



Elizabeth Sue Merten

May 3, 1945 - July 31, 2018

Elizabeth S. Merten, age 73, of Storm Lake, Iowa died on Tuesday, July 31, 2018 at the Mercy Medical Center in Des Moines, Iowa.

Celebration of Life services will be held on August 17, 2018 at 2:00 p.m. at the Fratzke & Jensen Funeral Home in Storm Lake. Elizabeth loved college football, in honor of that please wear your favorite Buena Vista University, Iowa State, Nebraska, or college team apparel. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be directed to the Elizabeth S. Merten Scholarship Fund at Buena Vista University. The Fratzke & Jensen Funeral Home in Storm Lake is in charge of the arrangements.

Elizabeth Sue Merten, the daughter of Fred and Masie (Davis) Smith, was born on May 3, 1945 in Mooresville, North Carolina. She attended grade school in North Carolina and graduated from South Rowan High School in China Grove, North Carolina.

On June 3, 1963, Elizabeth enlisted in the United States Army to serve her country during the Vietnam War era. She was honorably discharged on October 12, 1964.

Elizabeth joined the Catholic Church in August of 1964 in Kannapolis, North Carolina. On October 3, 1964 she was united in marriage to Richard Francis

Merten in Kannapolis, North Carolina. The couple was blessed with one daughter, Lisa Ann Merten.

Elizabeth believed in life-long learning, she graduated in 1985 with a bachelor's degree in Accounting from Buena Vista College in Storm Lake. She then pursued to earn her master's degree in Human Resources in 2006 from Briar Cliff University in Sioux City. Elizabeth also attended the University of Kentucky where she received a degree in Business Management. She was invested in her work and held numerous Human Resource Certifications including: Society for Human Resource Management – Senior Certified Professional (SCP), Human Resource Certification Institute - Senior Professional in Human Resources (SPHR) and Drake University - Employment Law.

Elizabeth worked at Buena Vista University for over 39 years. She retired in 2016 as the Vice President of Business Services; the same year that she was awarded an Honorary Doctorate Degree in Business from Buena Vista University.

In her free time, Elizabeth enjoyed gardening, restoring antiques, reading, and sitting on the deck by her flower gardens. She loved Australian Shepherd puppies and Mustang cars. She loved to travel in the South and to the beaches of North and South Carolina.

Those left to cherish her memory include her husband, Richard Merten of Storm Lake, Iowa; daughter, Lisa Merten (Larry Dietrich) of Ankeny, Iowa; brother, Carl Smith of Myrtle Beach, South Carolina; grandchild, Isabella Dietrich of Ankeny, Iowa; grand-puppies: Shelby, Amia, and Ava; and numerous family members in Iowa, North Carolina, and South Carolina.

Elizabeth was preceded in death by her parents, Fred and Masie (Davis)

Smith; brothers, John and James Smith; brother-in-law, Tom Merten; godmother, Martha Stough; and puppies: Sugar, Beau, Brittany, Jessica, Jessie, Emily, and Avery.

A private funeral mass and burial will be at a later date.

Previous Events

Celebration of Life

AUG 17. 2:00 PM (CT)

Fratzke & Jensen Funeral Home - Storm Lake

1615 W Milwaukee Ave,

Storm Lake, IA 50588

(712) 732-1911

jensenfuneralhomes@gmail.com

<https://www.fratzkejensen.com>

Tribute Wall



“ *Fratzke & Jensen Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Elizabeth Sue Merten*



Fratzke & Jensen Funeral Home - August 17, 2018 at 11:52 AM

MB

“ *Lisa, SO sorry for your loss!!! I just saw that your mom passed. James never said a word. Just know there is a long distance hug on its way and one waiting for you the next time i see you...Much Love, Marie*

marie Bruns-LeClair - August 29, 2018 at 08:38 AM

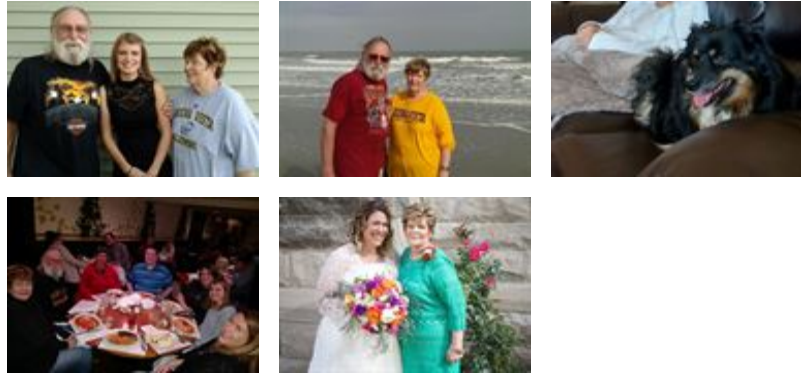
TM

“ *Lisa, So sorry to hear about your mom. Will keep you in my prayers. Teresa M. McKenna*

Teresa McKenna - August 21, 2018 at 10:41 AM



“ 17 files added to the album Life Tributes



Fratzke & Jensen Funeral Home - August 17, 2018 at 10:50 AM



“ 2 files added to the tribute wall



Fratzke & Jensen Funeral Homes - August 17, 2018 at 10:35 AM



“ Corey Brown and Family purchased the Red & White Sympathy Floor Basket for the family of Elizabeth Sue Merten.



