Riley Deere

Sacred of the Seasons

August 22, 2023

Riley Deere, 91, of Bettendorf, Iowa, passed away peacefully in her sleep on November 14th, 2094. She was born in Davenport, Iowa to TJ and Gina Deere on August 27th, 2003. Growing up, Riley was a curious and outgoing child who loved to be active and hang out with friends. She had two older brothers, Parker and Griffen, who brought out her competitive and humorous side. She attended Hoover Elementary School, Bettendorf Middle School, and went on to graduate from Bettendorf High School in 2021. She was well liked and was a natural leader throughout school, being captain of the volleyball team and voted on to homecoming court.

Although not extremely fond of high school, she was always very fond of and appreciative of college. Riley attended Loras College in Dubuque, Iowa where she played volleyball for two years and majored in accounting. She met her lifelong friends along the way and would always share her memories and experiences from “the good old days” as she called them.

After graduating college in May of 2025, Riley made her waves in the accounting industry during her first year at Honkamp P.C., who hired her right after graduation. She was awarded “Rookie Accountant of the Year” in Dubuque and quickly moved her way up the ranks to senior manager of the accounting department. By the age of 45, she became the CEO of Honkamp and led the firm to be named one of the top 20 accounting firms in the nation for five years in a row.

Although Riley only played volleyball at Loras for two years, she had a deep passion for the sport and wanted to fill her already limited free time. She stayed connected to volleyball by coaching others and helping them grow and succeed as athletes and as people. She coached a Dubuque high school club team, The Dubuque All-Stars, who earned two national titles during her coaching career.

Riley never married or had kids of her own, but she was a very loving aunt to her many nieces and nephews and was known to ‘spoil’ each and every one of them. That behavior continued as she became a great aunt to her nieces and nephews’ children. Her strategy was frequently taking them to the movies, making home cooked meals on the holidays, and buying them special gifts for their birthdays. Riley didn’t mind being single and independent as she valued her alone time, stayed constantly busy with work, and kept in touch with the plethora of friends she had made throughout her life.

Although all members of her immediate family have passed, she is survived by her many nieces and nephews, as well as their children, all who loved her dearly. She will be forever remembered as caring, determined, funny, stubborn, intelligent, and carefree.

Family and friends are welcome to attend a celebration of life, which will be held at Bettendorf Christian Church in Bettendorf, Iowa on November 30th from 12:00-4:00 p.m.