

Death

Grace Lee Plummer

Grace Lee Plummer, the stillborn child of Shawn and Shelly (Kirkendall) Plummer, was born and died Wednesday, March 12, 2003 at Presbyterian-St. Luke's Medical Center in Denver.

Survivors include her parents; a brother, Verlin David Plummer; four sisters, Christen Michelle Preston, Windsor, Va., along with Mattie Jane Presson, Heather Lorrain Martin and Brittany Teal Plummer all of Winona; paternal grandparents, Verlin and Norma Lee Plummer; and grandparents, David and Mary Lou Kirkendall, Burkeville, Va., and Jake Armour, Rockyford, Colo. Graveside services will be at 11 a.m., Saturday, at Russell Springs Cemetery, Russell Springs. Visitation is today from 7 to 9 p.m. at Kennedy-Koster Funeral Home, Oakley. Memorials can be made to the Grace Lee Plummer Memorial Fund and left in care of the funeral home, 217 Freeman, P.O. Box 221, Oakley, Kan. 67748.

Davis and Leslie plan marriage

Chuck and Yvette Easter of Scottsdale, Ariz. and Douglas and Sue Leslie of Clinton, Iowa, the engagement of their daughter, Shauna Leslie to Brian Davis, both of Scottsdale.

The bride to be is a graduate of Gilbert High School in Gilbert, Ariz. She is currently working for Beverly Health Care in Scottsdale as a LPN.

She has two children, Katie and Justin, who reside with her in Scottsdale.

The groom to be is the son of Stanley and Lucille Davis of Colby.

He is a graduate of Colby High School. He has been working with Rural/Metro Fire Depart-



Shauna Leslie, Brian Davis

ment in Scottsdale for the last 15 years as an emergency dispatcher.

The couple is planning an Oct. 10, 2003 wedding.

Mail-a-book catalog available

The new mail-a-book catalog is now available from the Northwest Kansas Library System, said Leslie Bell in Norton.

"This is a service that offers homebound readers, people in towns without libraries or those who live outside the city limits of towns with libraries a large selection of paperback books direct through the mail," said Leslie Bell, Norton.

There are books for all ages and interests that can be selected from the catalog, she said, and anyone wanting a book can have it mailed with return postage included so that there is no expense involved for the reader.

In addition to Thomas County, the mail-a-book service is also available in Cheyenne, Decatur, Gove, Logan, Norton, Sheridan, Sherman, Trego and Wallace.

For information or to receive a catalog, call Pioneer Memorial Li-

brary at 462-4470 or the Northwest Kansas Library System at (785) 877-5148 or toll free at (800) 432-2858.

Dinner Playhouse

The Colby United Methodist Church is inviting everyone to come join them for a good meal and great time in Denver. According to Jan Barnum, coordinating the arrangements, the group will be traveling to Denver on Saturday, April 12, to see *Never too Late* at the

Country Dinner Playhouse.

The cost is \$33 and includes a full buffet meal and entertainment. Barnum said they will be car-pooling so those interested can either catch a ride with someone else or have someone ride with them.

Reservations need to be made by Wednesday, March 12.

To sign up, either call the church at 462-2761 or Barnum at 462-6503.

Hospital

Citizens Medical Center Dismissals

• Lois Myers of Colby was dismissed on Monday, March 10.

Families with information about patients either being admitted or dismissed are encouraged to call this information to the Colby Free Press at 462-3963.

Markets

| Quotes as of close of previous business day Hi-Plains Co-op | |
|--|--------|
| Wheat | \$3.23 |
| Corn | \$2.40 |
| Milo | \$3.91 |
| Soybeans | \$5.35 |

Community Calendar

THURSDAY, March 20

Kiwanis, Student Union, noon
Family History Center, 1145 S. Franklin, 7-9 p.m.
Tumbleweed Chorus, United Methodist Church, 8 p.m.
Downtown Alcoholics Anonymous, City Hall basement, 8:30 p.m. (non-smoking)
Wings Upon the Prairie drop-in center, 485 N. Franklin, 5-8 p.m.

FRIDAY, March 21

Wings Upon the Prairie drop-in center, 485 N. Franklin, 5-8 p.m.
New Hope Narcotics Anonymous, City Hall Basement, 8 p.m.

Neighbors respond to tragedy by jumping in to help

DEAR ABBY: A few months ago, our beloved son-in-law, "Tom," died unexpectedly at only 39 years of age. Our daughter and her three children, all under 8, survive him.

The night Tom died, neighbors took care of our grandchildren, while others accompanied my daughter to the hospital. They waited throughout the night until we arrived from out of state, hundreds of miles away.

The next day these wonderful people took their own children out of school to play with our grandchildren. Neighbors took days off work to comfort and care for our daughter. They organized a schedule of who would provide meals.

More than 15 families in the neighborhood helped with all the small yet important details before and after the funeral.

Photos of our son-in-law and the family were enlarged, framed and displayed in the visitation room of the funeral home — along with hand-drawn pictures and letters of sympathy from the neighbors' children and our grandchildren's classmates.

Friends set out journals for guests to record their memories of Tom and express their condolences.

In the coffee room at the funeral home, neighbors arranged for baby sitters, toys, food and beverages for the many children in attendance.



Abigail Van Buren

• Dear Abby

After the memorial service, these folks catered lunch at our daughter's home.

Several neighbors opened their homes to out-of-town visitors. And to top it all off, the family next door moved out of their home to provide extra room for family members attending the funeral. Now, months later, neighbors are still taking our grandchildren on outings, checking on our daughter, and bringing in meals on occasion.

Never have I seen a neighborhood with so much warmth and caring. In a day and age when neighbors barely know each other, it is inspiring — especially in a metropolis like Chicago.

I know of no other column with a wider audience than yours, Abby. Please share this experience with your readers in the hope that they, too, will make the effort to participate in their neighborhoods and be of service to others.

—A GRATEFUL MOTHER

DEAR GRATEFUL MOTHER: I offer my condolences for your loss. Being of service to

others is the highest calling I know. In these complicated economic and political times, people often narrow their focus. Your daughter's neighbors are an inspirational example of brotherly love in action.

DEAR ABBY: I was divorced three years ago and am uncertain about what to do with my wedding album. This is on my mind because I'll be remarrying this year, and I have no desire to keep the photos from my first marriage. My dilemma is that I have two small children and wonder if there would be any benefit — or harm — in keeping the album for their sakes. (Their

dad is pretty much out of the picture.) Thanks for any light you can shed on this.

— BRIDE-TO-BE IN OMAHA

DEAR BRIDE-TO-BE: Although that chapter of your life is now closed, it is still very much a part of your children's history. Put the albums in storage for your children to have later.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

The family of
Doreen Kennedy
will host a community
80th Birthday
Open House
Sunday, March 16 • 1:30-3:00
St. Frances Cabrini
Catholic Church Parish Hall
Hoxie, Kansas
Your presence is her desired gift.

Thank You...
friends and family for flowers, cards, gifts and lots of love!!
Cori, Pat, Sherry, and Theresa - you supplied the work to make my day a very special one that will always be remembered; Dr. Washburn - you made my job for 26 years very gratifying, happy and honorable.
Thank You, Ruthie Hughes

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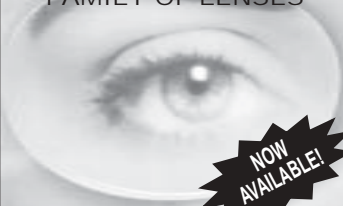
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| HAWAII - Air & hotel | \$740 | 3 | | |
| LONDON, ENGLAND - Air & hotel | \$700 | 7 | | |
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