



Susan Beth Baumann, 76

June 21, 1948 - August 6, 2024

Grafton resident Susan Beth Baumann, 76, passed away Tuesday, August 6, 2024, at Fairview Manor in Fairmont, NE.

Memorial services will be conducted at 2:00 p.m., Monday, August 12, 2024, at Trinity Lutheran Church in Grafton, NE with Pastor Andrew Carter officiating. Inurnment will follow at the Grafton Cemetery. In honoring her wish to be cremation there will not be a visitation or viewing.

Memorial contributions may be directed to Trinity Lutheran Church or the Grafton Rescue Squad.

Susan Beth Baumann was born to Donald and Marian Baumann on June 21, 1948. She was the oldest of three children.

Susan was baptized and confirmed at Trinity Lutheran Church in Grafton. She attended elementary school in Grafton and graduated from Sutton High School in 1966. She then attended Kearney State College and graduated with degrees in Piano and Vocal studies. After graduation, she taught vocal music at West Point, Nebraska, for ten years. In 1980, she returned home and worked at Baumann's Steak House before opening the Double Dipper Drive Inn in Sutton in 1985. After closing the Double Dipper, she pursued her full-time writing career in 1994. Since then, she has published over 60 books

under the pen name Laura Landon, which have sold over a million copies and have been translated into multiple languages. More importantly, her involvement in local writing groups allowed her to forge many treasured friendships, which she deeply valued personally and professionally.

Susan was a faithful member of Trinity Lutheran Church in Grafton, playing the organ and leading the choir for many years.

She was preceded in death by her father in 1979, her sister Cindy (Brill) in 2007, her mother in 2013, and her brother-in-law Bob Brill in 2016.

She is survived by her brother Jim and sister-in-law Roxann of Grafton, nephews Zachary Baumann of Lincoln, Aaron Baumann of Grafton, and Niece Megan Gewecke and Tyler of Geneva. Great nephew Drake Baumann and Great niece Palmer Gewecke. Special cousin Patsy "Petie" Thiele of Columbus and many other very close cousins.

Cemetery Details

Grafton Cemetery

1904 Road 7 Grafton
Grafton, NE 68365

Previous Events

Memorial Service

AUG 12. 2:00 PM (CT)

Trinity Lutheran Church
250 N Tatro Ave Grafton
Grafton, NE 68365

Tribute Wall

DD

“ I just learned of Ms Baumann's death yesterday (03/10/26). She was our chorus instructor at West Point High School and was an excellent teacher. I can still see her smile when we "nailed it" at the end of the songs we sang in concert or in competition. She was fun and our Boys Chorus always had fun with her. I remember at our Christmas concert in Dec. of 71 we sang we Wish You a Merry Christmas and Oh bring us some figgy pudding. Well, we had two guys in our group with the last name of Stigge, so instead of signing, Oh bring us some figgy pudding we sang oh bring us some Stigge pudding. At the end of the song she gave us that smile for "nailing it." The next time we had class she had a real to real recorder and played the song back to us. Before she did we told her what we had done and at the end of the recording she turned it off and turned to us with a stunned look and said, "you did!" We all laughed, including her and I don't think anyone in the audience that day was none the wiser.

She also was great in our musicals and was just a great person and teacher.

I used to stop and see her when I would go down hwy 6/34 at the convenience store in Graften and talk. She will be missed. Rest in Peace Ms. Baumann

Dennis DaMoude (Holdrege, NE Class of 1973)

Dennis Damoude - March 11 at 11:11 PM

KN

“ I was a student of Sue's at West Point High School in the late 70s. She was a supporter and a real inspiration - and just a really decent person - for her students and fellow staff. I've only just learned of her passing and know she'll be missed by her community, her family and by many who knew and loved her. Requiscat in pace dear Sue.

Karl Nyquist - August 23, 2025 at 08:51 AM

GN

“ We are so sorry to hear of Sue's passing. She was such a special lady.

Gordy and Brenda Nuss - October 05, 2024 at 03:34 PM



“ 30 files added to the album Flowers



Sutton Memorial Chapel and McLaughlin Funeral Chapel - August 12, 2024 at 04:56 PM

BT

“ Barbara Trapp lit a candle in memory of Susan Beth Baumann, 76



Barbara Trapp - August 12, 2024 at 03:30 PM

Bren Gould

“ I will always cherish the memories working for you at Double Dipper!! Truly a remarkable lady, you will be missed.

