



Muriel Nelson

November 13, 1929 - March 22, 2020

Muriel Nelson, 90, of Spirit Lake, formerly of Storm Lake, passed away on Sunday, March 22, 2020 at Keelson Harbour in Spirit Lake.

A private graveside service will be held in the Lakeview Gardens Cemetery in Spirit Lake. There will be a public memorial service held at a later date.

Muriel, the daughter of F. Earl and Mabel I. (Irwin) Burgess, was born on November 13, 1929 in Sioux City. She graduated from Algona High School and earned her degree in Physical Education from Morningside College in Sioux City. She was united in marriage to David Emery Nelson on June 10, 1951 in Storm Lake, IA. He preceded her in death on April 18, 2012. Muriel and David were partners in the family funeral home, Hughes-Nelson Funeral Home in Storm Lake. They retired in 1989 and moved to the lakes to enjoy retirement.

She was a member of the Spirit Lake United Methodist Church in Spirit Lake. In her younger days she was involved on numerous boards at Morningside College. While living in the lakes area, she was active with the Pierson Lakes Art Center and the Okoboji Summer Theater. Muriel enjoyed playing bingo, socializing, listening to music and was a big supporter of Big Band music.

She is survived by her 4 children, Steve (Belinda) Nelson of Overland Park,

KS; Nancy (Michael) DeMeyer of Olney, IL; Jon (Joyce) Nelson of Omaha, NE; and Jim (Sue) Nelson of Cherokee, IA; 11 grandchildren and 11 great grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her parents, husband and her brother Roger Burges

Cemetery Details

Lake View Gardens Cemetery

Spirit Lake, IA

Tribute Wall

MS

“ Yes, I am alongside all those who benefited from the genuine caring/friendship of Muriel. She touched many lives in such positive ways. Thankful to know Heaven IS Real and we will see her again.. hold onto your Faith!

Blessings and prayers for you, her precious family.

Marilyn Strickland

Marilyn Strickland - March 30, 2020 at 01:13 PM

MP

“ Dear Steve, Nancy, Jon and Jim: I was very sorry to learn of your mother's passing. I have very fond memories of her and your dad while growing up in Storm Lake and living on the same block as the Nelson family. Your folks were very kind to my parents and I was especially touched your mother came back to Storm Lake to attend my brother Tim's funeral.

Michael Pierce

Michael Pierce - March 28, 2020 at 02:16 PM

DS

“ Muriel was a gem like no other! She sparkled as she volunteered so willingly at the Okoboji Summer Theater as well as Pearson Lakes Art Center. We had the fortune to spend many hours with she and Dave through the activities of the Okoboji Summer Theater Association. She was always willing to lend a hand, always eager to be in the midst of what was happening, and could often add some tidbit of history or of humor to every event. She was truly a lover of the arts!!! We will miss her so!

Dick & Marsha Swanson - March 26, 2020 at 08:34 PM

SF

“ Jim, Jon, Nancy, & Steve,
Our condolences go out to the Nelson family during your time of loss. How ironic it is, I was just thinking about Muriel & Dave yesterday recalling the many memories I was able to share with the Nelson family during my childhood years growing up with my good friend Jim Nelson. We had a lot of good times while they lived at the Funeral home on Irving Street in Storm Lake. I too experienced a loss of a family member as my Mom (Coleen) passed away this past December so I'm sure they are now both resting comfortably in Heaven these days. We will keep you in our thoughts and prayers.

Scott & Mary Foster

Scott Foster - March 26, 2020 at 03:16 PM

KR

“ Muriel was one of my favorite patrons whom I had the pleasure of getting to know and befriend from the Okoboji Summer Theatre. Upon my last couple summers spent at OST serving as the Public Relations Director, I could also count on Muriel for stepping up and helping usher in other patrons into the theatre on nights where most of the students were on or back stage. She was also there. I could always count on her to show up, even multiple times in one day as she would help usher for matinee shows and then show up again in the evening. I used to joke with her that me and her were always getting in trouble for chatting too much with everyone. Muriel knew everyone and she brought out a smile or laugh to anyone who was lucky enough to catch her eye. She was a true gem and I enjoyed the time she gave me and the stories she told. She would often pick me up for lunch and we would laugh and gossip over a yummy meal at Maxwell's right off of West Lake Okoboji. She was a true friend and I am so lucky and grateful to have known her. I know she was so very proud of her beautiful family and would always brag on her children, grandchildren and great grandchildren. She was a beautiful bright light in this crazy world, and that bright light will live on in those who knew her. Rest in Peace sweet friend. Thank you for your time here on Earth and your beautiful friendship. Until we meet again.

