



## Deanna Jean Kuiper

October 30, 1939 - March 5, 2019

Deanna Jean Kuiper, 79, of Spirit Lake passed away on Tuesday, March 5, 2019 at Avera McKennan Hospital in Sioux Falls, SD.

Funeral services will be held at 11:00 a.m. Tuesday, March 12, 2019 at the United Methodist Church in Spirit Lake. Visitation will be on Monday from 5-7 p.m. at the church.

Deanna was born on October 30, 1939 in Bloomfield, IA. Her parents were John and Lois Donnelly. She graduated from Davis County High School in Bloomfield. She Earned her bachelor's degree in music from Drake University in Des Moines. Deanna first taught music in High School in Walnut, IA for 4 years until moving to Spirit Lake where she taught music in the elementary system for 32 years. She was united in marriage to John Robert Kuiper on June 27, 1965.

Aside from teaching music, Deanna played the organ almost all her life. She was the church organist for the United Methodist Church in Spirit Lake for more than 50 years. She was also a member of the United Methodist Women's Church Circle, Bell Choir Director and volunteered on countless other boards and committees for the church. She was also a member the American Legion Women's Auxiliary.

In Deanna's free time she enjoyed tending to her flower garden, and never missed an opportunity to attend a music program at the Spirit Lake Community School. She was a big supporter of Spirit Lake sports and music programs where she enjoyed watching her children and grandchildren participate.

Left to cherish her memory is her husband John Robert Kuiper of Spirit Lake; son Tracy (Ann) Kuiper of Spirit Lake; daughter Sheila (Bradley) Frey of Theresa, NY; son Craig (Patty) Kuiper of San Antonio, TX; 7 grandchildren, Jordan, Connor, Kristen, Bennett, Jenna, Jarod, and Keri; 3 great grandchildren, Ava, Layna and Addison; brother John (Carolyn) Donnelly of Ankeny, IA; brother in law's Richard (Virginia) Kuiper of Fairfax, IA and William (Karen) Kuiper of Catonsville, MD; 1 niece and 1 nephew.

She was preceded in death by parents.

# Previous Events

## Visitation

MAR 11. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

United Methodist Church  
1812 Gary Ave  
Spirit Lake, IA 51360

## Service

MAR 12. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (CT)

United Methodist Church  
1812 Gary Ave  
Spirit Lake, IA 51360

# Tribute Wall



“ *Robinson Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Deanna Jean Kuiper*



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**Robinson Funeral Home** - March 08, 2019 at 11:44 AM

JK

“ *What a beautiful tribute to a phenomenal woman! Family and faith shine through in every photo. Will watch the video again. A lovely life that we were privileged to share with her. So many lives are touched and influenced by Deanna's God given gifts. Thank you for being our friend. Heaven's chorus welcomes her. 🎵*



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**Jackie & RD Kelley** - March 12, 2019 at 07:20 AM



“ Mrs. Kuiper was my music teacher at Spirit Lake (Iowa) Elementary and Jr High. She always kept her cool and could produce music programs for everyone-- while orchestrating the piano, helping someone off of the risers, and handing playing mallets to someone who was going to play the glockenspiel. Mrs. K created "The Swingers"-- a music group that would sing and dance during my Jr. High years. It was really a fun group -- as we (boys and girls) learned dance steps and sang and danced. It was a lot of fun-- I still have my baby blue t-shirt!  
My sympathies to Bob, Tracy, Shelia, Craig and to her family and friends.



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**Tara Currier-Hofer** - March 11, 2019 at 12:55 PM

RT

“ Roberta Thorn lit a candle in memory of Deanna Jean Kuiper



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**Roberta Thorn** - March 11, 2019 at 07:08 AM

BJ

“ Bill & Jackie lit a candle in memory of Deanna Jean Kuiper



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**Bill & Jackie** - March 11, 2019 at 06:24 AM

MS

“ I’m So Sorry to hear about Deanna! She was an absolute joy to know and to talk to! Whenever I saw her she ALWAYS had a smile on her face! Sending my Thoughts & Prayers! ❤️🙏



