

*A*rleen DeBerg, age 81, of Storm Lake, Iowa and formerly of Battle Creek, Iowa, died Wednesday, February 27, 2008 at her home.

Arleen Carol Lewis Ummach DeBerg was born and raised in Battle Creek, Iowa on November 11, 1926. She attended kindergarten and 12 years of grade and high school in Battle Creek, graduating from high school in 1944. She then attended the American Institute of Business in Des Moines, Iowa.

Arleen was a legal secretary in Ida Grove, Iowa for three years, and a telephone operator and assistant chief operator in Battle Creek for six years. She was office manager for a doctor in Battle Creek for three years.

In 1962 she became administrator of Sunset Knoll nursing home in Aurelia, Iowa and remained there for six and a half years. She worked briefly for Dr. Malliard in Storm Lake. Then she became administrator of Buena Vista Manor in Storm Lake. She worked part-time as administrator of the nursing home in Milford, Iowa for about a year and part-time as administrator of the nursing home in Fonda, Iowa for one year.

Arleen was a member of the First Presbyterian Church in Battle Creek, having been baptized there at an early age. She was a Rainbow Girl at Ida Grove and Battle Creek.

On June 25, 1947, Arleen married Carl Ummach in the Morningside Presbyterian Manse in Sioux City, Iowa. To this union, one son was born, Carl Edward Ummach V (Ed). She married Kenneth DeBerg on November 25, 1971 at the Little Brown Church in Nashua, Iowa.

Arleen loved music and in high school sang solos at Eastern Star and at school functions. She was in the high school chorus, high school band and church choir. She was part of a trio that sang at her high school commencement in 1944.

Arleen also loved to play tennis and won the high school girls championship in Battle Creek. She enjoyed riding horses with friends while in high school, as well.

When her son was young, she was a Cub Scout leader and taught Bible School. She enjoyed many activities with him, such as fishing, roller skating and taking him swimming.

While Arleen lived in Ida Grove in the '40's, she was active in Woman's Club and enjoyed such things as being chairperson of the style shows, etc. At that time she also belonged to a club whose members had all worked together in various positions in Ida Grove and continued their friendships by meeting once a month and socializing.

Arleen lived in Las Vegas, Nevada, when her son was very young and they enjoyed doing many things together, such as church and Sunday School. She read to her very young son daily and remembered that one of their favorites was "The Little Engine That Could." Together they enjoyed cats, kittens, their dog, Tex, and their "little ranch" as they called it.

After returning to Battle Creek, the highlight of her life was attending all the activities in which her son was involved. She was a very proud mother.

Arleen was a devoted mother and grandmother. When her grandchildren were little and lived in Storm Lake, she enjoyed babysitting with them and thoroughly enjoyed their weekly visits.

Arleen was a devoted daughter and as a youngster was her dad's tomboy, as they played ball, jumped hurdles and ran races together. She remained a devoted daughter to her parents all of their lives, by visiting them frequently, having birthday and anniversary parties for them, writing to them and calling them on the phone. They enjoyed praying together.

Her sense of loss when her parents went home to be with the Lord only two years apart was immeasurable. She knew in her heart that they were better off in Heaven, but she missed so much the unconditional love that they gave her. Now, dear friends, Arleen is together with them again and so happy! She is walking and laughing with her brave, warrior dad and holding her sweet mother's hands.

Arleen did her best to stay strong with the Lord and she did believe in her God and talked to Him daily. Now she has gone Home. May she rest in peace.

Survivors include her son, Carl Edward Ummach V and wife Arlene of Sioux City, Iowa; grandchildren: Carl Edward Ummach VI, Todd A. Ummach, Stacia A. Ummach Stauter, Penny L. McKnight and Michael L. Miller; great-grandchildren: Hannah, Charles, Alyssa, Hunter, McKenzie, Regan, Michael, Sarah, Travis, Samantha, Mya, Dathan and Braden; extended family and many friends.

Arleen was preceded in death by her parents and her great-grandson, Tyler A. Ummach.

# *Celebrating* **A Special Life**



**Arleen C. DeBerg**

1926  2008

# *I'm Free*

Don't grieve for me, for now I'm free,  
I'm following the path God laid for me.  
I took His hand when I heard Him call,  
I turned my back and left it all.

I could not stay another day,  
To laugh, to love, to work or play.  
Tasks left undone must stay that way.  
I've found that peace at the close of day.

If my parting has left a void,  
Then fill it with remembered joy.  
A friendship shared, a laugh, a kiss.  
Oh yes, these things I too will miss.

Be not burdened with times of sorrow.  
I wish you the sunshine of tomorrow.  
My life's been full, I savored much,  
Good friends, good times, a loved one's touch.

Perhaps my time seemed all too brief.  
Don't lengthen it now with undue grief.  
Lift up your heart and share with me.  
God wanted me now, He set me free.

— author unknown

We wish to express our gratitude for the kindness evidenced in thought and deed, and for your attendance at this service. Please join us for refreshments and a time of fellowship and sharing at the church immediately following the burial.



*Arleen's Family*

## IN MEMORY OF

*Arleen C. DeBerg*

November 11, 1926



February 23, 2008

### FUNERAL SERVICE

*Saturday, March 1, 2008 at 2:00 p.m.*

*First Presbyterian Church — Battle Creek, Iowa*

### CLERGY

*Reverend Kevin J. Freese*

### ORGANIST

*Dixie Brueck*

### CONGREGATIONAL SINGING

*"What A Friend We Have In Jesus"*

*"Old Rugged Cross"*

### CASKET BEARERS

*Ed Ummach VI, Todd Ummach, Michael Miller*

*Ronnie Lewis, Henry Reitz, Troy Stauter*

### HONORARY CASKET BEARERS

*Stacia Stauter, Penny McKnight, Jamie Ummach*

*Kim Ummach, Tina Miller, Doug Durston*

### INTERMENT

*Mount Hope Cemetery — Battle Creek, Iowa*



*Arrangements by*

**FRATZKE & JENSEN FUNERAL HOMES**

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