



Dona Goettsche

November 4, 1948 - January 19, 2025

Dona Jean Goettsche, 76, of Drakesville, Iowa passed away on January 19, 2025 at her home. She was born on November 4, 1948 in Iowa City, Iowa to Dr. William H. and Shirley Jean Underkofler Schlegel. Dona married Marc Miller on June 2, 1968 in Bloomfield, Iowa. They later divorced. On June 28, 2003 she married Arvid Goettsche in Drakesville.

Dona graduated from Truman State University in Kirksville, Missouri with a Bachelor's Degree in Elementary Education and later earned a Master's Degree in Administration and Supervision. She started her career as an elementary school teacher and taught in the classroom for Davis County Schools for many years before becoming the curriculum director for the Linn-Mar School District. After several years at Linn-Mar, she moved back to Davis County when she was hired as the elementary and middle school principal for Davis County. Dona served in that role most of the 1990's until she became principal at Bowman Woods Elementary with the Linn-Mar School District. In 2003, she returned to southeast Iowa and worked for the AEA in Ottumwa until her retirement in 2014. She touched many lives in her years of education – something she was very proud of.

Dona and Arvid loved to travel together. They attended the Cheyenne Frontier Days in Cheyenne, Wyoming for over 20 years and would spend several weeks in South Padre Island, Texas during the winter months. They enjoyed

going to Iowa Hawkeye football games and tailgating. Dona also enjoyed going on walks, shopping for antiques, being outside working on the farm, and mowing and trimming the lawn. She was a talented golfer and twice won the Women's City Tournament at the Bloomfield Country Club. She loved spending time with her family and she will be forever missed.

She is survived by her husband, Arvid Goettsche; three sons, Marcus Cree Miller, Christopher (Amy) Miller both of Bloomfield, Iowa, Clay Miller of Las Vegas, Nevada; six grandchildren, Solomon Miller of Altoona, Iowa, Randal Ream of California, Nicholas Miller of Knoxville, Iowa, Gracie Miller of Iowa City, Iowa, Katie Selvy of Bloomfield, Sky (Dillan) Schrock of Oskaloosa, Iowa; step-daughter, Kim (Russell) Hadley of Marietta, Oklahoma; two step-grandchildren, Mackenzie (Hunter) Hill, Paige Barker both of Marietta; numerous great-grandchildren; and a brother, Cree (Teri Bogle) Schlegel of Bloomfield.

She was preceded in death by her parents.

Funeral services will be held at 10:30 a.m. on Friday, January 24, 2025 at the Wagler Funeral Home in Bloomfield with Pastor Don Naftz officiating. Burial will be at the IOOF Cemetery in Bloomfield. Visitation will begin at 1:00 p.m. on Thursday with the family present to greet friends from 5-7:00 p.m. at the funeral home. In lieu of flowers, memorials have been established to Davis County Dollars for Scholars and the Bloomfield Country Club.

Cemetery Details

IOOF Cemetery

620 North Madison Street
Bloomfield, IA 52537

Previous Events

Visitation

JAN 23. 1:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Wagler Funeral Home
304 West Jefferson Street
Bloomfield, IA 52537
(641) 664-3421
<https://www.waglerfuneralhome.com/>

Visitation with Family Present

JAN 23. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Wagler Funeral Home
304 West Jefferson Street
Bloomfield, IA 52537
(641) 664-3421
<https://www.waglerfuneralhome.com/>

Funeral Service

JAN 24. 10:30 AM - 11:30 AM (CT)

Wagler Funeral Home
304 West Jefferson Street
Bloomfield, IA 52537
(641) 664-3421
<https://www.waglerfuneralhome.com/>

Tribute Wall

SW

“ Cree, so sorry I could not attend the visitation, down with a case old. I am smiling at the picture of the four of us in front of our old house on Chestnut St., probably around 1957. Donna was a great lady who let the way for women raised in the '50s. I know she will be missed.

Sheila Westegard - January 27, 2025 at 10:30 AM

AT

“ I'm sorry to hear of her passing. She was my 2nd grade teacher.

Anne Tews - January 24, 2025 at 12:48 PM

ES

“ My family and I would like to send our sincerest condolences to Arvid, and all of the family of Donna Goettsche. We met Donna and Arvid some years ago while they were in Wyoming for Frontier Days. Arvid the jokester, and Donna the reserved and eloquent one. Donna was the most tenacious individual I ever met, and she always made everybody feel welcomed and loved. Her joyful and enlightening spirit will be gravely missed here in Cheyenne. Donna's memory will always be in our minds and hearts. We know that Donna will be a guiding light in Heaven, and now she is at peace. Thanks Donna for sharing yourself with us and the Times and Pleasures you gave us. Stu, Roxann, Taylor, and Tucker

EDWIN P STUBERT - January 23, 2025 at 07:58 PM



“ Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Dona Goettsche.



January 23, 2025 at 07:24 PM



“ Steve and Michelle Kohlsdorf purchased the Joyful Memory for the family of Dona Goettsche.



