



## Dolores Mergen

March 8, 1940 - July 20, 2023

Dolores Ann Mergen of Spirit Lake, IA passed away peacefully with family by her side on July 20, at Lakes Regional Healthcare Hospice.

Dolores was born March 8, 1940, in Menominee, Michigan and raised in Marinette, Wisconsin. She graduated from Our Lady of Lourdes High School in Marinette, WI then attended Mount Mary College in Milwaukee, WI. Upon graduation, she became a third-grade teacher at St. Stephen's School in Milwaukee. In 1962, Dolores married Darrell Mergen in Marinette, WI. She continued teaching until the birth of their first child, then devoted the next several years to raising and caring for her family. Eventually, Dolores worked at Drs. Mergen & Shelly Orthodontics practice.

Dolores and her family lived in Fort Dodge, IA from 1966-1999. After retirement Dolores and Darrell moved to Spirit Lake, IA. Dolores took pleasure in playing bridge, making cards, knitting and many other crafts. She especially loved knitting the "Joseph Coat" given to children at baptism. Dolores enjoyed mentoring and volunteering at the library and hospital in the Iowa Lakes Region and has been an active member of the St. Mary's Parish since 1999. One of Dolores' greatest joys was being a grandmother to her seven grandchildren.

Dolores is survived by her husband of 62 years, Darrell; children Ann Marie

(Kenneth) McFadden of Grimes, IA, Michael (Christy) of Minnetonka, MN, Dr. John (Tami) Mergen of Iowa City, IA and Dr. Daniel (Sara) Mergen of Spokane, WA; grandchildren Mackenzie, Danielle, Michaela, Mason, Parker, Benjamin and James; sister-in-law Francis, one niece and seven nephews. She was preceded in death by her parents John & Teckla; brothers Donald & Tom.

On August 1st, a family Mass of Christian Burial was held at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Spirit Lake, with Father Hughes presiding.

The family of Dolores wishes to extend our sincere thanks to the care team at Lakes Regional Hospital and the dedicated and compassionate staff at the Hospice Center in Spirit Lake. Please direct any memorials to the Lakes Regional Healthcare Hospice.

# Tribute Wall

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“ *Kathleen A Shaw lit a candle in memory of Dolores Mergen*



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**Kathleen A Shaw** - August 02, 2023 at 12:00 PM