



THE EAGLE'S WING



Issue No. 29

Keota Jr./Sr. High School Student Newspaper

A Final Farewell to our Seniors.....

Anna Ackerman-Axume

Dearest Anna,

You were a bit of surprise coming into the world. Most babies take nine months, but you came in seven months. On the sonogram your little body looked full of holes and birth defects. The doctors said you might not make it. You were born with a heart monitor and in your own way you told the doctors you were a fighter. You were going to make it. I prayed to Jesus and told him he gave me you and I promised to try my best to give you the chance at life that I was unable to have for myself. I can not tell you how much you mean to me and how proud I am of you. You have exceeded my expectations. My love for you grows in admiration daily. You've exceeded my expectations and am happy I chose life for you. I have great hopes you'll do well in life. You might make mistakes, but never let anyone darken your light or voice, for it is there you will find your strength. Felicitades mija te amo con Toda mi corazon eres un bendicion.
Love,
Mom

P.S. Never forget where home is because this life passes quickly. Ground yourself. And remember the seven B's. Books Before Boys Because Boys Bring Babies. Education equals opportunities. Money don't last unless you can back it by cold hard truth and facts.

Laurie Amos

Dear Laurie,

It's getting close to the end of high school and soon it will be time to show the world how awesome you have become. We feel greatly blessed to have you as our daughter and wish you the best of luck with your future in the Navy.
Love,
Mom & Dad

Marty Baker

Dear Marty,

We have really enjoyed watching you grow up from a little guy on a rocking horse playing rodeo to a cowboy on a real horse competing in rodeos all summer. We are excited that you will have a chance to follow your dreams and rodeo at Iowa Central this fall. We wish you success in college and rodeos. Study, practice and work hard.
You bring so much joy to our family with your quick smile and easy-going attitude. We are proud of the man you have become. Follow your dreams, be kind, and know that we always love you. We are your biggest fans.
Love,
Mom, Dad, and Maggie

Kylie Beinhart

Dear Kylie,

Wow, I can't believe this day is here. From the day we brought you home on that cold December day, you captured our hearts forever. Our beautiful daughter is graduating high school and entering the college world. You are a smart, sassy, spunky, loving, kind, caring, and let's not forget extremely funny young woman. Your potential is literally limitless. You made the decision to go into nursing and there are few more noble and rewarding professions. We are so proud of your decisions and hard work that have brought you to this point in your life. Do not ever underestimate your potential! We wish you all the happiness and success this world has to offer. Congratulations on your graduation and the beginnings of the best years of your life! Remember, you will never be alone on your journey. We will miss you like crazy as you go... but your home will

always be here. Thank you for staying on course through the years. Thank you for teaching us that laughter is the best medicine. Thank you for always making us smile or should I say "laugh uncontrollably." Thank you for being you! You will always and forever be our baby girl Kylie Boo!!
We love you always and forever,
Mom and Dad

Lexi Black

Dearest Alexis,

Where to begin? 18 years ago you made us parents for the first time. I thank God on a daily basis that he chose us to be your parents. You were so tiny, but even back then you set out to prove to the world that you were a fighter. We have watched you grow and prove over and over again that you aren't afraid to go after your dreams and achieve them no matter how impossible they may have seemed. From your good grades in school to your FFA awards and your many 4H achievements, we couldn't be more proud of all that you have accomplished in your short 18 years. You have touched so many lives with your kindness, thoughtfulness and the patience that you show to those around you. This shows in the faces of all the little people when you get home from school and they fight for your attention. Keep being true to yourself and never give up on your dreams. You are an amazing daughter and an even better big sister, we will miss you so much next year while you are at Iowa State. Always know that we are here for you and that home is only a short car ride away.
We love you with all our Hearts,
Mom, Dad and Austin

Cole Brenneman

Cole,

Your happy disposition and positive attitude is a blessing to our family. No matter what is going on you are able to reframe the negative and make it a positive. This part of you has had a big impact on my life and how I look at things. Your resilience the past eight months is beyond what I ever thought a child of mine could master, and you have typically done it with a smile on your face. I know how proud he was, so I mean it when I say, "we" couldn't be more proud. Thanks for being the genuine person you are.
Love,
Mom

Riley Conrad

Riley, Riley, Riley,

Where do we begin? A week ago we brought you home from the hospital. This tiny, skinny, beautiful baby boy. Then what seemed like a few days later we watched you playing soccer in the rain, then baseball, and basketball. Whenever we went to the farm and you disappeared, everyone knew you were at the pond fishing. Over the years that seem like days, we have witnessed you grow from a tiny "Bug" into the man that will be crossing the Keota High School Stage this weekend. There are no limits to what you can and will do. Honestly we are a little sad, but excited at the same time to see where your intelligence, talents, and determination will take you. Your sense of humor brightens any room, and you have been a shining light in our lives. We love you Bug. Congratulations!!!!
Love,
Mom and Dad

