



## Rachel Carpenter

July 4, 1921 - December 5, 2014

Rachel was born in Early, Iowa on July 4th, 1921, to Joseph and Elma (Holdridge) McQuirk. Rachel was the youngest of four siblings. Her brother Garls and two sisters, Winifred and Marcella. When she was still a baby, the family moved to Spirit Lake. Rachel lived there all of her life until she moved to the Adel Assisted Living in 2009, to be near her grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Rachel and Leonard Carpenter were married on November 10, 1940. They were married exactly 63 years as Leonard passed away from an illness on the day of their 63rd anniversary in 2003.

They had two children, Joseph who now resides with his wife Jean in Loveland, CO and Jeanne, residing in Evansville, WY with John Gregg. Leonard and Rachel owned and operated their business of Carpenter Interiors in Spirit Lake for 47 years. Rachel enjoyed a successful career in Interior Design for over 60 years. She and Leonard had 8 grandchildren and Rachel now has 14 great-grandchildren and 2 great-great grandchildren. They were all precious to her along with her nieces and nephews.

A graveside service will be held at 10:00 A.M. Friday, July 3, 2015, at Lakeview Gardens Cemetery in Spirit Lake. The Schuchert-Lentz Funeral Home of Spirit Lake is serving the family.

# Tribute Wall



“ *Rachel Carpenter*

Kelli. McManis - January 06, 2015 at 06:01 PM



“ *Rachel Carpenter*

December 15, 2014 at 08:28 PM



“ *Rachel attended the Bible Study group that I helped with at Assisted Living in Adel. She was a dear lady and I so enjoyed her friendship. I just returned from my honeymoon last week and held a piano recital with my 8 students at Assisted Living. I had asked if Rachel would be able to come and discovered that she had passed away. She was such a special lady and touched many hearts including mine. What a blessing to have known her, and may God bless your memories of her and comfort you with his peace and love. May He also give you wisdom and discernment as you encounter the changes in the days ahead.*

Pat (Banwart) Hartley - December 14, 2014 at 04:07 PM

JT

“ When I remember my mother, Rachel, my memories always include my dad, Leonard. They were together for 63 years so all our fondest memories are of the times we were together with them both. Many of you have mentioned her style. Her grandchildren remember the hats, shoes, gloves, dresses and jewelry she kept in a huge trunk in the upstairs closet. They had many hours of fun playing dress up and creating new outfits. What a treasure trove of fun for them!

Mom's birthday was on the 4th of July so there was always a big picnic in their screened in back porch and the children got to light sparklers with Grandpa's assistance! Mom loved having company for meals and was a good cook.

She passed her creativity on to all her grandchildren! Mom loved her home and created a comfortable, beautiful environment for her family. She and my dad lived in the same house for 52 years. It went through many remodels and redecorating through the years. My brother and I were able to see her when she still recognized us. Many of the family were with her in the last few days. My niece, Stephanie, and I were with her when she passed. My daughters, Christine and Jennifer and son Tim were with her during the last few weeks and went above and beyond caring for her and making sure she wasn't alone...even taking turns sleeping at the hospice facility. Thank you all for your lovely tributes. Our family is left with many memories that we will treasure in the years to come.

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**Jeanne Carpenter Thelen** - December 14, 2014 at 03:49 PM

BS

“ Rachel Carpenter

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**Bob and Kate Shaw** - December 12, 2014 at 06:17 PM

CS

“ Rachel Carpenter

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**Christine Suarez** - December 12, 2014 at 10:32 AM

LC

“ Rachel Carpenter

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**Linda Lynn Cook** - December 12, 2014 at 12:52 AM

PR

“ To the Carpenter family,  
My prayers go out to you. I remember the first time walking into Carpenters. My eyes were a glow and I was 26. I dreamed of purchasing something to take home to my new home. And yes I found that special thing. Then I met one of your mom's best seamstress, Delores 'Dee' Hanneman. Your mom had a knack for employing a wonderful lady. I had many drapes made. I was so sad when Carpenters closed. I know Delores and your mom are in heaven chatting away. Bless you all.

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**Peggy Rick** - December 11, 2014 at 09:21 PM

JC

“ Rachel Carpenter

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**Jennifer Chapman** - December 11, 2014 at 08:45 PM

JC

“ Rachel Carpenter

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**Jennifer Chapman** - December 11, 2014 at 08:45 PM

CI

“ Rachel Carpenter

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**Colleen Ingram** - December 11, 2014 at 07:52 PM

SC

“ Rachel Carpenter

Stephanie Carpenter - December 11, 2014 at 07:23 PM

JM

“ Rachel Carpenter

Jessics Manning - December 11, 2014 at 05:47 PM

LL

“ Rachel Carpenter

Libby Loader - December 11, 2014 at 10:30 AM

MT

“ Rachel Carpenter

Mary Frances Thelen - December 11, 2014 at 09:47 AM

NH

“ Rachel Carpenter

Nat Hinn - December 09, 2014 at 12:58 AM

NH

“ Rachel Carpenter.

*A Spirit Lake Legend.*

*I grew up as a little girl shopping in Carpenter Interiors with my Mom.*

*Dreaming, wishing, studying, admiring her amazing store...even the pleated, white draped fabric on the ceiling. Details were always her speciality!*

*When her store closed, I had the pleasure of doing both Jeannie & Rachel's hair... Love this family!*

*Both beautiful ladies!*

*Rachel & I drove to Minneapolis together...just she & I to international market square in 1995 to buy carpet for my home. We laughed, drank wine & got just the most perfect, amazing wool carpet..*

*Her spark & spirit still inspires me every day.*

*She loved that teal thunderbird!*

*I am also a Realtor here in Spirit Lake.. Thing is, since I've been here 43 years, every listing I walk into...I can always tell just by pattern, quality, and style...that Rachel was there.*

*Her style was 2nd to none.*

*She & Leonard Jeannie are part of everybody's lives here in SL*

*Thank you Rachel for inspiration to beauty and style.*

*Icons live forever.*

*Natalie Hinn*

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**Natalie Hinn** - December 09, 2014 at 12:42 AM

DH

“ Jeannie - I was so shocked to hear Rachel's name on the radio today, my daughter drove to Des Moines today and I told her last night I wished I could ride along so I could go visit Rachel. What a lovely lady, I feel bad that I did not make it down to see her more often, but my travels don't take me to Des Moines area that much. You have my deepest sympathy in your loss. She is at happy and at peace now. (I worked for Dr. Welsh and Dr. Bieri for several years)

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**Darlene Hankey** - December 08, 2014 at 12:32 PM