



## Katy Thorn DeKoter

February 20, 1948 - September 2, 2013

Katy Lissa (Thorn) DeKoter, age 65, of Spirit Lake, passed away Monday, September 2, 2013, at her home in Spirit Lake. She was born on February 20, 1948, in Los Angeles, California, to Alvin and Jean (Grindy) Halverson.

Katy grew up in Los Angeles and lived in California, and Oregon, before moving to Algona, Iowa, in 1981. She was an EMT and owned and operated her Aerobics Business in Algona.

Katy graduated from Western Iowa Tech Community College in Sioux City, as a Registered Nurse, Buena Vista College in Storm Lake, with a B.A. Degree in Psychology and was working on her Masters Degree.

Katy was the Regional Director of the Pacific N.W. of La Leche League. She enjoyed spending her spare time with people, pets, riding RAGBRAI, researching genealogy and her family. Being a mother was the happiest time of her life!

Katy is survived by her husband, Daniel DeKoter of Spirit Lake; three children, Todd Thorn, and his wife, Eileen of Spirit Lake, Lisa Blocker of Spirit Lake, and Jesse Thorn, and his wife, Anita of Spirit Lake; seven grandchildren, Brittney, Kelsey, Brie, Koby, Skylee, Jason and Ashley; a sister, Carol Jean Rasmussen of Colorado; a brother, John Halverson, and his wife, Annette of California; her ex-husband, Everett Thorn of Spirit Lake; and many nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her parents; an infant sister; and a granddaughter, Ryane Lissa Blocker.

A private family graveside service will be held Friday, September 6, 2013. Visitation will be held Thursday, from 4:00P.M. until 7:00P.M. at the Schuchert Funeral Home.

The Schuchert Funeral Home is in charge of the arrangements.

# Comments

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“ I am Katy's best friend Marilyn, originally from Sunland, CA. I just now today found out about her passing. I thought that she was just going through a period of privacy, and not wanting to communicate, as I have done through our 50 some years of friendship. I am totally shocked and concerned. Please, her children please contact me.

**Marilyn Dyer Lugo** - June 13, 2014 at 01:58 PM

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“ We are deeply sorry to hear about the death of Katy. We only became aware of her passing several days ago.

Katy and I had corresponded several times since we met through a Family Tree website several years ago. At once I was welcomed as a family member, although we had never met or even had known of each other and our related families. I was able to connect her and Dan to all of their distant and past "de Koter" ancestors in the Netherlands. I was able to show they had travelled by ship in the early 1900's to North America. Katy was able to give me some information on the family in the U.S.A. to help me sort out who was who. We would be in touch every few months to update each other and Katy would just enjoy "chatting" in her emails.

I have been reading some of her emails again recently, and I can only imagine how much she is missed.

Katy wrote of family, some of her travels, and places she had lived such as California and Oregon, and even shared jokes about her Norwegian ancestry. Katy must have been a joy to be around.

Our most heartfelt sympathies for your loss.

Anna & Andre de Koter, Coldwater, Ont. Canada

When someone you love becomes a memory, the memory becomes a treasure.

**Andre de Koter** - February 05, 2014 at 06:58 PM

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**Casey Rasmussen** - September 10, 2013 at 01:52 AM

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“ Aunt Katy, I never got the chance to ever meet you in person, but I still hold a special place for you in my heart.

**Kyle Rasmussen** - September 09, 2013 at 11:18 PM

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“ I remember working as ar.n. with Katy at Milford care center. She was such a compassionate care giver an a wonderful Director of nursing. I learned so much from her in dealing with people.I am so sorry for your los. My thoughts and prayers are with all of you during these trying an difficult times. God bless all of you.

**claudia olson** - September 07, 2013 at 12:13 PM

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“ Lisa, we were so sorry to hear about you mom's passing. She is with God now. I know this is a very hard time and you probably don't understand why God took her so soon. There is always a reason.I hope and pray you will get through this. You have our deepest sympathy and you are in our prayers.

**Julie Pesicka** - September 06, 2013 at 10:06 AM

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**Dana Rasmussen** - September 05, 2013 at 03:36 PM

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**Cody Rasmussen** - September 05, 2013 at 01:39 PM

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“ My memories of my Aunt Katy are so numerous that it's hard to pick out only 1 or 2! As her oldest niece, I was blessed to know her as my only aunt and more importantly, my FRIEND. As far back as I can remember, I always looked forward visiting with her, because I knew it would always be fun! I especially remember her caring and kind nature, her warm humor, her infectious laugh, and her unique ability to relate to kids on a personal level. (I read another tribute here that mentioned Katy's ability to be a friend to all--even her own kids and her kids' friends. This was so true of her!)

