



Edna Jane Anderson

October 12, 1927 - February 13, 2025

Edna Jane Anderson (Jane), daughter of Martin L. and Marie (Musselman) Larson, a long-term resident of Newell IA, passed away on February 13, 2025 in Sun City, AZ at the age of 97.

Memorial services will take place Saturday, June 21, 2025 at 1:00 p.m. at the First Congregational United Church of Christ in Newell. Burial will be in the Newell Cemetery. Visitation will take place from 11:30 a.m. until the time of the service at the church. Memorials may be directed to the Newell Congregational Church or Rheumatoid Arthritis Foundation - <https://www.helpforarthritis.org>. The Fratzke & Jensen Funeral Home in Newell is in charge of the arrangements.

Jane was born on the family farm near Eagle Grove, IA. A few years later, the family purchased and moved to a farm south of Eagle Grove where she spent the remainder of her childhood. She attended a rural one-room school through 8th grade, skipping ahead two grade levels in the process. She then attended Eagle Grove High School and graduated in 1944 at the early age of 16. Jane exhibited a talent for music at an early age and became proficient at the piano and clarinet. After graduation, she attended the St. Louis Institute of Music to further her musical education in piano.

In 1944, Jane entered Iowa State College (ISC) and graduated in 1948 with a

degree in Chemistry Education. During the summer of 1946, she asked her chemistry professor if he might have a job for her washing laboratory equipment. The professor said he could find a better job based on her qualifications. This job was with the Ames Project which was part of the Manhattan Project. When she was a junior, she met her future husband, Ken. Ken was a freshman at ISC after serving in the army during WWII. They were married in 1948 at the Methodist Church in Eagle Grove. After marriage, they settled in Ames, IA. Jane took a job as a Chemistry teaching assistant at ISC while Ken finished college. In 1950, Ken had the opportunity to farm with his uncle, so they moved to Newell, IA where they lived for the next 69 years until they moved to Sun City in 2019.

Jane taught English and math for two years at the Newell Community School in the early 50's. She later taught chemistry at Sac City High School for 20 years, retiring in 1986. While at Newell, Jane was active in Eastern Star, Congregational Church activities and positions, and the Newell-Providence High School Band Parents Association.

Her children vividly remember that Jane maintained a large garden that everyone got to help with planting, harvesting, canning, or freezing of produce. For several years, Jane also had the major responsibility of taking care of the farm and raising a family while Ken attended summer school to obtain his master's degree.

Due to rheumatoid arthritis, Jane and Ken became snowbirds and traveled to Sun City, AZ every winter from 1986 – 2019 when they became permanent residents of Arizona. They enjoyed making new friends and participating in activities at Paradise RV Resort. During her retirement, Jane was never happier than when they were traveling in the RV throughout the United States (including Alaska), Canada, and Mexico. They also enjoyed trips to Europe, Brazil, Central America, Australia and New Zealand.

Jane is survived by 3 children: Keith Anderson, Tucson, AZ; Larry (Rose) Anderson, Ames, IA; Carmen Burton, Sun City, AZ; 4 grandchildren: Stacy Anderson, Story City, IA; Rae (Mike) Skow, Hilliard, FL; TJ (Meaghan) Anderson, Bondurant, IA; Austin Burton, East Moline, IL; 2 great granddaughters; Gabrielle and Blair Anderson, Bondurant, IA; and sister Mary (Harvey) Folkerts, Rochelle, IL. She was preceded in death by her husband Ken; her parents; and infant son, Bruce.

Cemetery Details

Newell Cemetery

E. Jensen St.
Newell, IA 50568

Previous Events

Visitation

JUN 21. 11:30 AM - 1:00 PM (CT)

First Congregational United Church of Christ
310 E. 3rd St.
Newell, IA 50588

Memorial Service

JUN 21. 1:00 PM (CT)

First Congregational United Church of Christ
310 E. 3rd St.
Newell, IA 50588

Tribute Wall



“ *Fratzke & Jensen Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Edna Jane Anderson*



Fratzke & Jensen Funeral Home - June 20, 2025 at 04:28 PM



“ *Suana Wessendorf lit a candle in memory of Edna Anderson*



Suana Wessendorf - June 20, 2025 at 08:21 PM



“ *162 files added to the album LifeTributes*



Fratzke & Jensen Funeral Home - June 20, 2025 at 04:20 PM

MB

“ Mrs. Anderson was a tremendous chemistry teacher. I'm a graduate from Sac Community in 1981. I was fortunate enough to have several great teachers that helped me decide to become a teacher myself. Just finished my 33. Mrs Anderson made chemistry a class that her students wanted to go to. She touched so many lives. I for one am so appreciative of!

Mike Baker

Mike Baker - June 19, 2025 at 05:58 PM

ET

“ Hi Keith, Larry and Carmen,
We're sorry to hear that your mother died. Both of your folks were wonderful people and always a pleasure to visit with. Jean and I really valued their friendship.

You boys were always great students and wonderful people. I would love to catch up with you and will give you our email address and phone number.

ejthomas1969@yahoo.com

317-373-9015 (Elvin's phone)

*Elvin and Jean Thomas
3224 South 600 East
Greenfield, IN 46140*

Elvin and Jean Thomas - June 18, 2025 at 01:17 PM

DJ

“ *Debra Jacobson lit a candle in memory of Edna Anderson*



Debra Jacobson - June 11, 2025 at 08:02 PM

RW

“ *Ruth Westergaard lit a candle in memory of Edna Anderson*



Ruth Westergaard - June 09, 2025 at 07:09 AM