



Evelyn Weik

September 25, 1917 - February 3, 2014

Evelyn Doris (French) Weik was born on a farm in Mountain Lake, Minnesota, on September 25, 1917, the first child of Lula Mae (Tuttle) French and Ervin French. She and her family moved to Royal, Iowa, when she was 5 years old. The family soon re-located to Peterson, Iowa, where Evelyn went to school and graduated in 1935. She moved to Spencer and worked at the local Woolworth store before WWII. Evelyn met the love of her life, Arthur L. Weik, across a fence on the farm where both were working. They were married on October 28, 1941, after a six-year courtship. They resided in Louisiana and Texas during the war years, while Art was stationed in the U.S. Army. During that time, Evelyn was employed as a clerk-typist for the War Department. In 1946, they moved back to Iowa (Spirit Lake). Evelyn enjoyed many activities in support of her home and community.

Evelyn was an active member for nearly 70 years in the Spirit Lake United Methodist Church. In the 1950s, she was an assistant to the superintendent of church school. Her years in church service included teaching Sunday school and Bible School, sponsoring Methodist Youth Fellowship (MYF), and leadership roles of Women's Circle Chairman and Treasurer, holding office for many years. She was a loyal participant in United Methodist Women activities, both General and Circle.

Evelyn was most active in her daughters' activities and held leadership roles

for Girl Scouts, Rainbow Girls (Mother Advisor) and Youth Fellowships.

Evelyn was a member of the Order of Eastern Star (OES, 50 year member) and the Order of the White Shrine of Jerusalem. She held several offices in the Order of Eastern Star including Worthy Matron, while Art served as Worthy Patron. She was honored by OES Iowa Grand Assembly with an appointment as Grand Representative to Manitoba, Canada; she held the office of White Shrine Worthy High Priestess.

Evelyn volunteered her time and talents over the years to other such worthy causes as the Lakes Regional Health Auxiliary "pink ladies" (lifetime member), Meals on Wheels, local Garden Club, and the American Legion Auxiliary. She so cherished all her memories and friends.

Evelyn passed away Monday, February 3, 2014 at Lakes Regional Healthcare in Spirit Lake, IA, at ninety-six years of age. She was preceded in death by her husband, Arthur, 1982; her father, 1935; mother, 1983; sisters, Ardyth French Brazie, 2003, and Cleo French Holiday, 2007; and grandson, Thomas A. Stransky, 2002.

Evelyn is survived by her daughters, Lee Ann Stransky of Mishawaka, Indiana, and Linda (William) Moore of Spirit Lake. She leaves behind two grandchildren, Robin (Tim) Yerrington of South Bend, Indiana and Jason (Millie) Moore of Omaha, NE; and five great- granddaughters, Kendra, Eve, and Meg Yerrington; Zoe and Evelyn Moore; and her special companion, "CC", her cat. She is also survived by several cousins, and 7 nieces and 2 nephews throughout Iowa, Minnesota, South Dakota, Texas, California, and Hawaii.

Evelyn was an exceptionally loving daughter, sister, wife, mother, mother-in-law, grandmother, great-grandmother and loving friend. She will be so greatly

missed and her family is comforted that she is now embraced in the arms of God. Evelyn was a living example of kindness and put herself last so others could be first.

Tribute Wall

JF

“ *Linda, my deepest sympathies to you and your family. I know you provided much care and support to Evelyn. Thinking of you during this time. Take care and god bless.*

Judy Fox - February 12, 2014 at 08:17 PM

NN

“ *LeeAnn and Linda,*

*I'm so sorry to hear your mom passed away.
I am grateful mom, Peggy and myself had a great
Visit with you both and your mom. My mom, Clarice
Was always one to, just drop in for a visit.. Glad Evelyn was home*

Nancy Jepson Nicoloff - February 10, 2014 at 08:29 PM

KF

“ Lee Ann and Linda, I was so saddened to learn of Aunt Evie's passing. She was so dear to me. As I think back to the memories of my childhood, she was present at all the major milestones, making it a point to support and share in the joys. I remember her smiling face at the kitchen table as we laughed during her and Uncle Art's visits, always coaxing just a little auctioneering talk. "Do 80 bit and a 90" we would beg and Aunt Evie would give Uncle Art an encouraging nod, humoring us. We three kids always hung around to see if there was going to be Shrine Circus tickets and they never disappointed. To this day, I love taking my kids to the circus and think of your family every time we go. I remember her smiling face at confirmation and her laughter as we joked about eating pea salad for an eternity because the scheduled confirmation had been postponed due to a late snow storm and we had all of that salad to eat ourselves. She was at my graduation, my bridal shower, my wedding and every important event in between. She always made it a point to be there for our family and that kindness meant so much to me. I so looked forward to her Christmas card each year, handwritten just for me, long after I had gone to printing multiple copies of mine on the computer. She was a good, kind woman and I will miss her. Love to you both.