Mandy S. - March 11, 2019 at 05:54 AM

OB

“ Orville Berg lit a candle in memory of Deanna Jean Kuiper



Orville Berg - March 11, 2019 at 01:09 AM

RM

“ Reba & Alan Munson lit a candle in memory of Deanna Jean Kuiper



Reba & Alan Munson - March 10, 2019 at 11:06 PM

KP

“ I remember Deanna from our Bloomfield High School Days. Her parents were very popular sponsors for our Christian Youth Fellowship. Great community volunteers! Deanna and I spent time together in the high school music program(s). I, too, was a church organist for several years. Memory does not serve me well, but she may have been a part of my initial inspiration.

*Karen Ellenberger Prosapio  
Class of 1960*

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**Karen Ellenberger Prosapio** - March 10, 2019 at 03:34 PM

CA

“ I remember her as my music teacher in grade school growing up. I also remember her in the church choir. My thoughts & prayers to her husband & children/grandchildren.



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**Cindy Axtell** - March 10, 2019 at 12:55 PM

LM

“ Laura B Mayer lit a candle in memory of Deanna Jean Kuiper



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**Laura B Mayer** - March 10, 2019 at 12:32 PM

JS

“ Jeff And Andrea Schwarck lit a candle in memory of Deanna Jean Kuiper



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Jeff and Andrea Schwarck - March 10, 2019 at 11:38 AM

CH

“ Mrs Kuiper was my vocal music teacher for the four years she taught at Walnut High School. Before school, after school, on her break between her other classes - she was always there for her students to squeeze in another practice so we could be our best! I think I speak for many of her former "kids" of how respected and loved she was. My sympathies to you, Mr. Kuiper. I hold you and your family in my thoughts and prayers.  
Carol Bussow Humphrey

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Carol Humphrey - March 09, 2019 at 05:43 PM

NH

“ *Goblins, alley cats, withches on brooms, wind in the trees-singing scary tunes. These are the the things that are heard & seen in the dark of night on Halloween.*

*My three daughters know this song by heart thanks to her beautiful teaching!*

*My favorite music peep!*

*I did not make the ‘ swingers’ team but always loved that she ‘let’ me play the xylophone since Wilma Claussen was teaching me piano lessons.*

*Bob was my junior High soft ball coach for the*

*Expos in SL. Craig graduated with me in 89. Tracy & all family...*

*Much joy with music & ❤️*

*Natalie Williams Hinn*



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**Natalie Hinn** - March 08, 2019 at 09:46 PM

BM

“ *A life well lived, she will be so missed. My thoughts and prayers are with you Bob and your family.*



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**Barbara may** - March 08, 2019 at 03:43 PM

PB

“ *Pete And Julie Bergquist lit a candle in memory of Deanna Jean Kuiper*



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**Pete and Julie Bergquist** - March 08, 2019 at 03:36 PM

SS

“ our sincerest sympathy to Bob, Tracy, Sheila, Craig, and their families in the loss of wife, mother, and grandmother. she left quite a legacy in her family.

*Stan and Rhea Sybesmas*

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**Stan Sybesma** - March 08, 2019 at 10:45 AM

MH

“ *Mary Halland lit a candle in memory of Deanna Jean Kuiper*



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**Mary Halland** - March 08, 2019 at 10:01 AM

HO

“ *Harold & Juanita Overmann lit a candle in memory of Deanna Jean Kuiper*



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**Harold & Juanita Overmann** - March 07, 2019 at 09:07 PM

AE

“ *Deanna was a special lady with a big heart. She was one of my mentors, a friend, and cared for those who loved music as much as she did. Shine bright!*



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**Angela Ericson** - March 07, 2019 at 07:29 PM

VL

*Our family has very fond memories of Deanna, Bob & their children. Deanna taught piano to 2 of our daughters. We sang in the SL Methodist choir with them, & I was Tracy's first sitter in my home when Deanna returned to resume her music program at school, when he was a newborn. They were fine people, so dedicated to serving others. Our sympathy to all of you, who loved her so. Vivian Lundgren*

