



Ramona Luoma

May 13, 1943 - January 16, 2008

Ramona Jean Luoma, age 64, of Wadena, passed-away January 16, 2008, at Abbott-Northwestern Hospital in Minneapolis, Minnesota. She was born to John and Phyllis (Boylan) Beving on May 13, 1943 in Bertha. Mona was raised in Leaf River Township. During her youth she was active in 4-H, including showing pigs at the State Fair. After graduating from Wadena High School in 1961, she attended nurses training at General Hospital in Minneapolis. Mona was united in marriage with Richard Libby in 1963 at Wadena United Methodist Church. He passed-away later that year due to an accident. On June 18, 1965 she was united in marriage with Warner Luoma at St. Timothy Lutheran Church in Fridley. From 1965 to 1971, Mona worked as a Registered Nurse at several hospitals, Good Samaritan, Phoenix, AZ., St. Paul Ramsey, St. Paul, MN, and Aitkin Community Hospital, Aitkin, MN. From 1972 to 1984, Mona and her husband, Warner, served as missionaries of the Lutheran Church in America in Sumatra Indonesia. In Indonesia, she developed family health, community development, and leadership training programs. She also published, in the Indonesian language, several books used for training community workers. After returning to the US in 1984, Mona served as a mission interpreter for the Metropolitan Synod of New York, and worked as a Foster Care Nurse for the Little Flower Children and Family Services of New York. In 1988, she started as a pediatric nurse at the University of Illinois at Chicago Hospital and Clinics, achieving specialty certification in pediatric nursing. Moving back home to Wadena in 1998, Mona

worked part time as a case manager in Home Nursing, first at Caring Hands and then at Tri County Hospital. A common thread through all of this was her love of the Lord, which expressed itself not only through her work, but also her commitment to the church in each place she lived. She moved easily with city dwellers in Indonesia or New York, as well as those living in rural and agricultural areas in Sumatra or Minnesota. After returning to Wadena she was certified as a parish nurse and served at Immanuel Lutheran Church. She was also active in the Sew and Sew Homemakers Club, of which her grandmother was a founding member. She was active in Faithfully Fit Forever and the Prayer Shawl Ministry at church; and the Bloodmobile and Breast Cancer Support group in the community. She also developed a program, when needed, to provide grief support to persons in need of counseling. Through all of these activities her family remained extremely important to her. She will truly be missed. Mona was preceded in death by her first husband, Richard; her father John; and brother James. She is survived by her husband, Warner; daughter Gail (Kurt) Johnson of Andover; grandson Alexander Johnson; mother Phyllis Beving of Wadena; brothers Roger (Janet) Beving of Rockford, IL, and John Beving of Fargo, ND; and sister Marlene (Allen) Keller of Coon Rapids. Pallbearers will be Paul Eickhoff, Larry Greenwaldt, Allen Keller, Phil Meier, David Bauer, and George Wheeler, Jr. Funeral services were Saturday, January 19, 2008, at Immanuel Lutheran Church in Wadena with Pastor Rob Nelson officiating. Interment was at Wadena Cemetery in Wadena.

Tribute Wall

MR

“ I'm sorry I'm so late. I was just paging down from my husbands obituary and saw Mona's.

The wholr world will miss Mona - she brought a rare gift with her. Also she always was a "can do nurse!" Perfect for home care because she always brought answers to difficult situations.

A whole separate gift she brought was a lot of fun to the office. We laughed so hard! The world has been a better place for her visit here.

Mary Rinkel - January 16, 2008 at 12:00 AM

PG

“ I met Mona when I was working with the Division for World Mission and Ecumenism of the Lutheran Church in America. Warner and my husband Eric were both Southern Asia Secretaries for their denominations--Warner for the Lutherans and Eric for the United Church of Christ and Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). We had missionaries in India for 24 years before coming to New York, so we had much in common as returned missionaries living in New York.

Mona and I both had health back grounds and on the occasions when we met we had animated conversations about international community health. I always admired Mona's broad knowledge, her commitment, energy and enthusiasm. She continued to grow in her profession and had a breadth of experience. She radiated professionalism, and was a warm and charismatic individual. She left a very positive legacy.

