



## Delton "Del" Ziesch

December 5, 1948 - November 27, 2021

Delton Ziesch, 72, died November 27, 2021 in Des Moines, IA. He was born on December 10, 1948 to August and Emma Leapaldt Ziesch of rural Pettibone, ND. He grew up attending Petersville church, a mile from their farm. Delton graduated from Pettibone High School, where he enjoyed playing basketball and playing in the band. He graduated from Concordia College, St. Paul, MN with a Master's of Divinity degree.

Delton lived in Des Moines, Iowa for many years. He witnessed to the homeless, and encouraged them by singing, playing piano, and guitar on the streets. Delton enjoyed attending basketball games at nearby Drake University and discussing politics.

Preceding Delton in death were his parents; four sisters : Verla Schmidt, Lois Schmidt, Darlene Giger and Ardelle Loose; brother Duane Ziesch, nephew, Cordell Schmidt, and niece, Marianne Giger. Left to mourn his death are brother, Robert Ziesch; two sisters-in-law, Delores and Karen Ziesch; and eighteen nieces and nephews.

A burial service will be held on July 29, 2022 at 11:00 a.m. at the Petersville Cemetery, rural Pettibone.

# Previous Events

## Graveside Service

JUL **29**. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (CT)

Petersville Cemetery  
Pittibone, ND 58475

# Tribute Wall



“ I am honored to have been a friend of Delton's for more than 20 years. We met as fans of Drake women's basketball, and he rode with me in 2009 to see the Bulldogs play at Missouri State in their then-new JQH Arena. We were on the road more than 13 hours to see a 2-hour game, we had many laughs and saw the Bulldogs win. We later on talked about that event with pleasure. I frequently gave Delton (as he always called himself when introducing himself to people or leaving a message on my phone) a ride to or from Drake home games, though he never asked me to. He was always appreciative.

One year on a fall Sunday, Delton and I spent an afternoon together, eating at the Drake Diner, then going to a softball game, a soccer game, and the last vestiges of a tennis match. He was always good company and we invariably found a lot to talk about, mostly avoiding things we knew we didn't agree on, like politics. I enjoyed his laugh, and one of his stock phrases when he'd agree with something I said: "Precisely!"

I will miss Delton, his positivity and good humor, his agreeable and patient nature. In his honor I'm going to attempt to be more like him in these significant ways. I will miss him and his friendship.

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**Jay A. Davidson** - March 25, 2022 at 06:37 PM

JG

“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



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**John Gorentz** - January 22, 2022 at 03:05 PM

JG

*Delton came home with me for Thanksgiving break from college in 1967. He is on the right.*

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**John Gorentz** - January 22, 2022 at 03:07 PM

AG

“ *My memories of my cousin Delton are from when I was a young child and we would visit his family for dinner. My mother and Delton's were sisters and were quite close. I only remember Delton being somewhat quiet and smiling and very pleasant- I guess not unlike his mother. Our paths never crossed after those early days. I am so sorry to hear of his passing and my thoughts and sympathy are with his family.*

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**Arlene Goter** - January 13, 2022 at 10:32 AM

MS

“ *I am a cousin of Delton's. My dad and his mom were brother and sister. I think Delton was the youngest in the family, the rest of them were a bit older than me so I didn't really know them. When we visited them, Delton was always kind to me. He always made me feel special because he would take the time to talk to me...even though I was much younger. As a young person, that meant a lot. I always hoped he would be there when we visited so we could talk. When I think of Delton, I smile. He was a good person. May he rest in peace. Marlys (Leapaldt) Skogmo*

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**Marlys Skogmo** - January 12, 2022 at 12:36 PM

JE

“ I was so fortunate to know Delton when I worked at the Meadowlark Room in Younkers during my high school years. I believe I can speak for the entire staff when I say that he taught us values of kindness, positivity, and hard work.

No matter how crazy the day would be, he always had a smile, and asked you how you were doing.

I'm now in my fifties, and those lessons have never left me.

A genuinely good soul who will be missed.

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**Jim Erickson** - December 03, 2021 at 04:45 PM

MW

I learned that Uncle Delton had died, when my Christmas card to him was returned. He was my youngest uncle, only 10 years older than me. He hadn't been home to ND in about 30 years. I remember him playing with me and my siblings as young children, playing guitar and singing with him as a teenager, and having a letter correspondence with him as an adult. He was funny and warm-hearted. I'm glad to hear that he found "family" at the diner.

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**Mary Jane Westerhausen** - January 05, 2022 at 10:23 AM

SL

I last spoke with him in 2016. I had sent him a package in 2020, but got no response. I was glad to know that Robert had spoken to him in the fall of 2021. Predeceasing him were his sisters and brother: Lois Schmidt, Darlene Giger, Ardelle Loose and Duane Ziesch. His brother Robert Ziesch is the only surviving child of August Ziesch and Emma Leapaldt.

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**Stephanie Loose** - January 05, 2022 at 10:43 AM



Delton's mom, Emma, and my mom, Esther, were sisters and they were close, so we were often at their home. He was quite a bit older than I so I don't have many personal memories. I do remember his big smile, which he seemed to be wearing all the time, and his easy laughter.

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**Carol Goter** - January 13, 2022 at 10:08 AM