



Estelline Alumni Association
 PO Box 108
 Estelline, SD 57234
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Cheyenne Krein will be scheduling workers for the concession stand this track season. Please call her at 690-2392 if you can volunteer to help out. All proceeds go to alumni projects and scholarship funds.

**Winter
 2021**

OUR MISSION STATEMENT
**PROMOTING
 EXCELLENCE**



**2021 ALUMNI WEEKEND
 JUNE 18, 19, & 20**



*Honoring Classes
 Ending*



TENTATIVE SCHEDULE FOR ALUMNI ACTIVITIES

• **FRIDAY, JUNE 18:**

GOLF FUNDRAISER at Lake Region Golf Course, 9:00 am
ICE CREAM SOCIAL at the Arena, 4:30 pm

• **SATURDAY, JUNE 19:**

GAZEBO GALLOP 5K and ONE MILE with proceeds to Hope Krause and the late Wyatt Niemann family, registration at 7:00 am, race at 8:00 am

SET UP FOR ALUMNI PICNIC, 9:00 am, all help appreciated
ALUMNI PICNIC, Legion Hall, Everyone Welcome ~ approximately 11:00 am (If you would like tables reserved for your class, please email: alumniestelline@gmail.com)

ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING, Legion Hall, after picnic, approximately 12:30 pm

• **SUNDAY, JUNE 20:**

PANCAKE FEED at Legion Hall, time to be determined

ALUMNI OFFICERS
 Jennifer Bjorklund Loban ~ President (2006)
 Jordan Busch ~ Vice President (2011)
 Hilary Gorder Suther ~ Secretary (2009)
 Molly Watt ~ Treasurer (2017)

Email Address:
alumniestelline@gmail.com
 Website: (Alumni Link) www.stellineschools.com
 Facebook:
 Estelline Alumni Association

If you need a mailing list for your class, contact the alumni secretary at: alumniestelline@gmail.com

Membership in the Estelline Alumni Association is open to all persons who attended or taught elementary or high school in Estelline, and anyone who is interested in the betterment of the school and community.

DUES ARE \$10/YEAR

1971 CLASS REUNION: Class of 1971 is making tentative plans for their 50th class reunion. If interested, contact Bob Ellsworth at 605-270-1050 or email bob@ellsworthfh.com
1960 CLASS REUNION: Planning an informal reunion if enough interest, probably at City Park, this year due to Covid cancelling last year's gathering. Contact Maureen Barnwell or Jan Sonnenburg if interested.

Class Notes

DEATHS

Tom Elverud, husband of **DIANE (GREEN 65)** of Estelline, died Oct. 2, 2020 at the Estelline Nursing and Care Center. Graveside services were held Oct. 6 at the Lake Campbell Cemetery.

JOAN (LICHT 71) Schiedegger of Huron died Oct. 6, 2020 at the Huron Regional Medical Center. Funeral services were held Oct. 10 at Kuhler Funeral Home with burial in Riverside Cemetery, all in Huron.

YVONNE (LUNDBERG 49) Johnson of Minneapolis, MN died Oct. 10, 2020 at her home. Private services were held on Nov. 5 at Veteran's Cemetery, Fort Snelling, MN.

EILEEN (FAEHN 59) Miller of Magnolia, TX died Oct. 9, 2020 surrounded by her family. No services are planned.

GARY MCFARLAND (69) of Watertown died Oct. 17, 2020 at Avera McKennan Hospital, Sioux Falls. Funeral services were held Oct. 22 at Crawford-Osthus Funeral Chapel with burial at Mt. Hope Cemetery, all in Watertown.

MARILYN (JOHNSON 51) McAtee died Nov. 3, 2020 in Brainerd, MN due to complications of dementia. Private burial services are planned for Spring of 2021 in Mount Hope Cemetery, Watertown.

Wyatt Niemann, son of the late **TRACY NIEMANN (88)** and Garrett and Jodi Priest of Watertown and grandson of Merle and **DEANNA (WULF 69)** Niemann of Estelline, died Nov. 6, 2020 at Sanford Children's Hospital in Sioux Falls. A public walk-thru visitation was held Nov. 16 at the Watertown Civic Arena with a celebration of life at a later date.

DELORES (HORSWILL 40) Antonen died Nov. 21, 2020 at the Estelline Nursing and Care Center. Burial was in Hillcrest Cemetery, Estelline.