Jack Eakins

Dear Jack,

Our little rooster has grown up to be a nice young man. You have kept us hopping with all your activities at KCSD that you have been involved in. We will miss you next fall when you venture off to ISU, however it's time for you to continue to grow. We are confident that you will quickly learn your way around campus as you did at the Iowa State Fair campgrounds, with the exception of the time that you went to the bath house on your own because you were certain you could find your way back to 5-H-21 without our help. You were only off a row or two when I found you, all campers look alike don't they when they are packed in like sardines. Please call Grandma Jo (she doesn't text) every once in awhile as she did help with your upbringing and you will always be her "Little Jackie". Text Aunt Mindy if you want the best homemade cookies. Last but not least, call us too or your phone service will be disconnected, which we know would be a total disaster if that would happen.
Love,
Dad and Mom

Jonny Flanagan

Dear Jonny,

We are so proud of you Jonny, the boy you have been and now the man that you have become. I remember when you were seven years old and already beating people at the game of chess. How you knew even then to carefully look things over before you would make your move. I see that in your life today. You have decided on the National Guard and then college and we are so proud of you for that. I know you will be meeting a lot of new friends and take advantage of every opportunity that comes your way. We couldn't be prouder of you Jonny, we love you so much!
Love,
Mom and Dad

Luke Greiner

Little Man,

Wow how time flies when you're having fun! And that is exactly what your dad and I have had with you. We have enjoyed watching you in football, basketball, track, baseball, speech and FFA and how you have evolved into the person you are today. You're kind, compassionate and have a big heart. We know that you will continue to grow as you start your new adventure at Iowa State. Thank you for all of the memories that you have given us. We could not be more proud of you!
Good Luck at Iowa State next year! Study hard, but have some fun! We love you and remember, we are always here for you!
Love,
Dad, Mom & Callie

Alex Heisdorffer

Alex,

It seems like just yesterday that you were a little baby and your brother and sisters just wanted to hold you and play with you. We have all enjoyed watching you grow up and become the wonderful young man you are. You are kind, considerate and fun to be around. I know that whatever path will come your way you will be great at it. We will miss you when you are gone but the future is waiting for you to make your mark.
Love you,
Mom and Dad

Johnathan Holderness

Dear Johnathan,

I still remember like it was yesterday when they put your tiny little body in my arms for the first time. You refused to cry showing your strong mindedness from minute one of your life. You were 6 weeks early and 5 lbs 2 oz but fully developed. I got extremely lucky. In more than one way. They said for the first 6 years you would never get tall or big or strong. Look at you now, proving them wrong again at 6'4. We've had our good times and bad times, sometimes we were wanting to beat our head against the wall trying to have a simple conversation as two likeminded people tend to do. One thing's for sure though. I'm proud of you for graduating and for choosing the path you did for after high school. Almost a year ago we were in a recruiter's office for the National Guard and my heart swelled with pride watching as you signed that line. Two days after graduation you ship out for bootcamp and that strong mindedness will be what carries you through. I'll be right here waiting as a parent always is. Good luck and I will always be proud of your accomplishments.
Love,
Mom

Turner Klein

Dear Turner,

You have made us proud to be your parents. We look forward to watching you chase your goals and we will welcome the opportunity to partner with you as you grow more into adulthood. It has been rewarding facing challenges together. It has been fun to watch you identify the activities you have wanted to focus on and to see the fruits of your efforts. It has been a privilege to serve the Lord together in various ways, and we are confident there will be many service opportunities ahead for you. We hope we have taught you at least as many lessons as you have taught us these past 18 years. We hope we have succeeded with what Proverbs 22:6 tells us.
With love,
Mom and Dad

Gracie McHugh

Dear G,

Watching you grow up and turn into a such a lovely, caring, smart young lady is one of my life's greatest joys. I have always admired your determination and drive. If there was a project to be tackled, a game to be won, or a song to be sung, you went at it with everything you had. But the part of you I'm most proud of is seeing the love so many people have for you. Including all your friends, teachers, people in the community and of course your family. Your graciousness and ability to be humble with that sweet smile has always drawn people to you. It's just your natural way. And now you're off to business school at the University of Iowa. I've been banging that into your head since third grade, and I'm so proud to say you will be a student there come this fall. I know your daddy felt the same way I do, as we talked of you often. I know you will be a huge success no matter what you do. Perseverance and love will get you far. Like we used to say when you were little, "I love you too much to measure."
Love,
Mom