I am so grateful to have so many wonderful memories of Aunt Katy and fun times we had together. She and I shared a love for music and I remember many times, when was a child, watching/listening to her beautifully play the piano. It was great!

Katy was not only my aunt and my friend, but also a mentor, a counselor, a dating "coach" and a provider of tremendous support and comfort throughout my own life.

My heart is filled with gratitude and love for the privilege of having known Katy(Kathleen Lissa Halverson)Thorn DeKoter all of my life!

Aunt Katy, I LOVE YOU!! I always have...and I always will!!!! And...I forgive you... May you find peace as you begin this new "journey".

**Dana Rasmussen** - September 05, 2013 at 12:56 PM

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“ Dan,  
We are so sorry to hear about the loss of your wife Kathy.  
You are in my thoughts and prayers.  
Society insurance sends their deepest sympathy to you and your family.  
Jennifer Muellenbach

**Jennifer Muellenbach** - September 05, 2013 at 10:55 AM

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“ Lisa ,So sorry to hear of the loss of your mother. You have my deepest sympathies.  
Love Candy

**Candy Blocker** - September 05, 2013 at 10:30 AM

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“ I have many lovely memories of my aunt Katy! I loved it so much when you would come to visit & bring my cousins! She was always the "cool aunt" to me! I remember being so proud to say she was an aerobics instructor, had her own business, went those "rag ride" bike races (not sure on the name). She always made me feel loved. She was fun & had good advise for me as a teenager :) I always loved that she was so close to my mother (her sister) for most of her life.  
I will always be most grateful for the loving comfort and support she gave us when my father passed away.  
You will always carry a special place in my heart and thoughts Aunt Katy. I have always loved you and always will... no matter what!

**Jill Harris (Rasmussen)** - September 05, 2013 at 10:25 AM

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**Rich Steward** - September 04, 2013 at 11:08 PM

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Dear Dan and Family, It is with a saddened heart that I send my sincere thoughts of healing for you and your family. I did not have the honor of knowing your wife Katy and that is certainly my loss. However I did have the opportunity to play some golf with you a time or two and on those outings I remember how fondly you spoke of loving wife. You were truly her biggest fan and a respected, loving husband who admired everything about her and shared those sentiments with me. THAT my friend is a "RARE" thing in this world today. May GOD share his compassion and loving grace with you and your family to give you strength in your time of loss. My prayers are with you all~~

**Steven Bruder** - September 04, 2013 at 09:14 PM

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Lisa, your mom was the wildest, craziest mom of all, no one could compare to her and her ambitions, esp when we were younger. How many moms want to hang out with their kids and friends and participate in all activities with them. Lets be clear not many moms could ever pull that off...it was like she never aged.

**monica** - September 04, 2013 at 07:38 PM

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**Sydney Sincerest Commiserations** - September 04, 2013 at 06:47 PM

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I haven't seen Katy in some time, She inspired me to teach aerobics, we also did the bike around the lakes a number of times together. When she went to Soiux City for nursing we kept Babykins for her. I can't believe she's not here anymore. I'll miss her. Lisa if there is anything.

**Jean Weishaar** - September 04, 2013 at 04:44 PM

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**Rheta Schoeneman** - September 04, 2013 at 02:22 PM

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Just met Katy when she moved in next door to us. We had alot in common and connected right away. I am soo sorry we didn't get to build a friendship! I wish there would have been something I could have done. If you need anything, please don't hesitate to come next door and ask. Prayers and hugs to her entire family.

**Sallee & Denny Van Veldhuizen** - September 04, 2013 at 12:56 PM

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**Aunt Katy**  
I have nothing but awesome memories of you coming to visit our family in Colorado. I always looked forward to your visits and was so happy to spend time with you as a kid. I love you and will forever miss you.

**Casey Rasmussen** - September 04, 2013 at 12:38 PM

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“ Spent alot of time with Katy in Algona - aerobics and riding RAGBRAI in 1989! She inspired me to ride and I still do today - have over 2000 miles on my bike this summer - Thank you Katy - your smile will always be remembered! RIP!

**Sandra Bradley** - September 04, 2013 at 12:27 PM

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“ Lisa, Thinking of you and your family you are in my prayers. If there is anything I can do to help or you need to talk I am a phone call away.

Connie and Steve Sands

**Connie Sands** - September 03, 2013 at 11:57 PM

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“ Lisa you and your family are in our thoughts and prayers. If you need anything please call, thinking of all of you constantly as you go through this journey.

Linda & Dwayne

**Linda Nyman** - September 03, 2013 at 05:04 PM