



Ruth M. Schwarck

July 31, 1922 - December 13, 2012

Ruth Jensen Schwarck, age 90, of the Lakes Area, formerly of Spencer, passed away on Thursday, December 13, 2012. She was born on July 31, 1922, in Sheldon, Iowa, to Julius and Erma Jensen.

Ruth attended school in Sheldon, until the family moved to Spencer, where she graduated from Spencer High School. Bill and Ruth were united in marriage on August 26, 1943, in Louisville, KY. After Bill's return from World War II, they made their home in West Okoboji and Spencer, IA.

Ruth worked at KICD and was Convention Manager at the New Inn Resort for 25 years. She was also employed by Village West, Arnolds Park Amusement Park and most recently, the Iowa Great Lakes Chamber of Commerce. Ruth served as the President of the Iowa Great Lakes Chamber of Commerce, long time member of Grace United Methodist Church, a Beta Sigma Phi, VFW Auxiliary member and a member of the Board of Directors of the Iowa Great Lakes Chamber of Commerce. Ruth was a volunteer at the Okoboji Welcome Center and the Chamber, where she annually chaired the fireworks committee. Her great love outside of her family was the Iowa Great Lakes. October 2001, Ruth was awarded Iowa's Number One Friend of Tourism at the annual State Tourism Conference. She also was a member of the Advisory Board for the Hotel/Motel Restaurant Department of Iowa Great Lakes Community College, where she received many recognitions for the role she played in developing their program.

Ruth was preceded in death by her parents; husband, Bill; daughter-in-law,

Janet Schwarck; great-grandson, Derek Schwarck; and her siblings. Ruth is survived by her sons, Terry Schwarck, and his wife, Karen of Punta Gorda, FL ; Greg Schwarck of Minneapolis, MN; Jeff Schwarck, and his wife, Andrea of Spirit Lake Iowa; her daughter, Susan Schwarck of Lee's Summit, MO; 9 grandchildren; and 3 great-grandchildren. Upon their request, there will be no services at this time. A Celebration of Life in honor of both Bill and Ruth will be held from 10:00A.M. until 12:00P.M. on Friday, July 5, 2013, at Village West Resort in the Queen's Room. The Schuchert Funeral home is in charge of the arrangements.

Tribute Wall

JS

“ Ruth brought so many smiles to my family and I am grateful to her for that. Because of her I shared lots of smiles with family and friends. Not everyone can leave a legacy like 4th of July Fireworks in Okoboji; that is something special!

Joy M Sheley - December 20, 2012 at 12:16 AM

MS

“ The sign that says "If you are lucky enough to live at the lake.....you are lucky enough"
My sister and I were double lucky as we lived next door to Mama Ruth and Bill in the New Inn dorm in the mid 70's. If those walls could talk! Rest in Peace to an amazing couple! Michele Sayre

Michele Sayre - December 16, 2012 at 10:53 AM

MD

“ Heard the news of Ruth's passing late this afternoon. Upon hearing that news all I could think of was all the wonderful things she had done for communities she lived in, Okoboji and Spencer. And all the years she had spend at the Inn of Okoboji and the hard work she had done there. I spent a few years working with her . My sympathy goes out to all of you . And I want to let you know that your mom and dad were great people.

Mary Kay Donovan - December 14, 2012 at 10:52 PM

VD

“ I was one of Mama Ruth & Uncle Bill's New Inn kids way back in 1973. The world has now lost 2 magnificent individuals who had a major impact on a lot of young people ! I want to send my condolences & best wishes for your family.

My favorite memory of both Bill & Ruth is when they gathered with us young kids up by the girls dorm at the New Inn, we had a bonfire & several beers (well maybe more than several), after every beer Ruth drank she would physically let us know how full she was. The picture I have is when her arm was waYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYY above her head, with her smiling from ear to ear. That's how I'm going to remember her !!

Again, I'm sorry for your & everbody's loss !!

Vern Deters - December 14, 2012 at 02:15 PM

WS

“ My dear Ruth, such a wonderful lady who treated us all as one of her own. She is sorely missed in this lifetime. I miss her great laugh and always smiling. So much geniune interest in our lives no matter how much time had passed since we last spoke. Love you so much, Wayne

Wayne Stowell - December 14, 2012 at 10:30 AM

SR

“ Jeff and Andrea and family. Ruth was a wonderful fundraiser. I remember working on raising funds for fireworks many years ago with her. She was a great chamber supporter and lovely person. She will be missed.

Susan and Dean Reiser - December 13, 2012 at 09:21 PM

KL

“ We are so sorry to hear of Ruth's passing. She was truly a delightful lady. I will miss seeing her when I visit StoneBridge.

kathy & rod Lockey - December 13, 2012 at 07:47 PM

CI

“ We are in AZ. See by the news you have lost a Very Special Person. She had such a wonderful Birthday party this past year. She and My Mom Peggy had such good times together. I have great memories of Ruth also. Thinking of you and hoping you will find comfort in Special memories also. Sending our Love and Sympathy

Chuck and Donna Tielbur Milford IA - December 13, 2012 at 10:42 AM