



Joyce Larson

June 18, 1929 - December 1, 2008

Joyce Marie Larson was born on June 18, 1929 to Oscar and Ella (Solum) Stadum in North Township, Pennington County, MN. She passed away on December 1, 2008, at the age of 79 years, at Fair Oaks Lodge in Wadena. Joyce was united in marriage with William J. Larson on August 22, 1952 in Thief River Falls. She came to the Wadena community in 1949 and will be remembered by faculty, students, and parents as a dedicated teacher in the Wadena Public School for many years. She participated in the Minnesota Education Association, Immanuel Lutheran Women's Guild, church choir, and was a volunteer for many church activities. Joyce enjoyed making lefse, baking, golf, singing, reading cookbooks, and especially spending time with her family and grandchildren. Joyce was preceded in death by her parents, Oscar and Ella; brothers, Arnold, Loren, Juel, Donald, and Charles Raymond; and sisters, Margaret, Stella, and Orpha Elaine. She is survived by her dedicated and loving husband, Bill; son, Mark (Judy) of Plymouth; daughters, Maren (Bill) Crabb of Eden Prairie, and Krista (Richard) Reynolds of Colorado Springs, CO; and 7 grandchildren. Funeral services were held at 11:00 AM on Saturday, December 6, 2008 in the Immanuel Lutheran Church in Wadena with Pastors Rob Nelson and Rachel Stout officiating. Interment was in the Wadena Cemetery. Honorary pallbearers were Dale Miller, Carl Peltoniemi, Sr., and Earl Hillesland. Active pallbearers were Michael Finn, Donald Quincer, Roger Lageson, Paul Craig, Jeff Stadum and Byron Hamre. In lieu of flowers the family has requested memorials for Alzheimers research.

Tribute Wall

RE

“ *I'm so sorry for your loss. You're in my prayer.*

Rhonda (Pudas) Ellenbecker - December 01, 2008 at 12:00 AM

JM

“ *My earliest memory is of Miss Stadum as my (I think) 2nd grade teacher; Mr. Larson followed as my Jr. and Sr. High math teacher (I still remember the final test in Adv. Algebra). These two fine people were not only teachers, but mentors. I started babysitting for them when Maren was about 10 months old, and as their family grew, cared for Krista and Mark, as well. I saw Bill and Joyce occasionally through the years - the last time at my mother's funeral in 1991. I was recently going through recipes for Christmas baking, and ran across two recipe cards from Joyce, in her handwriting: Peanut Logs and Sugar Cookies (she always had the best cookies for me when I did babysitting!). What two dear, special people! My sincere sympathy on the death of Joyce.*

Joan Martin Miller - December 01, 2008 at 12:00 AM

MM

“ We are all saddened by Joyce's death. As Mark told me the other day, though, she is in a much better place. We will always remember how Joyce was so kind to everyone. When my whole family would visit from the Cities, Joyce was always interested in what the kids were doing, how school was going, and what they were up to. When the kids were young, Joyce always had books around for them to read. Even in their older years, she would always ask how they were. Joyce and Bill were always such gracious hosts each fall for deer hunting. We would sleep down in the basement, head to the VFW for the fish fry, and of course dinner at the Boondocks sometime during the weekend. These are memories that I will always carry with me. Joyce, we miss you! Mark, Heidi, Andrew, and Mari Peterson

Mark and Heidi Peterson, Andrew and Mari - December 01, 2008 at 12:00 AM

CL

“ Mark, Judy and Family,
We are so sorry for your loss.
You are in our thoughts and prayers.
Bruce and Cheryl Lips

Cheryl Lips - December 01, 2008 at 12:00 AM

SK

“ Dear Mr. Larson, I'm so sorry to hear of your loss. Joyce was a very sweet woman and I know you'll miss her a lot. Will keep you & your family in my prayers! God Bless! Stefanie Tapley Kittelson

Stefanie Tapley Kittelson - December 01, 2008 at 12:00 AM

KJ

“ *The Larsons and the Quincers go back many years. I grew up living next door to the Larsons. I have very fond memories of Joyce bring over her sugar cookies. They were very thin, crisp and golden brown. (And then there was the Lefse.) We still talk about Joyces cookies when we get together as a family. May the love of God give the Larson family peace, may the love of friends give them comfort.*

Kathy (Quincer) Johns - December 01, 2008 at 12:00 AM

JW

“ *I best remember Joyce from the annual Memorial Day picnic that the Larsons, Willis', Roisums, Adams', and Olafsons held for many years at Sunny Brook Park. Joyce was a kind and gentle woman.*

I last saw Joyce in the summer of 2007. I was home helping my parents as my dad was recovering from surgery. Mom and I were sitting outside when Bill and Joyce stopped by to see how we were doing. I'm thankful for that visit.

