

Debra Jean Phillips



Dec. 10, 1956-Jan. 25, 2025

Debra (Deb) Jean Watson Phillips, 68, of Montezuma, passed away Jan. 25, 2025, at University of Iowa Hospitals in Iowa City. Funeral services will begin at 11 a.m., Friday, Jan. 31, at Community Hope Church in Montezuma, with a luncheon immediately following. A private burial will be held at the Jackson Township Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the Community Hope Church or Montezuma Dollars for Scholars.

Debra (Deb) Jean Phillips was born on Dec. 10, 1956, in Oskaloosa, the daughter of Roger and Donna (Hall) Watson. She attended Montezuma Schools and graduated in 1975. Deb was united in marriage to Michael (Mike) Phillips at the First Presbyterian Church in Montezuma on Feb. 14, 1976. They were the parents of three children: Jill, Kaela, and Lindsay.

Deb worked at Montezuma Schools and Airgun, each for several years. She enjoyed gardening and spending time outdoors, and she was an excellent cook and baker. She also enjoyed sports, such as golfing, or watching the Cyclones play on TV. Deb was a member of P.E.O. and Mother's Club, and taught Sunday School and ran church events for many years. One of her favorite pastimes was playing cards with her family and friends. Deb also enjoyed spending time with her grandchildren and grandpets.

She is survived by her husband, Mike Phillips; her children, Jill (Rob) Hazen, Kaela Phillips, and Lindsay Phillips; her grandchildren Alex and Emily Hazen; her grandpets Jazzy, Bennet and Oliver; her brother, Tim (Darla) Watson; her sister Julie (Wes) Mathes; along with many nieces, nephews, and friends.

Deb is preceded in death by her parents, Roger and Donna (Hall) Watson, and parents-in-law Ralph and Bonnie (Barr) Phillips.

The Record, Thursday

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