Connie Griffin, 65, of Henderson, Nev., and formerly of this area, died at her home July 5, 2016, after a long battle with cancer.

A memorial service will be held in Montezuma sometime in early August. She will be cremated, per her request, and a grave marker will be placed on the family plot in Montezuma.

She was born Nov. 2, 1950, at Mahaska Hospital in Oskaloosa, the daughter of Bev and Clyde Griffin. She grew up in Montezuma and graduated from Montezuma High School. After attending college in Ames, she became a teacher and lived and taught in Ladora and Kalona, Iowa, and also in Kremmling, Colo.; Vienna, Austria; the Canary Islands; Tacoma, Wash.; Jerusalem, Israel; and Las Vegas, Nev.


She is survived by her daughter Jeannie Zulauf; grandson Trevin Zulauf; brother Dave Griffin and his wife Pat; and her aunt, Bonnie Rutherford.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Bev and Clyde Griffin.

When you attack your life with enthusiasm, dedication, and love, work is not what you do for a living; it is the result of being alive. Connie’s students understand this. They saw it every day in the classroom as they learned to look at the world through the eyes of a woman who made the world better with every math lesson. They learned that the correct answer isn’t always the right one and every variable should be given its own consideration and treated not as a part of the problem, but as a whole unto itself. This is how she treated the world around her: every person, every experience, every shared memory—a whole unto itself.

She will be remembered as a mother, Oma, sister, and friend. As a woman who bought every knock-knock in every joke at the store, and stepped into a not because she loved her little things (which she did), but because she knew her small purchases helped the families who ran those stores. Her kindness and desire to help knew no bounds, as she lived without reservation, complaint, or regret. For every child whose mind she touched, she will leave an impression on future generations to come. So while her body may have passed, her spirit will live on.

Connie Sue Griffin

Nov. 2, 1950 - July 5, 2016

Connie Sue Griffin, 65, of Henderson, Nev., and formerly of Montezuma passed away on July 5.

There will be a service for Connie Sept. 18 at the United Methodist Church in Montezuma at 1:00 p.m. There will be a light lunch served at the church directly after the graveside service. All are welcome to attend.

Connie Sue Griffin was born on Nov. 2, 1950 to Bev and Clyde Griffin of Montezuma. She grew up in Montezuma and married Lynn Merck in 1970 (they later divorced in 1984).

She became a teacher and moved overseas. Eventually she moved to Israel where she spent 18 years helping children and touching the lives of everyone she met.

Last year, Connie moved to Henderson, Nev. to be closer to her daughter Jeannie and Jeannie’s son, Trevin, the love of Connie’s life.

After 20 years of fighting breast cancer, she succumbed July 5.

Connie is survived by her daughter Jeannie Zulauf, her brother, Dave Griffin, her aunt Bonnie Rutherford, her great-aunt Dorothy, and her treasured grandson, Trevin Zulauf.