Jacob Moeller

Dear Jacob,

Congratulations on your graduation! We love you! You are a blessing to me and I have learned so much from you. You are wise beyond your years. I admire your old soul and your kind and caring personality. Your strong will and hardworking characteristics are very important in who you are as an individual. It always makes me proud when people tell me what a nice young man you are! Thank you for all your help over the years, whether it be fixing something around the house or helping with the twins. We have enjoyed watching you in the school plays and musicals and hearing you sing, as well as your accomplishments in FFA. As you go out into the world know how proud we are of you!
God Bless You.
Love,
Mom, Dad, Justin, Luke, and Emily

Wynonna Morris

Mae,

It has been such a pleasure watching you grow in so many different ways. While teaching you how to thrive in your next steps in life, as you become an adult. I have watched you surpass all the goals you have set and I couldn't be prouder of you for all you have become. It seems like yesterday you were taking your first steps. Now I am watching you take your first steps in starting your new life as a mature and confident adult. I want you to know as your mother I will be behind you to support you in every decision you make and will also be your rock if you need someone to lean on. I love you and can't wait to see what great things are in your future.
With all my love,
Mom

Ben Shemanski

Dear Ben,

We can't believe this day is finally here. The little boy that thought he was invincible with scars and that you were more worried about the bike than the huge bump on your forehead. You are moving on with your friends and know that your family will love and support you where ever you go, and that you can do anything you set your mind to. This chapter of your life is behind you and a future with endless opportunities is in sight. We hope and PRAY that when you go into the workforce (real world) that you will remember that first impressions and a firm handshake while looking them in the eye is key! Now go out there and "Make America Great Again!" Dad and I are very proud of you, Grace is too somewhere deep down she is really!
We love you Bubba!!
Dad, Mom, and Grace

Logan Sieren

Logan,

We are so proud of the confident and talented young man you have become. Your dedication to academics and your numerous activities is amazing. We have enjoyed supporting you through the years at ball games, running events, livestock shows, and judging contests. We are so excited for you to start your next chapter at Iowa State. Always remember your strong foundation of faith, family, and farming to guide your choices, your education, and your work. Be bold, be courageous, be your best, & believe in yourself!
Love,
Dad, Mom, & Lauren

Olivia Sieren

Dear Olivia,

The day you were born, I knew I was in for a wild ride and that you would keep me on my toes. When you were little, you were a challenge to say the least. While I had to eat Advil like Skittles from the headaches your obstinate, precocious little butt gave me, I never worried about your future because those same things that caused my head to throb were going to mean you would always keep pushing forward and do what you set out to do throughout your life. The most important things I have always strived to instill in you and your siblings was independence, resilience, and the courage for you to be you no matter what other's thought. With you, most of those things just came naturally. Always remember making your own path is sometimes more work, but a lot more interesting than walking a path that is worn down and full of ruts from everybody else's footprints. I will love you always and will forever be grateful you stormed into my life.
Love,
Paky

Dear Olivia,
We love you, believe in you, and are very proud of who you have become. Great things are ahead of you.
Love you,
Dad and Amanda

Dakota Slaughter

Dear Dakota (aka Bobby),

It's hard to believe you're graduating already! These last 19 years have flown by, from watching you grow as a little boy into the grown boy you've become. Over these last 19 years we couldn't be anymore proud of all of the accomplishments you continue to make. So now's your time to set out on your new journey and make us all proud!
Love,
Mom, Dad, Matthew and Brianna

Hunter Wilson

Dear Hunter,

It seems like just yesterday we were sending you off to preschool. Now you are graduating high school and getting ready to spread your wings. I can't believe how quickly the time has gone by. I have enjoyed watching you grow and navigate your way through the past 18 years, as I was doing the same right beside you. You have taught me so much. I have no doubt that you will go far and do amazing things. I am so proud of the kind, loyal, young man you have become. Your love for life and huge smile are contagious to everyone around you. I will miss watching you play sports (except for the T's in basketball, I won't miss those). It has been so much fun watching you and your buddies play together all these years while growing as individuals, and as a team. As you set off on your own I hope you look back on these past years and smile like I do. I can't wait to see where the future takes you. I hope you always keep your positive, easy going attitude. It's going to take you far in life! I'm so proud of you, Hunter. Thanks for one heck of a ride!
Love, Mom

