

Martha Woodard

April 5, 1927 - October 6, 2018

Martha Jo (Pray) Woodard, 91, of Arnolds Park, passed away on Saturday, October 6, 2018 in Spirit Lake, Iowa. A funeral service will be held at 2:00 p.m. on Saturday, October 13, 2018 at the First Presbyterian Church in Spirit Lake. Visitation with family present will be one hour prior to the service on Saturday at the church. Burial will take place on Monday, October 15, 2018 at 10:00 a.m. at the North Lawn Cemetery of Fort Dodge, IA. Memorials may be sent to the First Presbyterian Church, 3501 Hill Ave, Spirit Lake, IA 51360.

Martha was born on April 5, 1927 in Fort Dodge, IA to Carl William and Velma Mae (Keith) Pray. She graduated from Fort Dodge High School in 1945 and earned her Home Economics Degree from Iowa State University. She married her high school sweetheart, Dr. Ralph Woodard, on June 18th, 1950. They lived in Iowa City until 1954 when Ralph graduated from medical school. Martha and Ralph moved to Wayne County, Michigan for his medical internship. The couple later moved back to Iowa City so Ralph could complete a general surgical residency. They later moved the family to Fort Dodge where Ralph practiced general surgery for 36 years. Ralph always called Martha the 'housewife extraordinaire', raising 3 children and caring for both sets of grandparents in Fort Dodge. After Ralph retired, the couple moved to their home on West Lake Okoboji, where they enjoyed many treasured friendships. Martha and Ralph were sweethearts all their married life. Ralph preceded Martha in death on February 5, 2014.

Martha was a member of the First Presbyterian Church in Spirit Lake where she was involved in women's groups and activities. Martha enjoyed golf, playing bridge, sewing and socializing with her coffee group, exercise group, the Okoboji Summer Theater, the Pearson Art Center and the Okoboji Yacht Club. She truly cherished her long-lasting relationships and friendships in the Iowa Great Lakes region as well as Fort Dodge, Iowa. Martha treasured the love of her family and supporting her grandchildren in all their life adventures.

Left behind to cherish her memory are her children, Dr. Debra (Edward) Leners of Arnolds Park, IA; MaryAnn (Don) Cousins of Orlando, FL, and Dr. Thomas (Darci) Woodard of Urbandale. IA; grandchildren Nevin (Sadie) Leners, Noah (Abby) Leners, Kyle Cousins, Kirk (Julie) Cousins, Dr. Karalyne (Reed) Blochberger , Jenna (Tom) Harmon) and Nick (Jordan) Woodard; great grandchildren William Keith Leners, Knox Benton Leners and Cooper Wesley Cousins. Martha was preceded in death by her parents, husband and brothers Tom and Louis Pray.

Cemetery Details

North Lawn Cemetery

2201 N 15th St
Fort Dodge, IA 50501

Previous Events

Visitation

OCT **13**. 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM (CT)

First Presbyterian Church
3501 Hill Ave.
Spirit Lake, IA 51360

Service

OCT **13**. 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM (CT)

First Presbyterian Church
3501 Hill Ave.
Spirit Lake, IA 51360

Tribute Wall



“ *Robinson Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Martha Woodard*



Robinson Funeral Home - October 10, 2018 at 02:35 PM

LM

“ *Maryann,
I'm so sorry to hear of your mothers passing.
She will be greatly missed. I'll always
remember how gracious she was.
God bless.*



linda mehrens - October 19, 2018 at 10:03 AM

TK

“ *The family of Tom and Nora Kerber wish to
express their deepest sympathies for the loss
of Martha.*



Thomas Kerber - October 13, 2018 at 12:02 AM

VW

“ *Martha was such a sweet lady. We really enjoyed painting at her lake home . She shared lots of memories with us.*



Vicki Willison - October 12, 2018 at 10:06 AM

VW

“ *Vicki Willison lit a candle in memory of Martha Woodard*



Vicki Willison - October 12, 2018 at 10:01 AM

EH

“ *Dr. Ralph and Martha's family. My Sympathies to you. Wonderful long time friends, Many great games of golf with Ralph and many dinners and limousine rides. A very difficult time in our lives to lose great friends. They were long time members of our golf group called the swingers. Martha played bridge with Patsy for many years. Ralph and I would argue about baseball and football. Patsy Huenecke and Ed Hendrickson Fort Dodge, Ames and Okoboji*

Ed Hendrickson Patsy Huenecke - October 11, 2018 at 05:26 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Martha Woodard.*



October 11, 2018 at 10:10 AM



“ *Lovely Martha was one of my bridge mentors at the OYC and a fellow member of THE LUNCH BUNCH. She was always so proud of her family and wonderful to her friends! I will remember her always. Jane Flood formerly of Wahpeton and now Omaha*

Jane Flood - October 11, 2018 at 09:00 AM



“



Madie, Suzie, Dennis, Nancy, Ralph, Peggy, Rex, Tom, Susan purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Martha Woodard.