Kirstin Racicot - March 25, 2020 at 07:55 PM

BM

“ Barbara McLean lit a candle in memory of Muriel Nelson



Barbara McLean - March 25, 2020 at 05:35 PM

BM

“ I grew up with Muriel and Dave Nelson. My grandparents were the former owners of the funeral home in Storm Lake. They treated Dave as the son they never had.
Before they left Storm Lake and after they retired to Okoboji, I came up to Iowa almost every summer for about 25 years to visit. I always looked forward to my Iowa visit.
I am so saddened not to be with her again, but so comforted she is with the Lord and with her beloved Dave.
My very deepest sympathies to everyone in her huge family... Steve, Nancy, Jim, and John and all their extended families. She was so blessed to have such a large loving family.
Muriel was such a kind, thoughtful, and beautiful person.
Her friendship was special to me. I will miss her.
Barbara McLean
Houston, Texas

Barbara McLean - March 25, 2020 at 05:27 PM

LH

“ Sending my deepest condolences to Muriel's family, Muriel was such a lovely, gracious and warm person. I will always remember her generous volunteerism, and for the wonderful, long-standing friendship we shared through our shared time at OST. She will be missed.

Lamby Hedge - March 25, 2020 at 05:23 PM

TM

“ I am so sorry for your families loss. Muriel was a pleasure to work with.
Tom Morse, Jorgensen Hearing Center, Spencer

Tom Morse - March 25, 2020 at 10:47 AM

AJ

“ Muriel was such a sweetheart of a lady. I enjoyed spending time with her at the PLAC, and loved it when she was here at the volunteer desk laughing and spreading cheer like only Muriel could! Prayers for comfort for her family, Rest in peace my friend!



Alesia Johnson - March 24, 2020 at 03:33 PM

MF

“ Wishing you feelings of comfort, moments of peace, and memories of joy during this difficult time. Your mom certainly left a one-of-a-kind mark on the world. It was an honor and pleasure to know her.

As a Morningside College employee, I had the pleasure of visiting Muriel and spending time getting to know her over the last 4 or 5 years. She loved to talk about her children and grandchildren. She would tell stories about each one of them and really light up with pride. I will always remember what a go getter she was, telling me stories about work she was doing around her home or taking the dogs out for walk in the worst of conditions. She was very active and loved living in Monarch Cove.

Morningside College held a special place in Muriel's heart. She established the David and Muriel (Burgess) Nelson Annual Scholarship in December of 2012 at Morningside College. It was established as an annual scholarship for students attending Morningside and participating in the college track program. It provides one or more scholarships to student-athletes participating in track and/or cross country at Morningside. Muriel loved helping students and the Morningside track program. She especially enjoyed meeting the students and reading about their success.

I will miss Muriel. She was a very special person.

Mike Freeman

Mike Freeman - March 24, 2020 at 09:19 AM

CW

“ OUR SYMPATHY TO YOU ALL. MURIEL WAS A SWEET LADY.



CONNIE AND BILL WYMER - March 24, 2020 at 08:34 AM

CF

“ So sorry to get the news today about your Mother. We are also glad we had our time with Muriel and your family at the big birthday party last summer. Your parents were a great help and made a real difference in our lives as funeral home owners. Our love to you all!
♥♥ Craig and Nancy

craig fratzke - March 23, 2020 at 09:12 PM

SK

“ Jon and Family,

I am so sorry for your loss. Keeping you all in my thoughts and prayers.

Steph Kramer

Steph Kramer - March 23, 2020 at 04:55 PM

DW

“ Muriel and I got to spend much quality time together at OST and PLAC. She always had a big smile and was a joy to know. I will miss her. Rest in peace Muriel.
Doris

Doris Welle - March 23, 2020 at 04:50 PM

RB

“ Muriel was one of the Okoboji Summer Theatre's biggest cheerleaders (as was Dave). Always eager to volunteer and support OST. We are all thinking of her family and sorry for your loss.

Ruth Ann Burke - March 23, 2020 at 01:15 PM

WM

“ Fond memories of Muriel and David during the Monday Night Dick Baumann Big Band days at The Inn! Bob and Wynette Moore

Wynette Moore - March 23, 2020 at 12:33 PM

KE

“ Karen Dvergsten Eichner lit a candle in memory of Muriel Nelson



karen dvergsten eichner - March 23, 2020 at 10:00 AM

KE

Muriel and her husband were good friends of my parents while living in Storm Lake.

karen dvergsten eichner - March 23, 2020 at 10:02 AM

LJ

“ Larry And Mary Ann Jansen lit a candle in memory of Muriel Nelson



Larry and Mary Ann Jansen - March 23, 2020 at 09:29 AM

RA

“ *Muriel was a lovely woman. She was a wonderful volunteer at PLAC. She will be missed.* ”

Rachelle - March 22, 2020 at 09:24 PM