



Darlene L Jensen

August 2, 1936 - October 22, 2023

Darlene Louise Jensen, age 87, of Milford, Iowa and formerly of Carroll, passed away peacefully on Sunday, October 22, 2023 at St. Luke Lutheran Home in Spencer, Iowa.

Darlene was born on August 2, 1936 in Waterloo, Iowa. She was the oldest of three daughters born to Arnold and Louise Lohmeyer.

She grew up in Waterloo and graduated in 1954 from West High School. She attended Iowa State Teachers College in Cedar Falls, Iowa and graduated with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Upper Elementary Education in 1958. She received a master's degree in Guidance and Counseling, and Secondary Administration in 1961 from the University of Iowa in Iowa City, Iowa. She moved to Des Moines, Iowa where she was a Guidance Counselor and later a Junior High Assistant Principal in the Des Moines school system from 1961-1970. She was well-organized and committed to a positive learning environment.

Darlene married James P. Jensen in August 1961 in Cedar Falls, Iowa. They moved to Carroll, Iowa in 1975 where James was a family medicine practitioner and together raised their four children. During her years in Carroll, she was active on many community boards: Carroll Public School Board, Carroll Public Library, Carroll Community Theater, Corridor of Commerce, Carroll Area Childcare Center, and League of Women Voters. Later years, she taught fourth grade and was the librarian at St. Lawrence School. She created lifelong impact in the lives of colleagues, students, and others.

She retired in Okoboji, Iowa. There she enjoyed spending time with grandchildren, relaxing, and attending Okoboji Summer Theater, Okoboji Yacht Club socials, Roof Garden concerts, and lifelong learning at Third Age College. She devoted every morning to drinking a cup of coffee and reading the Des Moines Register.

Left to cherish her memory are her four children: Dr. Eric (Karen) Jensen of Carroll, IA; Holly Jensen of Milford, IA; Renee (Tim) Wernimont of Jacksonville, NC; Sarah (Paul) Shomshor of Council Bluffs, IA; seven grandchildren: Soren and Arrington Jensen; Lauren, Katie, and James Wernimont; Jensen and Jacksen Shomshor; her sisters, Loretta Rule of LoneTree, CO, and Selma Putnam of Hamilton, MT; nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her husband and parents.

A memorial service will be held at a later date. In lieu of flowers, the family suggests memorials be made to the Kuemper Education Foundation, or the Carroll High School Foundation.

Arrangements are under the direction of the Robinson Funeral Home in Spirit Lake. Online condolences may be left at www.spiritlakefuneralhome.com

Tribute Wall



“ Dear Ones,
I was shocked and saddened by the news that Darlene had passed away. The last time I saw her was at the yacht club where I stopped by to chat with her as usual. She was always so pleased to see me and invariably had some kind compliments or interesting bits of information to share. She was always interested in what was going on with me. I will always remember your Mom as intelligent, engaging, other-focused, unassuming, a loving motherly presence. So full of the joy of living, learning and being connected. I will miss her very much. I pray that the pain of this separation will lessen with time and by the sharing of all your special family memories and moments. Losing our parents is a life-changing loss, it is a big shift in the way that we view ourselves and interact with the world for the rest of our lives. I will keep you all in my prayers as you navigate this sad time of grief and loss.

Kelli Farrar - October 30, 2023 at 06:42 PM



“ *Connie Lange lit a candle in memory of Darlene L Jensen*



Connie Lange - October 28, 2023 at 03:58 PM

SR

“ My heart goes out to all of you. Darlene was such a wonderful Aunt and soul. She will be remembered with a large smile and big heart. I adored her wit and energy. The fun days at Okoboji in my youth with her and all of you are such fun memories. My ring is still somewhere in that lake! 🥹

Shelly Rule - October 28, 2023 at 08:58 AM

VY

“ Jim and I have clear and happy memories from the last West High reunion at which event Darlene helped handicapped classmates function maximally--just one snapshot of many occasions in the past. She was a born helper-- intuitive, graceful, gracious, and kind. My own history goes back to a time when she was quite young--our fathers working together at that time--and yet another connection when Darlene married my East High (1954) classmate Jim Jensen, another outstanding individual--both of them serious losses for any community. Blest be the tie that binds. James Young and Virginia "Ginger" Hudson Young,

Virginia Young - October 27, 2023 at 07:14 PM

CK

“ Want to send my condolences and sympathy to Darlene's family. She was a sweet compassionate lady beautiful sincere and supportive . Always made everyone feel important . Never an unkind word . A true loss to all who knew her. Fly high and watch over us all. Almost time for Christmas punch . Cheers and enjoy . Have lots of great memories of you Dr. And all the family Hugs to all!

Cynthia Kraus - October 27, 2023 at 06:26 PM

KK

“ I met Darlene in our Third Age College Program. She was a faithful member and attended both classes for several years. She was always encouraging me as an instructor. She especially enjoyed my film class. Kella Klinker-Simonin

Kella Klinker-Simonin - October 26, 2023 at 06:56 PM