Bill, Maren, Krista, and Mark you are all in my thoughts and prayers.

Jebb

Jebb Willis - December 01, 2008 at 12:00 AM

JH

“ *Judy - Sorry for your husband's and your loss. You are in our thoughts.*

~Julie

Julie Honebrink - December 01, 2008 at 12:00 AM

SO

“ To Each of the Larson's: What a legacy Joyce has left! Raising such an amazing family and what a beautiful person she was! I shall forever remember growing up 2 doors down from all of you and what a great place 3rd Street truly is! It is certainly seeing its changes and this most recently has been so hard. It is at these times that we look back and realize how truly blessed each of us are to have been part of such a special neighborhood. I will forever cherish the cookie sheets and cook book she gave me as a wedding shower gift! I think of her each time I use them. Her baking skills could be matched by none! Know you are each in my prayers. I am truly thankful for her peace as well as yours.

Shannon (Schlecht) O'Keefe - December 01, 2008 at 12:00 AM

MK

“ Dear Larson Family,
When I think of Joyce I picture her in her first grade classroom. She was such a good teacher. I would hear her playing the piano first thing in the morning, teaching the children songs and rhymes that would help them throughout their learning. When trends came and went Joyce stayed with what she knew worked for most children, a basic understanding of phonics that stood them in good stead while learning to read. If she detected a speech problem or a health problem she referred that child. I remember a child who had a white spot on the tip of her tongue. She asked me about it and we decided to suggest to the parents that they check it out. It turned out to be a serious medical problem which required surgery. The parents were so grateful for Joyce's persistence in getting help for the child. Several Christmases Joyce and Bill would stop by our house with a plate of delicious cookies because she knew my parents and I would enjoy them. There wasn't a mean bone in her body. I'm so glad you chose the photo you did for this registry...a smiling, happy Joyce. I'm so glad I knew her and all your family. I've been thinking of each of you ever since I heard the news.
Love,
Mary Ellen

Mary Ellen Kennedy Kollodge - December 01, 2008 at 12:00 AM

BK

“Mrs Larson” was a special person to all she met. I will forever remember her as my kindergarden teacher, reading to us in such a tender expressive voice, gently guiding us through the alphabet and writing skills, teaching us to take turns, use the buddy system, and to be kind towards others. Life lessons, indeed. I often think of her when I see saltine crackers (served at milk break time) and always when I make fruit soup from her recipe (So good all year 'round!). Sleep-overs with Kris in their home was always fun as I knew I would be well cared for. My last visit with her was in the grocery store on one of her good days - it is a treasured memory, too. May each of you have special memories to pull from your hearts on difficult days. May those memories bring you renewed times of heartfelt joy. I will miss seeing her at the Congregational Bazaar each year. Joyce was a jewel in the crown of our community. Most fondly, Bev

Bev (Lynk) Komula - December 01, 2008 at 12:00 AM

JK

“Bill,
My sympathy and prayers are with you and your family. Mom and Dad enjoyed the company of Joyce and yourself.
Julie Umland Krause
daughter of Christy and Bill Umland

Julie Umland Krause - December 01, 2008 at 12:00 AM

MS

“ I remember Joyce as a sharing and caring person. One time at a family dinner, I made mention of how much I enjoyed her Scandinavian flatbread. For years afterward, she always had a box of flatbread for me at Christmas-time. This always touched me, considering that I was just the brother of her daughter-in-law! God bless you Joyce Larson.

Mark Sanda - December 01, 2008 at 12:00 AM

AJ

“ I will miss Joyce and look forward to seeing her again, some day, in heaven. Joyce was such a kind person. Joyce and Bill attended every one of my volleyball games and gymnastics meets through high school. They traveled to the cities to cheer me on at the state competition. I can still almost taste those buttery yummy sugar cookies that, even with the recipe, I just can't seem to replicate. Her lefse, the same. It must have been less about the recipe and more about the love. They treated me like a grandchild when mine had all passed away. I will forever remember her and keep you all, her family, in my prayers. God Bless.

Amy Johnson - December 01, 2008 at 12:00 AM