



Loraine Wallace

December 17, 1930 - October 12, 2012

Loraine Marie (Christensen) Wallace, age 81, of Lakefield, MN, formerly of Spirit Lake, IA, died Friday, October 12, 2012 at Colonial Manor Nursing Home in Lakefield.

Funeral Mass will be held at 11:00A.M. Tuesday, October 16, 2012, at St Mary's Catholic Church, Spirit Lake. Visitation will be held one hour before the service Tuesday. Burial will be at St Margaret's Cemetery following the service. Schuchert Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements. Memorials may be given to St Mary's Catholic Church, the Northern Iowa Prairie Lakes Chapter of the Audubon Society or Jackson County Hospice.

Loraine was born in Coon Rapids, IA on December 17, 1930 to Peter and Clara (Kult) Christensen. Her childhood years were blessed by members of her large extended family who lived nearby. She attended school in Coon Rapids and graduated in 1948. Soon after, her family moved to Spirit Lake, IA where she worked with her parents at their resort and also did clerical work for attorney, K B Welty, and Dr. Kenneth Clayton. Loraine married Lynn E. Wallace on May 11, 1951 in Spirit Lake. Together they raised five children and farmed in rural Dickinson County until their retirement in 1995.

Loraine was committed to her faith and was an active member of St Mary's Catholic Church. Throughout her life, she enjoyed many hobbies and interests

including reading, writing, knitting, crocheting, gardening, and especially bird-watching and traveling. One of Loraine's best known accomplishments was her humorous weekly column in the Spirit Lake Beacon titled "The Farmer's Wife". Loraine and husband, Lynn, were passionate conservationists who participated in Audubon Society bird counts throughout the United States. In retirement, she and Lynn enjoyed traveling the country by car, motorcycle, and motorhome. She loved nature, her family, and friends, old and new. She will be missed by many.

Lorraine is survived by her five children; Greg Wallace of Phoenix, AZ, Doug (Deb) Wallace of Omaha, NE, Jane Bujanovich of Granby, CO, Cathie (Larry) Vancura of Lakefield, MN, and Connie Leimer of Hermosa, SD; 15 grandchildren; 6 great-grandchildren; brother Joe (Lois) Christensen of Mapleton, IA and sister, Karen Christensen of Kremmling, Colorado; and many nieces and nephews.

Lorraine was preceded in death by her husband, Lynn; her parents; and brother, Cleo Christensen.

Tribute Wall

NK

“*Lorraine and I grew up together. She was my first cousin. We grew up in Coon Rapids, Iowa. Our families were very close. Many family outings and celebrations kept us very united. After Uncle Pete and Aunt Clara moved their family to Spirit Lake, we were able to visit them and have some great times at their lake resort. I will always remember her good humor and some times not so good humor. The last time my wife and I visited her, we went out for lunch. It was very difficult for her to communicate by then, however, it meant a lot to enjoy her company again after so many passing years. Cousin, Neil Kult*”

Neil Kult - November 08, 2012 at 09:06 PM

MB

“*I met Lorraine when the 6th graders from Coon Rapids Catholic School entered 8th grade at the Public School. She & her cousin, Lois Kult Pies, became my friends; so there are many good memories. Chris had a great sense of humor & was a great gal. God Bless you, my friend.*”

Marianne Davis Bielmaier - October 27, 2012 at 12:14 PM

RM

“*Sorry to hear the of your mother, she was one of the sweetest people I have known. Her and Lynn are now together to continue where they left off, watching over all of you. Prayers to the family.*”

Rhonda (McClurg-Hilliard) Meyer - October 25, 2012 at 05:28 PM

DI

“*Connie and family...we were very sorry to hear about your mom. I'm sure she and your dad are smiling down on you.*”

Deb and Dan Isaacson - October 16, 2012 at 10:42 AM

LL

“ *Lorraine Wallace*

Lauren Leimer - October 15, 2012 at 11:08 PM

BV

“ *Lorraine Wallace*

Bryce Vancura - October 15, 2012 at 07:10 PM

PJ

“ *I, too, followed Lorraine's column, "The Farmer's Wife". And I was very aware of Lynn's role in emergency management in the county. A dynamic couple; "salt of the earth". As a city girl, the column gave me insight into the nitty gritty of agriculture from a woman's point of view tempered with her terrific sense of humor. I hope Lorraine and Lynn will be pleased with the coming enhancements at the Dickinson County Nature Center with the partnership of the local Audubon Society. Their legacy lives on.*
Pam Jordan