ARDYCE (ESMOND 48) Apland died Nov. 22, 2020 at the Estelline Nursing and Care Center. Private family services were held Nov. 27 at Grace Free Lutheran Church, Bruce. A celebration of life will be held at a later date.

Richard Lagro, husband of **JUDY (FENNIG 61)** of Gilbert, AZ died at his home on Dec. 7, 2020 after a long battle with lung disease. A service was held Dec. 18 at the National Military Cemetery in North Phoenix.

JUDY (PAPKA 64) Keimig died at Avera McKennan Hospital in Sioux Falls on Dec. 14, 2020. Funeral services were held Dec. 19 at Trinity Lutheran Church with burial in Hillcrest Cemetery, all in Estelline.

MARGIE (HUTT 46) Sylvis died Dec. 16, 2020 at Avera McKennan Hospital in Sioux Falls. Funeral services were held Dec. 21 at the First Congregational Church, Sioux Falls, with burial at a later date in Black Hills National Cemetery.

JACKIE ZAFFT (79) died at the Estelline Nursing and Care Center on Dec. 18, 2020. Funeral services were held Dec. 24 at Geise Funeral Home with burial in Hillcrest Cemetery, all in

Estelline.

Robert Kilborn, husband of **MILDRED (RUNGE 55)** of Sioux Falls, died Jan. 3, 2021. Funeral services were held Jan. 7 at Emmanuel Baptist Church with burial at Hills of Rest Cemetery, all in Sioux Falls.

MIKE BERWALD (78) of rural Toronto died Jan. 9, 2021 at Prairie Lakes Hospital in Watertown. Funeral services were held at the Estelline Gymnasium on Jan. 17 with burial in St. John's Lutheran Cemetery, rural Toronto near the Berwald Family Farm.

JAXSON BERWALD (2030 ~ third grader at Sharon F. Delzer Elementary School), son of Becky and **AUSTIN BERWALD (2006)** of rural Toronto, died Jan. 9, 2021 at Prairie Lakes Hospital in Watertown. Funeral services were held at the Estelline Gymnasium on Jan. 17 with burial in St. John's Lutheran Cemetery, rural Toronto near the Berwald Family Farm. A funeral Mass will be held at a later date.

Denise "Denny" Wulf, wife of **RONALD WULF (79)** of Kulm, ND, died Jan. 14, 2021 from complications of small cell lung cancer. Funeral services were held Jan. 21 at Zion Lutheran Church with burial at Swede Township Cemetery, all in Kulm.

DENNIS EISNACH (54), died at home in Pierre on Jan. 16, 2021. His wife, **SHIRLEY (SALMONSON 54)** Eisnach, died at home in Pierre on Jan. 22, 2021. Due to Covid, private family services were held with burial in Hillcrest Cemetery, Estelline. Public services and celebration of life will be held at a later date in the late summer or early fall.

WEDDINGS

LEANNAH TEKRONY (2017) and Noah Scotting were married Jan. 15, 2020 in Germany and celebrated in the US on Nov. 14, 2020. Leannah and Noah are currently finishing full-time commitments with the Army and residing in Humboldt, SD. The couple spent two rotations in Europe from Dec. 2018 to July 2020. Leannah worked in medical support and Noah as an MLRS operator. Leannah will be going back to college in January as a junior working on her biology degree. Both are still working towards being accepted into medical school with Leannah specializing in women's medicine/OBGYN and Noah in orthopedics. They will be moving to southern California to attend San Diego State University (the other SDSU!) in 2021 to finish their degrees.

ERIN BEGALKA (2013), daughter of Kay and **GALE BEGALKA (80)** of rural Castlewood, and Clay Osterday were married Aug. 1, 2020. Erin is employed at the Bowdle and Hosmer Veterinary Clinics. Clay is a farmer and cattle producer. They make their home in rural Java, SD where Clay's family farms.

Kelly Thomas and **BRIAN VOHLKEN (2013)**, son of **ANGELA (ANDERSON 87) and LYLE VOHLKEN (81)** of Estelline, were married Oct. 24, 2020. Kelly is employed with Watertown Dental Care and Brian is employed at Rust Fencing. They make their home in Estelline.

BIRTHS

Sept. 4 ~ boy, Ledger Lawrence to Kyle and Claire Sonnenburg. Grandparents are Kathie and **KENTON SONNENBURG (87)** of Montgomery, MN. Great-grandparents are Judy and **LEROY SONNENBURG (62)** of Estelline.