Madie, Suzie, Dennis, Nancy, Ralph, Peggy, Rex, Tom, Susan -
October 10, 2018 at 08:05 PM



“ *Missie Theodosen & Mike "Ernie" Eddy lit a candle in memory of Martha Woodard*



Missie Theodosen & Mike "Ernie" Eddy - October 10, 2018 at 09:13 AM



“ *Enchanted Cottage was purchased for the family of Martha Woodard.*



October 09, 2018 at 10:18 PM



“ *Deb VanGundy Lowndes lit a candle in memory of Martha Woodard*



Deb VanGundy Lowndes - October 09, 2018 at 07:30 PM



“ *I grew up in Fort Dodge, Iowa and remember Martha and Dr. Woodard. They and their family were greatly respected. I later came to know and had the blessing of knowing her more personally in her 80s. She was always kind,gracious and classy. She loved and was always so proud of her family. One day we were talking about her family and she nonchalantly mentioned her grandson was a nfl quarterback. I must admit I am not very versed in Nfl personell but later mentioned his name to my husband (hs football coach) and sons and was chastised for not knowing who he was. He now is the quarterback for the Minnesota Vikings (my husband and eldest son's favorite team) (my other son is a Packer's fan). She was so proud of her family and her husband and loved her family so much. She felt she was so blessed and was equally proud of all her family. I am blessed to have known her.*

Sherry Tighe

James J Tighe - October 09, 2018 at 06:21 PM

NL

“ Nate Leners lit a candle in memory of Martha Woodard



Nate Leners - October 09, 2018 at 05:29 PM

CV

“ Mary Ann, I have so many memories of fun times at your house with all of our friends. Your mom was always so warm and welcoming to all of us silly girls. My sympathies to you and your family.

Cindy Nottger VanderZyl - October 09, 2018 at 02:42 PM

MB

“ I count Martha as a dear friend and ardent supporter. I will continue to think of her often and will miss her terribly. I'm hesitant to say goodbye, but wish her God speed. Marcia Bradley



Marcia Bradley - October 09, 2018 at 02:29 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Martha Woodard.



October 08, 2018 at 08:50 PM

DE

“ I had the honor of caring for Martha. And getting to know her and her family. She taught me something new every day. She will be deeply missed she will always be forever in my heart

diane esch - October 08, 2018 at 10:15 AM

KB

“ Kathi A Berg lit a candle in memory of Martha Woodard



Kathi A Berg - October 08, 2018 at 07:55 AM

MJ

“ I visited often with your mother/grandmother when she was at Accura this spring. She always welcomed me in her room to chat!! She also attended our Y ladies weekly coffee group for many years-- a fun lady.



Mary Ann Jansen - October 07, 2018 at 08:50 PM

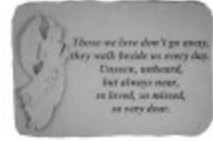
JK

“ I played bridge with Martha for years and really, really respected her as such a caring refined lady. I will cherish the wonderful memories I have. She was one of the best!

Joy Kruse - October 07, 2018 at 03:57 PM

RN

“ *Ron and Bobbi Stickels (Tom Woodards nurse) purchased the Garden Accent - "Those we love don't go away..." for the family of Martha Woodard.*



Ron and Bobbi Stickels (Tom Woodards nurse) - October 07, 2018 at 01:43 PM

LB

“ *LeAnn Sander Budrow lit a candle in memory of Martha Woodard*



LeAnn Sander Budrow - October 07, 2018 at 11:56 AM

LB

Your grandson won today. I'm sure you watched it from the best seat in the house.

LeAnn Sander Budrow - October 07, 2018 at 07:48 PM

JC

I subbed in her bridge group once. She was a lovely, kind lady....

Judy Carmichael - October 08, 2018 at 06:45 AM

F(

“ *I had the honor & privilege to work with Martha & Dr. Ralph many times @ Melander's. Both of these "special" people will be greatly missed. My utmost condolences to the Family @ this sad time.*
Fonda Bailey

Fonda (Macek) Bailey - October 06, 2018 at 03:52 PM

F(

“ *Fonda (Macek)Bailey lit a candle in memory of Martha Woodard*



Fonda (Macek)Bailey - October 06, 2018 at 03:49 PM

KH

“ *Kris Heitner lit a candle in memory of Martha Woodard*



Kris Heitner - October 06, 2018 at 03:47 PM

JW

“ *Jerry & Kathy Welter lit a candle in memory of Martha Woodard*



Jerry & Kathy Welter - October 06, 2018 at 03:14 PM