

OBITUARIES

Jeffrey Braxton

Jeffrey Braxton, age 55, of Yankton, South Dakota died Monday, August 24, 2015 at Avera Heart Hospital in Sioux Falls, South Dakota.

Funeral services are 10:30 a.m. on Saturday, August 29 at Calvary Baptist Church in Yankton with Reverend Rick Slattery officiating. Burial will be in the Garden of Memories Cemetery in Yankton with military honors provided by the Ernest-Bowyer VFW Post No. 791 and SD Army National Guard.

Visitation is from 5:00 to 8:00 p.m. on Friday, August 28 at the Wintz & Ray Funeral Home in Yankton with a prayer service at 7:00 p.m. Visitation continues one hour prior to the funeral at church.

Pallbearers are Barry Simonsen, Charlie Simonsen, Dennis Auch, Terry Braxton, Bryan Braxton and Christopher Mason.

Jeff was born June 20, 1960 in Culver City, California to Richard Braxton and Judith Hovanic. He attended Tamura grade school in Huntington Beach, CA and Lowell High School



Braxton

he lived in California and was self-employed as a painter and other various jobs. In the mid 1990's, Jeff moved to South Dakota. In January 1997, he started working for Cimpl Packing Company in Yankton. He started as a regular maintenance man working his way up to being the maintenance manager. On December 20, 1997, Jeff met the love of his life Sara Simonsen and since this date, they have never been apart. They were joined in marriage on August 25, 1998 and to this marriage they were blessed with two wonderful children, Jeremiah and Tecla.

Jeff truly lived for his family. They were his greatest joys and meant everything to him. He loved spending time with their two dogs, Cuddles and Patches, who were there to

in Whittier, CA. In 1977 at age 17, Jeff joined the United States Army and served until 1980. After his honorable discharge,

greet him everyday after Jeff got home from work. He enjoyed spending time outside whether it was riding his bike, mowing the yard, working on his boat, whatever he could find to do outside. Jeff was always ready and willing to go boating whenever he could find someone to go with him whatever time of day or night it was. He loved watching football, especially his favorite team, the Oakland Raiders. Jeff loved life and was always on the go. One of Jeff's highlights was being involved in his children's school functions. He never missed an opportunity to support his children in what they chose to do. Jeff was so good with kids and loved teasing and playing with his nieces and nephews. He had a huge heart and deep voice which boomed as loud as thunder. Jeff didn't meet a person that he didn't like and would go out of his way to help them if he was able to. He will be greatly missed by all who knew him.

Jeff is survived by his wife, Sara Braxton of Yankton; two children, Jeremiah and Tecla of Yankton; parents, Richard and Diana

Braxton of Whittier, CA and Judith and Steve Emerson of Arizona; three brothers and two sisters; Sara's parents, Russ and Lori Simonsen of Yankton and Michael and Beverly Bakke of Rapid City, SD; and many other family members and friends.

Jeff was preceded in death by his maternal grandparents, Helen Van Gorder and George Hovanic; paternal grandparents, Thomas and Violet Braxton; and Sara's grandparents: Archie Auch and Wilbert and Vivian Simonen.

The family would prefer memorials to be made in Jeff's honor to his memorial fund at Wells Fargo Bank.

To send an online message to the family, please visit [www.wintzrayfuneralhome.com](http://www.wintzrayfuneralhome.com).

Yankton Press & Dakotan  
August 28, 2015

  
**WINTZ & RAY**  
FUNERAL HOME and  
CREMATION SERVICE  
Online condolences at:  
[www.wintzrayfuneralhome.com](http://www.wintzrayfuneralhome.com)

Myles Nielsen

Myles Hilray Nielsen, infant son, was born and passed away early morning Tuesday, August 25, 2015 at the Avera Sacred Heart Hospital.

A private family burial will be held with Rev. Molly Carlson officiating.

The Opsahl-Kostel Funeral Home & Crematory, Yankton, SD is assisting with the arrangements. Online condolences can be sent at [www.opsahl-kostelfuneralhome.com](http://www.opsahl-kostelfuneralhome.com).

Myles is survived by his parents; Michelle Bartels of Vermillion, SD and Jon Nielsen of Fairbault, MN, two sisters; Alyssa and Adalynn, both of Vermillion, SD, maternal grandparents, Carol (Kevin) Kotalik of Tyndall, SD, maternal great-grandmother, Marlene Bartels; and his uncle Austin Kotalik and aunt Kayla (Jessey) Dyer.

Yankton Press & Dakotan  
August 28, 2015

Kathleen 'Ketz' Griess

Kathleen "Ketz" Griess, 86 of Hartington, Nebraska, died Wednesday, Aug. 26, 2015, at the Golden Living Center in Hartington.

Mass of Christian Burial will be 10:30 a.m. on Monday, Aug. 31, at Holy Trinity Catholic Church in Hartington with the Rev. Jeffery Loseke officiating. Burial will be in the St. Michael's Cemetery in Hartington.

Visitation is from 3-6 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 30 at Holy Trinity Catholic Church, with a vigil service at 5:00 p.m.

Arrangements are under the direction of the Wintz Funeral Home in Hartington. To post an online sympathy message, visit [wintzrayfuneralhome.com](http://wintzrayfuneralhome.com).