Sept. 17 ~ girl, Harper Jane to Caitlin and Cole Morris of Silverdale, WA. Grandparents are **COLEEN PEDERSEN (86)** and Lawrence Rogge. Great-grandparents are **AGGIE (TOERING 66)** and Doug Pedersen of Estelline.

Oct. 21 ~ boy, Oliver Valentine to Alex and Hailey Linneman. Grandparents are LaVonne and **MYRON LINNEMAN (77)** of Sioux Falls.

Nov. 11 ~ boy, Preston Lyle to Brianna and Dylan Newby; joins brother Levi. Grandma is **LISA (ROSSMAN 83)** Newby of Parker, CO and great-grandma is **BARB (MCCLARD 58)** Rossman of Watertown.

Nov. 24 ~ boy, Fitz Jagger to Brendan and Whitney Koistinen. Grandparents are **JILL (ELLEFSON 84)** and **LES ROSSMAN (82)** and great-grandma is **BARB (MCCLARD 58)** Rossman, all of Watertown.

Dec. 9 ~ boy, Jase Allen to Amber and **RUSTY BRANDSRUD (2001)** of Estelline; joins siblings Allison, Tan-

ner, Hannah, and Asher. Grandparents are **DEB (DEBOER 79)** and **WADE BRANDSRUD (81)**, Estelline.

Dec. 14 ~ boy, Theodore Jon to **MIKAYLA (SAATHOFF 2012)** and Gabe Langseth of Stewartsville, MN. Grandparents are **MARCI (COLBERG 86)** and **LAYNE SAATHOFF (85)** of rural Bruce. Great-grandparents are Shirley and **EARL COLBERG (50)** of Estelline and **JAN (DEBOER 60)** and **ROGER SAATHOFF (60)** of rural Bruce.

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

REBECCA (BECKY LINNEMAN 72) and T.J. Sinha of Spring, TX celebrated their 45th anniversary on Sept. 27, 2020.

DIANA (LICHT 67) and **JAMES BUCHHOLZ (64)** of Estelline celebrated their 50th anniversary on Oct. 12, 2020.

GRADUATIONS

CARI (SCHWARTZ 96) Davis ~ Master of Science in Health Informatics and Information Management ~ Dakota State University

MAHYLE HAUSMAN (2014) ~ Master of Educational Technology ~ Dakota State University

Scholarship to honor Berwalds established

The EHS Class of 2030 is kindly requesting donations to start a scholarship in honor of fellow classmate and lifetime friend, Jaxson Berwald. Jaxson and his grandpa Mike Berwald (Class of 1978) tragically passed away in an ice fishing accident on Lake Poinsett, SD on January 9, 2021. Jaxson was 9 years old and had his whole life of being a fourth-generation farmer/dairy farmer ahead of him. Jaxson was a fun-loving kid who never had a bad day in his life. He never complained and always took adversity on with a smile and a 'can do' attitude. At his young age, Jaxson was already doing things that most adults do not get the opportunity to do. From hunting trips with his dad to riding full grown bulls out in the pasture, he never wavered in his excitement and enthusiasm for living the good life. He left behind his parents, Austin (Class of 2006) and Becky Berwald, as well as three siblings: Jaylee, Jaedyn, and

Jamison, whom are all enrolled or will be attending Estelline school. Jaxson will be greatly missed by so many and we hope that, with all of us, we can help Jaxson's and Mike's legacies live on through future generations!



If you feel compelled to give to this worthy cause, please check the 'Jaxson Berwald Scholarship' box on the bottom of the this page, cut it out, and mail in with your donation to the Estelline Alumni Association. The association is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization. Donations are tax deductible as allowed by law.

ESTELLINE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION ~ PO BOX 108 ~ ESTELLINE SD 57234

Send in your items for the newsletter to the above mailing address or email: alumniestelline@gmail.com

Name/Address: _____ Dues \$10/yr: _____

Phone/Email: _____ Year Grad: _____

____ SCHOLARSHIP FUND ____ JAXSON BERWALD SCHOLARSHIP FUND ____ ALUMNI PROJECTS

____ RURAL SCHOOL MUSEUM ____ REFLECTIONS MEMORIAL PARK ____ HILLCREST CEMETERY

____ SEND MY NEWSLETTER VIA EMAIL (email the association if you do not use this form ~ we must have your email address)

Thank You For Your Donations

SCHOLARSHIPS & ALUMNI PROJECTS

Tennyson Family Foundation ~ **BONNIE (NELSON 67)** and Mike Tennyson

Jane and Randy Derby

William McAtee

Skoglund Insurance Agency

Patti and **MIKE WARD (73)**

Karen and **GLEE MULDER (56)**

Judy and **GORDON GROOS (former high school teacher)**

KATHY (SKOVLUND 76) and **STEVE CARON (76)**

Mary and **DONALD BORSTAD (67)**

GALE NITTEBERG (68)