Pam Jordan - October 15, 2012 at 06:12 PM

PB

“ *Lorraine Wallace*

Paul Bujanovich - October 15, 2012 at 05:49 PM

SM

“ *To the Wallace family, I am so sorry for your loss . Lynn and Lorraine were such good friends with mom and dad . I know that mom and Lorraine are up in heaven having their cup of tea and looking at all the birds that they both enjoyed doing so much .*

Sandra McClurg - October 15, 2012 at 05:41 PM

CL

“ *Loraine Wallace*

Connie Leimer - October 15, 2012 at 05:38 PM

DW

“ *Loraine Wallace*

Doug Wallace - October 15, 2012 at 05:37 PM

KC

“ *I loved her smile and eternal sense of humor! I laughed much growing up and it was because of her ability to reframe the not so pleasant parts of life. One particular one was a Farmer's Wife column she wrote in the summer of 1980. My wedding dress preparations came undone when my sewing machine was used for farm repair. My Aunt Loraine told the story to all the world and it made my "disaster" a bump in the road and a memory we re-tell with a laugh now. My childhood days were filled with play with my cousins at Lynn and Loraine's farm and vacations with them to many wilderness areas of the US. I was one of many 'red hooded' children that my mother and Aunt Loraine counted each day to make sure none of us had not been eaten by a mountain lion. Kool-Aid always tasted better from the brightly colored aluminum glasses in Loraine's kitchen. And I sat for hours under under the kitchen table listening to the stories she and my Uncle Lynn, my parents and neighbors told at every picnic, birthday celebration and harvest gathering. I will miss her very much, but her spirit lives on in her children who are also gifted story tellers in their own way. I am blessed to be Loraine's niece!*

Kristi Wallace Cooper - October 15, 2012 at 05:11 PM

GW

“ *Loraine Wallace*

Greg Wallace - October 15, 2012 at 05:03 PM

KC

“ *Loraine Wallace*

Kristi Wallace Cooper - October 14, 2012 at 08:55 PM

DR

“ *What a grand lady Loraine was!!! Many times when we were "laying out" her column in The Spirit Lake Beacon, we were laughing so hard we were in tears. She was a valued columnist and one we won't forget. My favorite column of hers was one I clipped from May, 1980 where she added "eth" to many words. And it began this way...."The Same Old Gospel, according to Loraine. In early spring he ariseth early and starteth the tractor with great expectations.....Woman," he commanded, "Take thyself to the nearest International dealer and bringeth home the necessary parts to fixeth this beast....." We'll miss you Loraine but know that you are already laughing with Lynn and Beacon Publisher Bill Beck.*

Dean and Susan Reiser - October 14, 2012 at 03:22 PM

KA

“ *Loraine Wallace*

Kelly Anderson - October 14, 2012 at 12:27 PM

JR

“ *We always enjoyed visitng with both Loraine and Lynn. They were a big part of this community, and were loved by so many. Your mom brought so much joy to many readers, and I remember how my mother and I called her on several occasions to ask her a "bird question!" Now, as well as your dad, she will be missed by many. Know that you are in our thoughts and our prayers in the days ahead. May God grant you His peace, and provide comfort in the many memories you have to share with one another.*

Jim and Charlene Radcliffe - October 13, 2012 at 08:42 PM

KF

“ To the Wallace family: I was one of Loraine's many loyal and faithful readers of her column for a lot of years. I loved how she always helped us see the humorous side of farm life--even when I know she had to really look for it sometimes, and taking simple little things and making them seem so funny! I, too, write a column like hers--not anywhere near as wonderful as hers--but still, I do think of her when I sit down to write these columns today. She had read some of them, because I received three "happygrams" from her over the years, telling me that my columns reminded her of HER columns. What an honor for me, coming from her. I still have those handwritten notes from her today, and they mean even more to me today than they did when I first received them--though they were plenty special then, too. Thank you for sharing your mom with all of Dickinson County--we all came to know and love her through her wonderful artistry of words. We are so sorry that we have lost her, but are happy that she and your dad can be together again. Praying for you all.

Karen and Dave Schwaller & Family - October 13, 2012 at 06:08 PM