Alice Schulte

Alice M. Schulte, 95, died Wednesday, Aug. 26, 2015, at the Avera Sister James Care Center in Yankton.

Her services are pending at the Wintz Funeral Home in Hartington.

Sanford Pechous

Sanford J. Pechous, 92, passed away Aug. 26, 2015, at the Freeman Regional Health Services Hospital, Freeman.

Mass of Christian Burial will be 10:30 a.m. Monday, Aug. 31, at St. Wenceslaus Catholic Church, Tabor, with the Rev. Steven Jones officiating. Burial will be in the parish cemetery with Military Grave-side Rites by the Kortan-Hatwan American Legion Post # 183 Honor Guard and the U.S. Navy Funeral Honor Guard.

Visitations will begin at 5 p.m. on Sunday, Aug. 30, at St. Wenceslaus Catholic Church, Tabor, with a Wake service at 7:30 p.m.

Visitations will resume one hour prior to the service at the Opsahl-Kostel Memorial Chapel, Tabor.

Online condolences may be sent at: [www.opsahlkostelfuneralhome.com](http://www.opsahlkostelfuneralhome.com).

Iva Hovden

Iva B. Hovden, age 84, of Yankton, South Dakota and formerly of Volin, South Dakota, passed away Thursday, August 27, 2015 at Sunset Manor in Irene, South Dakota.

Funeral arrangements are pending with Legacy Burial & Cremation Solutions of Yankton, a branch of Goglin Funeral Homes.

Online condolences may be sent at [www-goglinfh.com](http://www-goglinfh.com).

  
**Goglin  
Funeral Home**  
Tyndall - Scotland - Tripp  
  
[www.goglinfh.com](http://www.goglinfh.com)

Library To Host eBook Workshop

VERMILLION — Are you interested in using eBooks and audiobooks offered through the Edith B. Siegrist Vermillion Public Library Curious about how eReaders work? Need help setting up your new device?

The library is hosting an eBook and Audiobook Workshop on Tuesday, Sept. 1, from 3-4 p.m.

During the first half of the workshop, the staff will answer frequently asked questions. They will also discuss various eBook features and how to access or download an eBook.

If you would like to bring your laptop or mobile device, stick around for the second half of the workshop where we help you set up your device.

Call or stop by our circulation desk to register. There are no fees for this workshop.

Library To Have Artists & Authors Series

VERMILLION — The Edith B. Siegrist Vermillion Public Library will showcase visual artist Patti Roberts Pizzuto during a return to its monthly Artists & Authors series on Tuesday, Sept. 1, at 7 p.m. This event is free and open to the public.

Patti Roberts-Pizzuto has lived in South Dakota since 2005 when she and her husband relocated from Florida. They currently have a home and studios on the banks of the Missouri River in Burbank. In addition to showing in exhibitions, Roberts-Pizzuto maintains an online shop, MissouriBendStudio, on Etsy and a website at [www.robertspizzuto.com](http://www.robertspizzuto.com).

Her work has been seen in exhibitions across the country and has been featured in *The Briar Cliff Review*, *FiberArts*, *Somerset Sew* and *Somerset Studio*, as well as recent books "500 Paper Objects" and "The Mixed Media Artist." Always interested in learning and growing, Patti is currently finishing a Masters Degree in Adult and Higher Education at USD.

Roberts-Pizzuto's presentation will offer participants a taste of what to expect during the library's first Picture This workshop of the season, which Patti will lead on Saturday, Sept. 12, from 2-4 p.m. There is no cost for this hands-on workshop, but space is limited.

For more information, or to register to participate, please call the library at 677-7060 or stop by the Circulation Desk.

Gov. To Declare Human Resources Day

VERMILLION – In response to a request by E. Lee Felder, vice president of Human Resources at the University of South Dakota, Gov. Dennis Daugaard has proclaimed Sept. 1, 2015, as Human Resources Professional Day.

Felder said the goal is to acknowledge HR professionals and ensure awareness of HR's integral role in every organization concerning employees at all levels. He said it's an opportunity to recognize the people who serve as a model of how to treat everyone with dignity, respect and fairness.

HR departments typically handle hiring, training, development and retention at businesses and organizations.

"Public recognition of Human Resources Professionals underscores their role as a valuable service, not only for making them more visible, but to lend assurance to all citizens that they will receive the support they need and deserve in all aspects of state employment," Daugaard wrote in his proclamation.

USD's HR department will serve cake to passersby in the Muenster University Center on campus from 10:30 a.m. to noon on Sept. 1 to mark the occasion.

IN REMEMBRANCE

Jeffrey A. Braxton  
10:30 AM, Saturday  
Calvary Baptist Church  
Yankton

Kathleen "Ketz" Griess  
10:30 AM, Monday  
Holy Trinity Catholic Church  
Hartington

**WINTZ & RAY**  
FUNERAL HOME and  
CREMATION SERVICE  
Yankton



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605-665-3644 [www.wintzrayfuneralhome.com](http://www.wintzrayfuneralhome.com) 402-254-6547

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— Ralph Reeder, M.D.  
President Dunes Surgical Hospital

  
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