BETTE GERBERDING (former teacher)

Patt and DENNIS GERMANN (former high school principal)

HARRIET (JOHNSON 56) and **DON SCOTT (57)**

KAREN (BARNES 70) and Jim Petros

Bev and **TED BORSTAD (68)**

In Memory of **DONNA (LINNEMANN 53)** and Lloyd Shook:
MICHELE (HEMMER 73) and **DENNIS LINNEMAN (73)**

In Memory of **YVONNE (LUNDBERG 49)** Johnson:
Lynda and **DARWIN (LUNDBERG 51)**

In Memory of Ralph Schwartz:

CARLA (FOSTER 77) and **TOM CLARKE (78)**

SANDY (MOORE 88) and **TIM WULF (82)**

DELREAN (VOHLKEN 71) Gilligan

MAUREEN (LINNEMAN 68) Radtke

ANN (former elementary teacher) and **MIKE GORDER (77)**

In Memory of Raph and Donna Jean Schwartz:

Ken and Tammy Krein

GWEN (former teacher and asst principal) and **JIM TAYLOR (68)**

In Memory of **GARY MCFARLAND (69)**:
CLASS OF 1969

In Memory of **JACKIE ZAFFT (79)**:

Betty Veneklasen

Michelle, Joslyn, Aspen, Brensen and **KELLY**

VENEKLASEN (92)

CARLA (FOSTER 77) and **TOM CLARKE (78)**

In Memory of Sue Gorder:

LINDA (WATT 67) and LaVerne Mennenga

In Memory of Lenny Ludwig:

LINDA (WATT 67) and LaVerne Mennenga

In Memory of **KRISTI (COLBERG 82)** Dobbs:

PAUL WYCZAWSI (former teacher)

In Memory of **JUDY (PAPKA 64)** Keimig:

ANN (former elementary teacher) and **MIKE GORDER (77)**

Arlene and **RON FREESEMANN (64)** ~ Helia Trautman Scholarship:

In Memory of **RICHARD BEARE (64)**

In Memory of **GERALD HEISMAYER (64)**

In Memory of **ROSALIE MENNENGA (64)** Bury

In Memory of **DOROTHY (HANSEN 60)** Bergh

In Memory of **RICK WALES (65)**

In Memory of **VIOLA (JANSSEN 46)** DeVille Callesen

In Memory of Ralph Schwartz

In Memory of Sue Gorder

RURAL SCHOOL MUSEUM

In Memory of **JOAN (LICHT 71)** Scheidegger:

Tom and **SHARON DELZER (retired elementary principal)**

GALE NITTEBERG (68)

JACQUOWYN (LANG 55) Shanno

Bev and **TED BORSTAD (68)**

HILLCREST CEMETERY

In Memory of **YVONNE (LUNDBERG 49)**:

Lynda and **DARWIN (LUNDBERG 51)**

In Memory of **BRYCE LOOMIS (60)**:

VICKI (LOOMIS 95) Murra

ROBB LOOMIS (89)

BARRY LOOMIS (86)

In Memory of **JUDY (PAPKA 64)** Keimig:

VICKI (MULDER 64) and **GARY WATTNEM (64)**

In Memory of Edwin and Margaret Borstad:

Bev and **TED BORSTAD (68)**

Mary and **DONALD BORSTAD (67)**

GALE NITTEBERG (68)

MARLYS (SMITH 54) Marlow

Bebe and **VERNON FASBENDER (53)**

MARY LOU (GASPER 65) Malli

Lisa and **DALE VENEKLASEN (89)**

REFLECTIONS MEMORIAL PARK

In Memory of Bill Conlon:

NANCY (SWEEN 79) Conlon

GALE NITTEBERG (68)

MARY LOU (GASPER 65) Malli

Lisa and **DALE VENEKLASEN (89)**

CHARLIE MCKAY (67)



"Giving is not just about making a donation. It is about making a difference."