

Amy De Boef



Sept. 14, 1974 - Dec. 25, 2024

Amy De Boef, 50, of Montezuma, passed away Wednesday, Dec. 25. Funeral services were held Tuesday, Dec. 31, at Third Church in Pella. Garden Chapel Funeral Home was in charge of the arrangements.

Amy was born in Ames, to Charles and Ann Farley, who later moved to Des Moines where Amy grew up with her younger siblings, Carrie and Andrew. She was a very happy child who never knew a stranger. Amy graduated

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in 1993 from Hoover High School in Des Moines, where she was class president, involved in band, cross country, student leadership, and took advanced placement classes at Central Academy. She enjoyed spending time with people from her church and youth group at Westchester Evangelical Free Church. Amy went on to attend the University of Iowa, majoring in elementary education, and met many new friends through Campus Crusade for Christ, including her future husband, Eric De Boef.

Amy did her student teaching in New Zealand and when she returned, Eric and Amy married on July 12, 1997. They lived in Des Moines for a few years while Amy taught first grade and Eric worked construction. In 1999, Eric began dental school with Amy's support as a first-grade teacher at West Branch Elementary.

On Jan. 7, 2003, her desire to become a mother was fulfilled in the birth of their son Benjamin. Nineteen months later Anna followed, then Emma, Clara, Ella, and Sara – six children in 12 years! Teaching them about life and Christ was her passion. In 2005, Eric and Amy received a joint calling to begin a retreat center – a Sanctuary for rest and refuge in the Lord. This vision continues today.

Through the years, Amy developed a gift for interior design and loved dreaming up the next dental office or home project with Eric. As she transitioned from homeschooling her children to sending them off to school, she became passionately engaged in working alongside Eric in growing their dental businesses.

There was never a person who Amy wouldn't honor. Everyone was comfortable around her. Perfect strangers would reveal things to her that most people would never learn. Amy would carry all of these gifts with her anywhere she went. She was known for her servanthood and kindness.

Behind a mild exterior was the heart and grit of a warrior with the faith of an angel and the courage of a lion. On Wednesday, Dec. 25, she finally succumbed to a battle her flesh couldn't win. Never complaining, her body gave way to a brain tumor that was determined to take her life.

Her legacy includes her husband, six children, her daughter-in-law Katherine, and an expectant grandchild she fought so hard to meet.

Amy was a leader, nurturer, prayer warrior, idealist, dreamer, encourager, and most amazingly – much to her husband's chagrin – never in a hurry. She always had time for you. She was a woman of the Word and constantly had a scripture on her heart that shaped the way she would talk to others and God. Her name means beloved, and this describes her well. Beloved in the sight of her Creator was the identity she cherished most.

How could one person reflect the love of God so purely? Amy was a radiant image-bearer of Christ. If asked what her spiritual gift was, she would reply, "to birth the unseen." Perhaps only she truly understood what this meant. Yet, we know what we have witnessed through her life – the indescribable love of our Heavenly Father.

Amy is survived by her husband Eric of Montezuma and their children: Benjamin (Katherine), Anna, Emma, Clara, Ella, and Sara; parents Charles and Ann Farley; in-laws Harold and Betty De Boef; siblings Carrie and Curt Gear, Andrew and Katie Farley; siblings-in-law Jennifer and Dan Grove, Michael and Sarah De Boef, Lisa and Daniel Ruckman, and many nieces and nephews.

The family prefers memorial contributions be given to the family to establish a memorial fund for the Sanctuary retreat center, or give to their GoFundMe at: gofund.me/2e39e827