



Donna Jesse

July 1, 1946 - February 17, 2024

Donna Marie Jesse, age 77, of Storm Lake, Iowa died peacefully from complications of Alzheimer's disease Saturday, February 17, 2024 at Methodist Manor Retirement Community in Storm Lake.

A Celebration of Life will take place as a come and go event on Saturday, May 18, 2024 from 4-8:00 p.m. at the Cobblestone Ballroom in Lakeside. The Fratzke & Jensen Funeral Home in Storm Lake is in charge of the arrangements.

Donna was born July 1st, 1946, the daughter of Donald and Phyllis Zimmerman in Sac City, Iowa. Growing up Donna attended school in Sac City graduating in 1964.

Donna was united in marriage to Jerry LaFever in 1967. They were blessed with two children, Lynn and Brandon. They were later divorced.

In 1994 Donna was united in marriage to Paul Jesse. It was during this union that she acquired the nickname "Princess".

Donna was a partner of Lakeshore Cafe, starting in 1978, until her retirement in 2009. As a partner, she ran a tight ship, ensuring impeccable service. Her spunky personality and no-nonsense approach became well known by both

staff and customers.

Donna had a passion for maintaining cleanliness. Her house was always immaculate, and she diligently followed along with a washcloth, ensuring no mess was left behind.

The word “honestly” peppered her conversations. Donna never minced words; her candor was both direct and compassionate. Her children sought her advice, knowing they would receive candid wisdom.

Donna loved entertaining friends at the farm. Whether it was a televised game, birthday party or an impromptu get-together, she always knew how to have fun.

One of Donna’s biggest joys was Christmas and spending time with family on Christmas Eve. She ordered an abundance of gifts, stacking them high to see the reaction and smiles of her loved ones.

In retirement, Donna and Paul were snowbirds, spending Thanksgiving in Puerto Vallarta, Mexico and their winters in Scottsdale, Arizona. Donna loved the sun, was always golden brown and enjoyed sipping on a cold beer.

Donna’s lipsticked smile, laughter, and love will forever be missed.

Donna’s family would like to thank the staffs of WEL-Life at Alta, Methodist Manor Retirement Community and Gentiva Hospice for their attentiveness, compassion and competence in supporting and caring for Donna during a long and difficult time.

Donna is survived by her husband, Paul Jesse of Storm Lake, Iowa; daughter: Lynn Kollbaum of Alta, Iowa; son: Brandon (Eva) LaFever of Alta, Iowa;

grandchild: Collin LaFever of Alta, Iowa; brothers: David (Jean) Zimmerman of Emmetsburg, Iowa, Terry (Kim) Zimmerman of Storm Lake, Iowa; sister: Tammy (Doug) Anderson of Cedar Falls, Iowa; sister-in-law: Diane (Gregory) Nelson of Ames, Iowa; and many nieces, nephews and extended family.

Donna was preceded in death by her former spouse: Jerry LaFever; parents: Donald and Phyllis Zimmerman; stepmother: Sharon Pearson; parents-in-laws: Glen and Lois Jesse; Wilbur and Violet LaFever.

Previous Events

Come and Go Event

MAY 18. 4:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

Cobblestone Ballroom
98 Lakeshore Drive
Lakeside, IA 50588

Tribute Wall

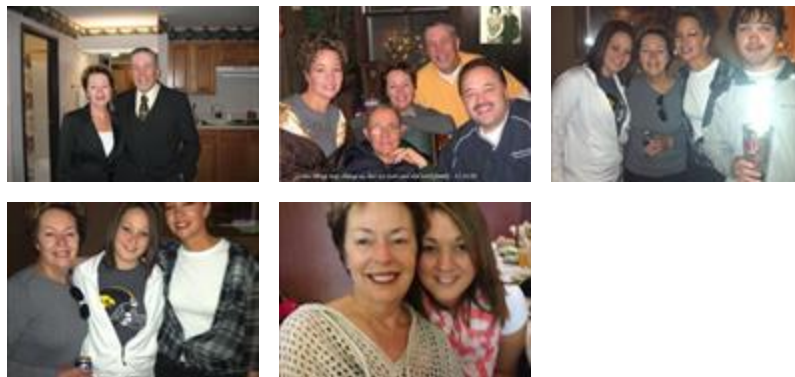
JA

“ *Very sorry to hear of Donna's passing. Her personality truly was one of kind.* ”

Jason - March 01, 2024 at 03:28 PM

EL

“ *8 files added to the album Donna* ”