Kirsten Hagedorn Frey - February 10, 2014 at 02:54 PM

“Love is patient, love is kind”. That describes our mother.

Mom had humble roots, being born on a farm in Minnesota in 1917. Her father worked the land and her mother oversaw the "chores" of gardening and canning. She cherished the honesty and family and teamwork of the farm life. She loved her animals; she had pet pigs, dogs, cats, and even a pet cow named Buttercup. She told us that when her dad had to sell Buttercup, the cow was so homesick she refused to give milk. Mom was a fantastic cook, seamstress and all-around homemaker, but most importantly she was a wonderful role model for us.

Mom was always there for us and that is what we will miss the most. Her love was always there-- to encourage, support, and bring joy. She never raised her voice because she believed that nothing was important enough to get upset about. And, she WAS RIGHT. That was the key lesson she taught us and what we continue to try to incorporate in our lives. Nothing is important enough to get upset about. Mom lived 96 years and that was a tribute to that philosophy. We never saw her angry. In fact, I joked with her that maybe she had a chemical imbalance that made her unable to get mad, which made her laugh; but, eventually we realized just how special it was that she could remain so centered and even-keeled.

Mom's approach to life reminds us of the words in Marlo Thomas' book, "The Right Words at the Right Time"; mom did have the right words. She knew how to calm, comfort, help get perspective, and always be positive. The quote from that book, "It is easier to be right than it is to be kind", reminds us that kindness trumps everything else. Mom exemplified this and led by example; we saw kindness in how she lived and what she did, whether giving cake and coffee to the men painting her house or taking in an abused cat named "CC" (church cat), or caring for her ill husband and mother. KINDNESS, above all, was another lesson she taught us.

Mom was a quick friend to all. She was such a giving person--

sharing, caring, listening, never demanding anything for herself. In fact, she put herself last---last to dish up her plate, last to get in line--waiting for all others to go first, last going through a door, last getting on an elevator; she really thought of others first, whether she knew them or not. Only now can we really appreciate that level of unselfishness. There is such beauty in that spirit and the profound contrast to the "me first" attitudes so many of us can have from time to time.

Having grown up during the Depression, she was frugal, practical, never wanting to waste anything. She was of the generation that saved and re-used aluminum foil and did not throw things away that could be used later. In fact, the day we were moving her out of her house on 21st street to her condo, I opened the door only to be met with the smell of grape jelly cooking on the stove. Mom had grapes in the freezer that she had picked and did not want to throw them out. Meanwhile, I was trying to pack all of her kitchen pots and pans to meet our deadlines. All I could do was laugh and that really took the edge off the major task of moving out of a house she had been in for 50 years. What a delight she was, which reminded me of my favorite phrase, "Don't postpone joy."

Mom loved her church work and her community work and her fraternal organizations. Most of all, she loved her family. She so appreciated her friends and all the joy they brought her. She re-emphasized to us all the time that to have a friend you must be a friend.

The joy in her voice, the warm touch of her hand, the reassuring hug, and knowing that she was always there to help----- that is what mom gave to us. Mom practiced her faith. The positive energy she created was contagious. She had unending patience. She had an inner wisdom that was amazing to us. Mom always had time for anyone. Well done, good and faithful servant.

If our children can think 1/10th as much of us as we think of our mother then we would be grateful. Mom was so appreciative of even

the smallest of things. She routinely would say "thanks for calling" when any of us phoned her. It is said that when someone leaves you, they leave a piece of their heart, and a piece of your heart goes with them. What a comforting thought.