Steve and Michelle Kohlsdorf - January 23, 2025 at 10:39 AM



“ Steve and Michelle Kohlsdorf planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Dona Goettsche.

Steve and Michelle Kohlsdorf - January 23, 2025 at 10:39 AM



“ Mackenzie, Hunter, Scout, Hawkins, Hyker purchased the Country Basket Blooms for the family of Dona Goettsche.



Mackenzie, Hunter, Scout, Hawkins, Hyker - January 23, 2025 at 07:02 AM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Dona Goettsche.



January 23, 2025 at 05:32 AM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Dona Goettsche.

January 23, 2025 at 05:32 AM



“ The Nicholson's and The Martin's purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Dona Goettsche.



The Nicholson's and The Martin's - January 22, 2025 at 11:38 PM



“ The Nicholson's and The Martin's planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Dona Goettsche.

The Nicholson's and The Martin's - January 22, 2025 at 11:38 PM

RD

“ R.P. Dickerson purchased the Enchanted Cottage for the family of Dona Goettsche.



R.P. Dickerson - January 22, 2025 at 07:23 PM

JC

“ We will always remember our times with Dona and Arvid at the Iowa Games. When we hear "Wagon Wheel" we will toast to Dona, our favorite song that we danced too. Our love to Arvid and family! Cameron and Jenni

Jenni and Cam - January 22, 2025 at 07:20 PM



“ Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of Dona Goettsche.



January 22, 2025 at 07:20 PM

WA

“ Wells Fargo Bank - Rove and Amy purchased the Arrive in Style for the family of Dona Goettsche.



Wells Fargo Bank - Rove and Amy - January 22, 2025 at 07:02 PM

WA

“ Wells Fargo Bank - Rove and Amy planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Dona Goettsche.

Wells Fargo Bank - Rove and Amy - January 22, 2025 at 07:02 PM

FF

“ Frank and Carolyn Fries & Family purchased the Small Garden Dish for the family of Dona Goettsche.



Frank and Carolyn Fries & Family - January 22, 2025 at 03:32 PM

FF

“ Frank and Carolyn Fries & Family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Dona Goettsche.

Frank and Carolyn Fries & Family - January 22, 2025 at 03:32 PM

LH

“ Love, Laura & Harry Huber purchased the Country Basket Blooms for the family of Dona Goettsche.



Love, Laura & Harry Huber - January 22, 2025 at 11:44 AM

LH

“ Love, Laura & Harry Huber planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Dona Goettsche.

Love, Laura & Harry Huber - January 22, 2025 at 11:44 AM

JW

“ From student teaching under Dona's supervision to having her as my principal for several years, I learned from her. She was fair and honest as she helped me be better than I was. I have always treasured that. God bless her family with memories of good times.

Jayne Wells - January 22, 2025 at 11:09 AM

TV

“ Dona made Saturday morning tailgates even better. Big hugs. Sending love and sympathy.

Tony Vellema - January 22, 2025 at 05:52 AM

VH

“ Valerie harding purchased the Medium Dish Garden for the family of Dona Goettsche.



Valerie harding - January 21, 2025 at 08:33 PM

VH

“ Valerie harding planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Dona Goettsche.

Valerie harding - January 21, 2025 at 08:33 PM

KS

“ Karen Spargur lit a candle in memory of Dona Goettsche



Karen Spargur - January 21, 2025 at 08:15 PM

DS

“ My brother and I grew up with Dona and Cree as neighbors and enjoyed our childhoods playing together. Life was so simple back then. My sympathy to all of Dona's family for the great loss of a lovely lady. 💔

Deb (Hockersmith) Smith

Deb (Hockersmith) Smith - January 21, 2025 at 08:10 PM

VH

“ From ted and Valerie harding. We have all ways in joyed the visit with downs each year here in wyoming. She was a friend that we will not forget. The trip we took to the farm to see the cows the tree and the land she will be messed.

Valerie Harding - January 21, 2025 at 07:59 PM

MB

“ Dona was a class act, both as a person and an educator. I cherish my memories of working with her. - Mike Bumgarner

Mike Bumgarner - January 21, 2025 at 07:08 PM

RO

“ *Roberts lit a candle in memory of Dona Goettsche*



roberts - January 21, 2025 at 07:08 PM

JS

“ *Joslyn Schlegel purchased the Basket Full of Wishes for the family of Dona Goettsche.*



Joslyn Schlegel - January 21, 2025 at 06:42 PM

PW

“ *Dona's ambition and generosity will long be remembered. Shopping in spring for flowers was always an adventure as was the flea market in Missouri. Great times!!*

Sincere condolences to Arvid and family!!

Pat and Steve Wehr - January 21, 2025 at 05:39 PM

DD

“ *Sorry for your loss Chris. Thinking of you and yours.*

Dennis Daniels - January 21, 2025 at 04:50 PM

SM

“ *My heart goes out to Arvid and the entire Miller family. I was fortunate to work with Dona in many school capacities. She was wonderful to work for and always very professional.*

Susan Martin

Susan Elizabeth Martin - January 21, 2025 at 04:48 PM