Eva LaFever - February 27, 2024 at 07:51 PM

EL

“ *3 files added to the album Donna* ”



Eva LaFever - February 26, 2024 at 03:32 PM

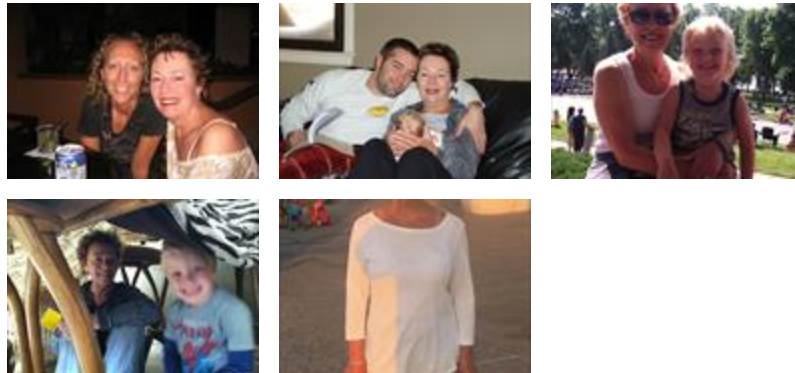
SM

Such a fun time with Donna and the girls at a Tina Turner concert

Sharon Mickelson - February 27, 2024 at 08:39 AM

EL

“ 12 files added to the album Donna



Eva LaFever - February 26, 2024 at 12:14 PM

KM

“ Kay Marvin lit a candle in memory of Donna Jesse



Kay Marvin - February 21, 2024 at 08:29 AM

MG

“ Mike Bonnie Goebel lit a candle in memory of Donna Jesse



Mike & Bonnie Goebel - February 21, 2024 at 01:56 AM

BO

“ *Becky Orwig lit a candle in memory of Donna Jesse*



Becky Orwig - February 20, 2024 at 02:38 PM

CD

“ *Cheryl DeMan lit a candle in memory of Donna Jesse*



Cheryl DeMan - February 20, 2024 at 01:23 PM

PF

“ *Peg Flynn lit a candle in memory of Donna Jesse*



Peg Flynn - February 20, 2024 at 09:39 AM

PF

“ *Peggy Flynn lit a candle in memory of Donna Jesse*



Peggy K Flynn - February 19, 2024 at 08:34 PM

DZ

“ *Deborah Zerfoss lit a candle in memory of Donna Jesse*



Deborah Zerfoss - February 19, 2024 at 06:53 PM

JP

“ *Jennifer Peters lit a candle in memory of Donna Jesse*



Jennifer Peters - February 19, 2024 at 11:33 AM

DJ

“ *Debra Jesse lit a candle in memory of Donna Jesse*



Debra Jesse - February 19, 2024 at 11:09 AM

EK

“ *My sincerest condolences. Donna was nothing but class and will truly be missed..*



Elton and Jennifer Konradi - February 19, 2024 at 10:15 AM

KW

“ *KAREN WIDMAN lit a candle in memory of Donna Jesse*



KAREN WIDMAN - February 19, 2024 at 10:02 AM

CR

“ *connie roche lit a candle in memory of Donna Jesse*



connie roche - February 18, 2024 at 08:14 PM

MY

“ *Mark/Chris Young lit a candle in memory of Donna Jesse*



Mark/Chris Young - February 18, 2024 at 05:33 PM

JC

“ *Jeff/Jean Chindlund lit a candle in memory of Donna Jesse*



Jeff/Jean Chindlund - February 18, 2024 at 03:52 PM

CC

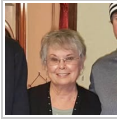
There was only one Donna!

Candy Clough - February 19, 2024 at 04:14 PM

GI

Goodbye old friend. Here's to good memories and good times 🍷🥂
Girlie

Girlie - February 19, 2024 at 06:45 PM



Donna was such a fun little gal. I always loved being around her. My deepest sympathy to all of her family.

Carol Bertram - February 19, 2024 at 06:54 PM

LM

Donna was one of a kind and always fun!! Our sympathy to her family.
Lloyd & Linda Myers

Lloyd & Linda Myers - March 02, 2024 at 07:54 PM

KD

Thinking of you Paul . Seeing you and Donna in Puerto Vallarta every year was the best. Donna was definitely your 👑 Princess! So many good chats and good times with you both. Take care.

Karen and Dennis

Karen & Dennis - May 16, 2024 at 09:30 PM