**Vivian Lundgren** - March 08, 2019 at 03:42 PM

JC

“ *Jan Coon lit a candle in memory of Deanna Jean Kuiper*



**Jan Coon** - March 07, 2019 at 05:02 PM

KJ

“ *Kathy Jessen lit a candle in memory of Deanna Jean Kuiper*



**Kathy Jessen** - March 07, 2019 at 04:00 PM

KK

“ *Karen Krieger lit a candle in memory of Deanna Jean Kuiper*



**Karen Krieger** - March 07, 2019 at 03:20 PM

KK

“ Deanna was a "musical gift" to her family, her church, our schools, and our community. She will be remembered by many, many students and friends. She loved to share pictures of her family and was a proud Mom. My condolences to you, Bob, and your family..



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**Karen Krieger** - March 07, 2019 at 03:20 PM

CR

“ I can't believe Deanna is gone. I just saw her a few weeks ago and we had a great visit. She seemed so up and positive. Our thoughts and prayers are with you, Bob, and family. She was a real asset to our school and community and my boys enjoyed having her as their music teacher and being a part of her "Swingers." We can now rejoice that she is walking with Jesus!

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**Charlene Radcliffe** - March 07, 2019 at 11:53 AM

MD

“ The Class of 1958 - Bloomfield, IA sends their sincere condolences. Deanna was very active in school with Music, Band, Chorus, Annual Staff, played the Trumpet and Piano. De De was a friend to all. She always tried to attend our class reunions, but had to miss our 60th reunion in September 2018, because she was hospitalized. She will be sadly missed. With Love, Class of 1958 - Mary Belle Davis, Treasure

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**Mary Belle Davis** - March 07, 2019 at 10:22 AM

JS

“ Bob and family, So sorry to hear about Deanna. Prayers that God will give you the strength to get through this difficult time. Judy Stukey

Judy Stukey - March 07, 2019 at 10:14 AM

JS

“ Jeffrey VanDer Sluis lit a candle in memory of Deanna Jean Kuiper



Jeffrey VanDer Sluis - March 07, 2019 at 07:32 AM

WK

“ Such a kind soul. We always enjoyed her smile and sweet words whenever our paths crossed. Our thoughts and prayers.

Wayne and Diana (Doocy) Koppen - March 07, 2019 at 06:26 AM

TC

“ Teresa Clark lit a candle in memory of Deanna Jean Kuiper



Teresa Clark - March 07, 2019 at 03:39 AM

DF

“ Dianne & Steve Franker lit a candle in memory of Deanna Jean Kuiper



Dianne & Steve Franker - March 06, 2019 at 10:55 PM

DR

“ Don And Jean Reed lit a candle in memory of Deanna Jean Kuiper



Don and Jean Reed - March 06, 2019 at 10:34 PM

BK

“ Betty Kipfer& Ed Kragt lit a candle in memory of Deanna Jean Kuiper



Betty Kipfer& Ed Kragt - March 06, 2019 at 09:00 PM

DK

“ Doug & Sally Kness lit a candle in memory of Deanna Jean Kuiper



Doug & Sally Kness - March 06, 2019 at 08:40 PM

BT

“ *Brenda Tenney lit a candle in memory of Deanna Jean Kuiper*



Brenda Tenney - March 06, 2019 at 08:30 PM

CH

“ *Christine Hinkeldey lit a candle in memory of Deanna Jean Kuiper*



Christine Hinkeldey - March 06, 2019 at 07:16 PM

PR

“ *I so remember all Deanna's concerts with those elementary kids. She started the first special singing group called the Swingers....they danced and sang their hearts out. Prayers to her family.*



Peggy Rick - March 06, 2019 at 05:35 PM

RD

“ *Music teacher to my boys. Also a cheerleader at the sporting events. Sending prayers to the family.*



Rosemary Davis - March 06, 2019 at 05:21 PM

JV

“ Joel And Kristy Vos lit a candle in memory of  
Deanna Jean Kuiper



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**Joel and Kristy Vos** - March 06, 2019 at 05:10 PM

JV

*Our sympathies go out to the whole Kuiper family.  
Joel and Kristy Vos*

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**Joel and Kristy Vos** - March 06, 2019 at 05:12 PM

SA

“ Shanon Axtell lit a candle in memory of  
Deanna Jean Kuiper



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**Shanon Axtell** - March 06, 2019 at 04:46 PM

CF

“ Colleen Frederick lit a candle in memory of  
Deanna Jean Kuiper



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**Colleen Frederick** - March 06, 2019 at 04:03 PM

LH

“ Thanks to Deanna, our world is a better place because of her love and teaching of music. Peace be with you at this time and in the days ahead.



