber - January 27, 2017 at 10:54 PM



“ *Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of John A. Vonnahme.*



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January 27, 2017 at 12:12 PM



“ *Dawn Uhlenkamp lit a candle in memory of John A. Vonnahme*



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**Dawn Uhlenkamp** - January 27, 2017 at 08:33 AM



“ *I became very good friends with John's sister Karen in college and often spent a lot of time in the summer and on breaks at the Vonnahme farm with her. I got to know all of Karen's younger brothers and often considered them my own younger brothers. Their home was always filled with laughter, jokes, and fun - such a loving family. As I think back on those days, I am reminded of a saying I once ran across - "Love the people God gave you because he will need them back one day." This family was always so full of love. I send my love and condolences to you all. My prayers are with you in this time.*

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**Amy Hasenclever** - January 27, 2017 at 07:30 AM

KV

“ Jenna, Luke, Grace, Hope, Dave and Jan and family,

*'Everything happens for a reason!' Yet it happens way too soon and not how we expect the journey to end! Through love, laughter and tears - God will guide you through the days, months and years ahead!*



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**Kent and Karen Vollstedt** - January 27, 2017 at 02:59 AM

KV

“ Jenna, Luke, Grace, Hope, Dave and

*'Everything happens for a reason!' Yet it happens way too soon and not how we expect the journey to end! Through love, laughter and tears - God will guide you through the days, months and years ahead!*



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**Kent and Karen Vollstedt** - January 27, 2017 at 02:56 AM

DW

“ Our sympathy and prayers to your family.  
Diane and John Walsh

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**Diane and John Walsh** - January 26, 2017 at 07:20 PM

JK

“ Jenna and family, We are truly sorry for the loss of your husband. May God wrap his arms around you and your family for strength and comfort. Praying for JOHN and YOU! Keith and Jodi Kreikemeier family

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**Jodi Kreikemeier** - January 26, 2017 at 07:14 PM

CO

“ Jenna and family...I am so very sorry for your loss. I will be thinking of and praying for all of you. Cheryl O'Brien

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**Cheryl O'Brien** - January 26, 2017 at 05:23 PM

MW

“ To John Family Jenna, his children his parents Jan and Dave. No words can say the sadness we feel in our heart for all of you. No young mother should loss her soul mate, no young child should have to say where is my Daddy. No parent should have to bury a child. At these times we have to trust in our Lord Jesus Christ. May God hold all of you in the palm of his hand. You are all in our thoughts and prayers. Russ, Mary Wulf and Loretta Anderson

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**mary wulf** - January 26, 2017 at 11:32 AM

KB

“ It is with much sadness that I try to wrap my head around losing John. He was a great friend in high school, and even more so in the college years! I have so many memories with him! Most of my time in Ames included him. He was truly one of the greatest guys I have ever met! I pray for comfort in this difficult time and always!  
Kari Hoffman-Berg

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**Kari Berg** - January 26, 2017 at 10:47 AM

TB

“ Thinking of you all.sending prayers.if you need anything just ask Tammy Blum and family

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**Tammy Blum** - January 26, 2017 at 10:24 AM

JM

“ *Our sympathy on the loss of a very kind man. He will be missed!  
Keeping you all in our prayers! Mike and Jackie Mertes and Family*

Jackie Mertes - January 26, 2017 at 09:24 AM

AV

“ *Thinking and praying for you all.*



Alex & Kristin Vonnahme - January 26, 2017 at 08:40 AM

BA

“ *We are so very saddened by your loss. We will always remember all the early mornings the boys would meet at our house to plan their hunting strategy for the day! He was a wonderful young man that I greatly respected! More proof that God only takes the best♥ HUGS AND PRAYERS TO JENNA, HIS CHILDREN, and his entire family .  
Barry and Cathy*



BARRY AND CATHY ANDERSEN - January 25, 2017 at 09:50 PM

BV

“ *Jenna and family, Our hearts go out to you in this difficult time. We are praying for all of you and ar here if you need something.*

Bruce & Mae Vonnahme - January 25, 2017 at 09:48 PM

MS

“ *Mark & Jolene Stoelk lit a candle in memory of John A. Vonnahme*



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**Mark & Jolene Stoelk** - January 25, 2017 at 09:10 PM