Bren Gould - August 09, 2024 at 06:32 PM

CE

“ Susan was left a legacy as a published author, as well as an accomplished musician. We shared the task of accompanying the Sutton HS chorus as they sang *The Messiah*. Thankfully, Sue played *The Hallelujah Chorus*. She was so talented and kind. We will miss her.

Carol Ulmer Erickson - August 09, 2024 at 04:52 PM

PW

“ *Praierland Romance Writers purchased the Sweetest Sunrise Bouquet for the family of Susan Beth Baumann, 76.*



Praierland Romance Writers - August 09, 2024 at 12:02 PM

PW

“ *Praierland Romance Writers planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Susan Beth Baumann, 76.*

Praierland Romance Writers - August 09, 2024 at 12:02 PM

JM

“ I miss your beautiful smile, your pure spirit of goodness and fun, your willingness to lead our writers group (PrairieLand Romance Writers) for so long, and traveling with you to so many conferences together. I have so many great memories of our conversations and adventures together. I envied your ability to make friends so easily wherever we went, but I was lucky and blessed to be one of those friends, too.

I miss you, boss.

Hugs & prayers to her family and friends.

Julie Miller - August 07, 2024 at 03:10 PM

VJ

“ Such a kind, interesting, lovely lady! Sue will be greatly missed! ❤️



Virginia Johnson - August 07, 2024 at 02:48 PM

DB

“ Susan always had a beautiful smile and laugh, if something needed to be done she would be first in line to do it. A great classmate of 66, you will be missed. Don Bottorf

Don Bottorf - August 07, 2024 at 11:00 AM

MI

“ *Mary Schwaner - Prairie Muse Books Inc purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of Susan Beth Baumann, 76.*



Mary Schwaner - Prairie Muse Books Inc - August 07, 2024 at 04:14 AM

MS

“ Those of us who were privileged to know Sue as historical romance author Laura Landon will miss her constant smile, infectious laugh, and immense loyalty. As her initial publisher of 35 love stories, Prairie Muse Books was honored to share in her stellar success. I will never forget the day in 2011 when I called Sue and said, "Sue, 17 people you don't know just bought your first book." Her squeal of joy still rings in my ears. But it was nothing compared to the call I made a couple of days later to tell her, "Sue, fifteen hundred people you don't know just bought your book. Today." Her disbelief was the hallmark of her humility, which remained firmly in place throughout her pinnacle years. Sue's books published by Prairie Muse alone have a loyal readership who, to date, have read 74,118,993 pages of Laura Landon books. Yes, over 74 million pages. But that's just her ebooks, not her paperbacks, and Amazon didn't begin reporting page counts for the first five years Sue was published. So it's safe to say that her number of "pages read" is now truly astronomical. Still, even that is only half of the story. Sue went on to publish nearly 30 more books with Amazon Montlake, Amazon Kindle Press, and Dragonblade Publishing. I can only imagine what her "pages read" must truly be. Before Sue published her first book, Sue said she didn't care about the money, she just wanted people to read her stories. Well, Sue, it's safe to say you got your wish.



Mary Schwaner - August 07, 2024 at 04:08 AM

DP

“ *Dragonblade Publishing purchased the Lavender Reflections Spray for the family of Susan Beth Baumann, 76.*



Dragonblade Publishing - August 06, 2024 at 09:33 PM

DP

“ *Dragonblade Publishing planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Susan Beth Baumann, 76.*

Dragonblade Publishing - August 06, 2024 at 09:33 PM

KV

“ *Susan (known as Laura to us) was one of the sweetest women I've ever met. She was very kind to my mother at a conference years ago (after my mother had suffered a traumatic brain injury) and I have never forgotten that kindness. She was a talented author and well loved by all who knew her. She will be greatly missed.*

Kathryn Le Veque - August 06, 2024 at 09:28 PM

AT

“ Susie...Thank You for the wonderful memories we made together throughout the years. We will miss you dearly!! Our deepest sympathy! Adam and Christina Thiele



Adam Thiele - August 06, 2024 at 08:18 PM