We prayed for Mona during the years she battled cancer and we will pray for those who love her and grieve her death. Our hearts go out to Warner, Gail and her family and friends.

Patricia Gass

Patricia Gass - January 16, 2008 at 12:00 AM

TS

“ I was just a teenager when we were in Sumatra. Mona was always around when Gail and I were together. My favorite memory however is when they were staying in Wadena the summer of 1979 and Mona enjoyed being "gramma" to my 4 month old daughter Jennifer. Thanks for the love.

Tymra Suter - January 16, 2008 at 12:00 AM

SH

“ Warner, Gail and Libby family,
With total shock when we got the obituary from Warren regarding
Mona, so glad we had found each other a few years ago. Have
many good memories of our younger days together. Gail we often
think of you haven't seen you since you were a young child. Mona
was a very special person will be missed by many.
Our sympathy
Sig & Karen Holme

Sig & Karen Holme - January 16, 2008 at 12:00 AM

MK

“ I met Ramona through the Wadena Bloodmobile. She volunteered
after Sister Jocile left the area. I was so impressed with Ramona's
capabilities. She stepped right up and took the reins. When I read of
her many accomplishments in her obituary I now understand why
this project was no big deal. She had handled many challenges in
her life. I met Warner through Habitat for Humanity. He's a great
guy. They made a talented team. Good people. Salt of the earth. My
thoughts and prayers are with you, Mrs. Beving.
Sincerely,
Mary Ellen Kennedy Kollodge

Mary Ellen Kollodge - January 16, 2008 at 12:00 AM

SP

“ I met Mona in high school. We pretty much sat by each other because our maiden names started with a "B" and usually sat alphabetical in a lot of classes. I admired Mona because good grades seemed to come easy for her. She was a very bright person and always willing to help when asking her a question. We grew up as kids in the Methodist Church and took confirmation together. It has been fun bumping into her and Warner at dollar hamburger nights. May the Lord be with you all.
Love & Prayers, Barry and Sandi

Sandi Pratt - January 16, 2008 at 12:00 AM

MK

“ Warner, Gail and family...
What a tribute to a special lady. As Darlene Widell Carlson's little sister...I have memories of how cool I thought those big girls were with all their Elvis talk and make up! Mona clearly grew up to touch many lives, as a nurse, in her mission work and the ministry of being a daughter, wife and Mom. Each day we have with those we love is a gift from God...He must have wanted her Home.
Peace be with you... Marlys Widell Kuha and Family

Marlys Kuha - January 16, 2008 at 12:00 AM

SD

“ I always admired Mona for her work as a missionary. Se was able to put into practice the highest ideals we were taught as nurses, the altruistic service to humanity.

Stanley Deden - January 16, 2008 at 12:00 AM

LL

“ *Mona and I were roommates in nursing school until she married Dick Libby. Since I lived in Detroit Lakes, we made many trips home together-some horrendous, esp. in the winter. She was a blessing in my early life. I have nothing but good memories of her.*

Lois Lucas - January 16, 2008 at 12:00 AM

DC

“ *I first met Mona on the bus in 7th grade and we became instant, forever friends. Oh the memories of pick up rides with Mona at the wheel...she was always the brave one..God was preparing her for her adventures as a missionary with her dear husband Warner and precious daughter Gail...and then we all retired and how we loved to visit Mona and Warner in their beautiful log home back in the countryside we both grew up in. We promise to keep visiting you Warner and we will keep telling you all the adventures of our high school days. Mona had asked to enter heaven with the Hallaluah chorus. Way to go Mona! Love forever, Dar and Tom*

Darlene(Widell) & Tom Carlson - January 16, 2008 at 12:00 AM

JW

“ *Mona was such a wonderful and interesting person. I loved to hear her stories of Indonesia. What makes me smile when I think about Mona is the time I worked with Mona at Caring Hands and she just had finished her chemo after her first round of cancer-she always loved to pop bubble wrap-so we had a party for her and bought a roll of bubble wrap, played music and she danced all over the bubble wrap. I will miss her. I will continue to pray for you that you make find comfort and peace through our Lord Jesus Christ. Janet Wiedewitsch*

Janet Bunker Wiedewitsch - January 16, 2008 at 12:00 AM