*We saw her as an inspiration and always working for good. Meek is not weak. Her goodness made her the strongest, gentle person we've ever known. We thank God that she was our mother.
Linda and Lee Ann*

Linda Moore - February 10, 2014 at 09:14 AM

CS

“ *Linda and LeeAnn, Karen and I want to express how sad we were to hear of Evie's passing, but we are comforted to know that she had such a wonderful life. I'm grateful that, through Ardyth our families were brought together. I wished that we had seen more of you all in these last years. Evie's last phone call to me was so wonderful and with her recent health issues she remained so upbeat. I have on my desk an Easter card from last year that I will always treasure. I will miss her. God Bless you all and I hope that he brings comfort to you in this difficult time. With all our Love....
Carl and Karen...*

Carl and Karen Shaw - February 07, 2014 at 06:05 PM

CS

“ *Evelyn Weik*

Chad Schuchert - February 06, 2014 at 04:00 PM

GN

“ Lee Ann and Linda,
I remember with fondness your mother who was so gracious and fun! We had such fun as youth! And I was so pleased to be in Spirit Lake at the church on the occasion of her 95th birthday celebration. It is difficult to say good-bye to one's mother and make this transition in our relationship. I wish peace in this journey.
Gladys Tritle Nicholas

Gladys Tritle Nicholas - February 06, 2014 at 10:06 AM

CF

“ My sympathies to the family. Evelyn was a really remarkable lady!

Colleen Frederick - February 05, 2014 at 07:53 PM

PL

“ Linda and family, I am so sorry to read about the loss of your mother. Your mother was a special lady and your tender loving care was exceptional. You are all in my prayers.

Peg Lewis - February 05, 2014 at 10:24 AM

PG

“ Leeann, after you called to tell me of your mother's passing, I started recalling all of the great times your mother provided for our gang: Rainbow Girls, slumber parties, trying to help us bake a cake for Bob Bryan and so many more. Whatever wild idea we came up with, she always just smiled and said, "Oh you girs!" Your mother was a great role model for us as a parent and friend. You and Linda have completed your dad's request to "take care of your mother". This you did with love and compassion. I wish you peace.
Pam Carlson Grems

Pam Carlson Grems - February 05, 2014 at 08:21 AM

CI

“ Linda and family: What a wonderful picture of your Mom. Eve always remembered me. It was always such a pleasure to hear from her with her pleasant and cheering ways. Yes, she will be missed but had a long life so I'm sure you all have great memories to hang onto. God has his arms around you at this time of sadness. Sending our
Love and Sympathy.

Chuck and Donna Tielbur Milford IA - February 04, 2014 at 09:21 PM

JL

“ I'll never forget our conversations with your mother. She always had a positive way with her words. She was one of my most favorite! She will be deeply missed!

Jodi Lange - February 04, 2014 at 04:25 PM

DS

“ Linda and LeAnn,
What an incredibly inspirational woman your mother was. Every day of her life, as I knew her, was filled with joy and laughter. She made me smile the minute I was in her presence. Her faith was inspirational and her unselfishness was enviable. She loved you both so much!!!! She counted on you because she knew you also were kind and loving. You should be so proud of the gift of love the three of you share!!! I feel honored to have witnessed it!! Thank you for sharing her with me. Evelyn Weik did many things very well. You are shining examples of her joys and successes. I love you both!!

Deenie Schuchert - February 04, 2014 at 12:26 PM

NH

“ Hugs to you Linda. So very sorry to hear of your mom's passing. She was the sweetest, dearest lady! I loved when she'd come to see you at work and we'd get to chat with her. May many beautiful memories of your mom be in your heart forever. God bless you and your family.

Nancy Harmon - February 04, 2014 at 11:17 AM

SA

“ Dear Linda and family,

I am saddened to hear of Evelyn's passing... may our Lord give you comfort and peace as you mourn and celebrate the life of your loved one. I have many memories of Evie... I recall thinking of her as a second mom and stopping in at your home so many times many years ago... I recall her friendly, loving and fun spirit. Her smile is unforgettable... God Bless You!!

Sue Christensen Aderhold - February 04, 2014 at 10:25 AM

SD

“ Linda and family, I am sorry to hear about your mother. She was such a sweet and dear lady. She will be missed. My thoughts and prayers are with you at this difficult time. Take care.

Sally Christensen DeLoss - February 04, 2014 at 09:27 AM