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**Laura Hanna** - March 06, 2019 at 01:23 PM

TO

“ Bob and family...so sorry for your loss..



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**Toni** - March 06, 2019 at 11:51 AM

DR

“ Doug And Barb Ricke lit a candle in memory of Deanna Jean Kuiper



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**Doug and Barb Ricke** - March 06, 2019 at 11:18 AM

NR

“ Nancy Rickman lit a candle in memory of Deanna Jean Kuiper



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**Nancy Rickman** - March 06, 2019 at 11:01 AM

GB

“ Greg & Dee Baloun lit a candle in memory of Deanna Jean Kuiper



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**Greg & Dee Baloun** - March 06, 2019 at 10:33 AM

DT

“ Diane And Ray Tucker lit a candle in memory of Deanna Jean Kuiper



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**Diane and Ray Tucker** - March 06, 2019 at 10:20 AM

BA

“ Beverly Atwell lit a candle in memory of Deanna Jean Kuiper



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**Beverly Atwell** - March 06, 2019 at 10:19 AM

DB

“ My sympathy to your family.

*Dayle Brooks*



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**Dayle Brooks** - March 06, 2019 at 09:56 AM

LJ

“ *Larry/Mary Ann Jansen lit a candle in memory of Deanna Jean Kuiper*



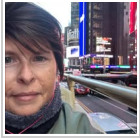
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**Larry/Mary Ann Jansen** - March 06, 2019 at 09:51 AM

KK

“ *Kirt Kelsey lit a candle in memory of Deanna Jean Kuiper*



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**Kirt Kelsey** - March 06, 2019 at 09:50 AM



“ *Casandra Struthers lit a candle in memory of Deanna Jean Kuiper*



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**Casandra Struthers** - March 06, 2019 at 09:43 AM

IS

“ *Irma Schaffer lit a candle in memory of Deanna Jean Kuiper*



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**Irma Schaffer** - March 06, 2019 at 09:25 AM

JW

“ *Judy Weipert lit a candle in memory of Deanna Jean Kuiper*



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**judy weipert** - March 06, 2019 at 08:56 AM

DN

“ *Dick Nervig lit a candle in memory of Deanna Jean Kuiper*



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**Dick Nervig** - March 06, 2019 at 08:28 AM

AO

“ *Mrs. Kuiper,  
She was the best elementary music teacher I have ever known. She made music fun and I will always remember her Witchpoo who came out around Halloween. Rest in peace Mrs. Kuiper and Witchypoo.  
Anna Odumuyiwa*

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**Anna odumuyiwa** - March 06, 2019 at 08:23 AM

JJ

“ *Jim And Connie Jackson lit a candle in memory of Deanna Jean Kuiper*



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**Jim and Connie Jackson** - March 06, 2019 at 07:29 AM

JF

“ Jarrod Fischer lit a candle in memory of  
Deanna Jean Kuiper



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**Jarrold Fischer** - March 06, 2019 at 12:08 AM



“ Matthew Hawn lit a candle in memory of  
Deanna Jean Kuiper



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**Matthew Hawn** - March 05, 2019 at 11:58 PM



*I am so sorry for your loss Kuiper family's. John Kuiper your wife was the most kindness music teacher that I ever meet in spirit lake elementary school. I really enjoy being in her music class a lot. Mrs. Kuiper will be well missed a lot. I will keep you and the Kuiper family's in prayer*

*Staci and my son Darrel  
W. wedeking*

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**Staci Wedeking** - March 12, 2019 at 11:09 AM