Corey Brown and Family - August 16, 2018 at 05:09 PM

RC

“ I am forever grateful to Liz for helping to lead me to the Catholic faith. I enjoyed the time I was able to work with her and enjoyed our friendship while I was a student at BV. Liz was my sponsor into the Catholic Church and I continue to wear the necklace she gave me. At the time I did not know anything about Mother Mary but have come to know and love her in part by Liz's gift. Rest in peace good servant. Robin

Robin Corzilius - August 16, 2018 at 08:52 AM



“ Lisa I am so sorry to hear about your mom. I can tell from your posts and lovely pictures that you shared a special bond. Prayers for your family and that Liz rest in peace. Melissa Fagan

Melissa McKenna - August 07, 2018 at 09:09 PM

JE

“ I was young when Elizabeth and Richard we're married, but I remember how beautiful she was and how handsome Richard was, too. They cherished you, Lisa. Such happiness when you came into their lives. She was wonderful, strong, smart, and compassionate. Hugs to you all as you step through the days ahead. Our hearts are heavy with grief but uplifted because she is now with our Lord Jesus. One day we will all be united again in a perfect world that is promised. Love, the Archie and Rosie Elbert family.



Joan Elbert - August 07, 2018 at 07:04 PM

CS

“ *Rich, Lisa, Larry & Isabella,*

Liz will always be with us in our hearts. She brought a special warmth and light into all of our lives.

Love you all!

Chelle, Paul, Hank & Jack Snyder

Chelle Snyder - August 07, 2018 at 06:33 PM



“ *We were shocked and saddened to learn of Liz's death. May all your happy memories comfort you now.*
Jerry & Linda McShane



Linda McShane - August 07, 2018 at 09:23 AM

DS

“ *Deepest sympathy to you all of you. Liz was a great lady. Have always admired her.*



Donna & David Stanton - August 03, 2018 at 10:20 AM

DV

“ Doug & Lori Victor lit a candle in memory of Elizabeth Sue Merten



Doug & Lori Victor - August 02, 2018 at 03:45 PM

FM

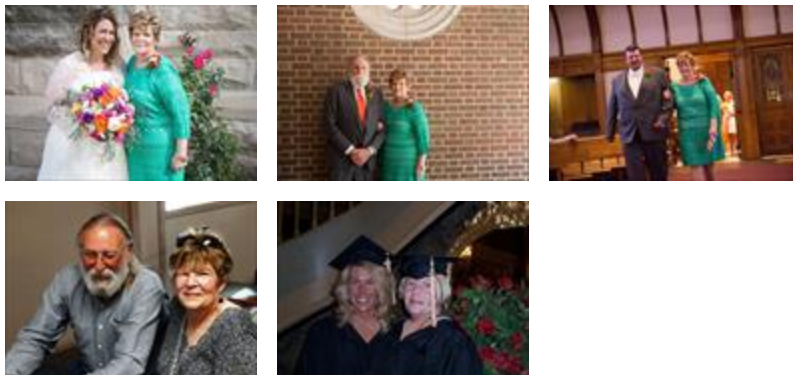
“ I was privileged to be Liz's colleague for 21 years. Susan and I mourn her passing with all who knew Liz. Her incredible drive to improve the human condition through higher education was fueled by the power it had in her life. She was relentless in her desire to ensure that BVU touched as many lives as possible. As important as her professional life was to Liz, her family came first. To Rich, Lisa, Larry, Isabella and all of Liz's extended family, we know you feel this loss most acutely. May God bless Liz's soul and her precious family.

Fred Moore

Fred Moore - August 02, 2018 at 02:45 PM



“ 12 files added to the album Elizabeth S. Merten



Fratzke & Jensen Funeral Home - August 02, 2018 at 11:17 AM

DM

“ *Dave, Deb, Logan And Jenna Merten lit a candle in memory of Elizabeth Sue Merten*



Dave, Deb, Logan and Jenna Merten - August 01, 2018 at 10:30 PM

CR

“ *Connie Roche lit a candle in memory of Elizabeth Sue Merten*



connie roche - August 01, 2018 at 06:51 PM

CR

“ *Connie Roche lit a candle in memory of Elizabeth Sue Merten*



connie roche - August 01, 2018 at 04:58 PM