



Ellen Parker

December 12, 1927 - July 12, 2022

Ellen V. Parker, age 94, of Alta, Iowa died July 12, 2022 at her home in Alta.

Memorial services will be held Saturday, October 8, 2022 at 2:00 p.m. at Trinity Lutheran Church in Alta. Burial will be in the Scandinavian Cemetery in rural Alta. The Fratzke & Jensen Funeral Home in Alta is in charge of the arrangements.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be directed to to Trinity Lutheran Church PO Box 5, Alta, Iowa 51002; Storm Lake Animal Rescue 1710 North Lake Avenue, Storm Lake, IA 50588; or Toys for Tots, Marine Corp by visiting <https://www.toysfortots.org/donate/forms/tribute/Default.aspx>

Ellen Virginia (Kjohede) Parker was born on December 12, 1927 at home in Newell, Iowa. She grew up in Newell until 1939 when the family moved to Rembrandt. They moved again in 1941 to Alta where she graduated from high school in 1945.

Ellen was married to Van Parker on June 1, 1947 at Trinity Lutheran Church. They brought five children into this world: Ricky V "Rick", Tommy D "Tom", Ellen Kathleen "Kathy", Susan Ann and Kris Raymond. They farmed just south of Alta from 1947 to 1966 when the family moved to Alta. Ellen worked at Christian's Nursing Home for many years, Hy-Vee in the bakery, Hygrade

Packing plant, and Wilson's in Cherokee.

Ellen always enjoyed crocheting, sewing clothes for her family, crossword puzzles, Scrabble, baking, gardening, working with flowers, canning, and freezing food. Unfortunately, she was diagnosed with macular degeneration when she was 70. This limited her ability to see, so she spent her time baking and playing card games on her computer during the winter months. When spring finally arrived each year, she worked outside with her flowers and large garden. She gave her harvest to family, friends, and the Lord's Table in Alta. For Christmas every year she baked dozens and dozens of cookies and gifted them to her family and friends.

Ellen had a love for animals, especially dogs. Missy and then Happy kept her company in her later years. She was so worried about what would happen to Happy when she was gone that it is possible her "will to live" for the dog prolonged her life. Mom is at peace knowing that Happy is going to stay in the family. Happy is with Kristin and BJ's family and doing very well! Mom also fed the stray cats in the neighborhood. She was worried they would starve. Those strays led a good life because of her.

Ellen is survived by her son: Rick (Luann) Parker of Slayton, Minnesota; daughter-in-law: Marilyn Parker of Fairfield Bay, Arkansas; daughters: Kathy (Loren) Movall of Storm Lake, Iowa; Susan Gaes (Jeff Megrath) of Aurelia, Iowa; son: Kris (Tami) Parker of Persia, Iowa; fifteen grandchildren: Shane (Staci) Gaes; Shannon (Dawn) Gaes; Steve (Stava) Wilbur; Chad (Polly) Parker; Mike (Megan) Wilbur; Troy (Amanda) Gaes; Keith Gaes; Jason Parker; Tom (Breann) Parker; Jaime (Tim) Dublin; Jessica (Jason) Roberts; Krista (Justin) Keller; Holly Parker; Kristin (BJ) Pauley; step-grandchildren: Arielle Megrath; Alan (Jennifer) Movall; Jackie (Cory) Schubert; Mark (Heidi) Movall; Molly (Dan) Jansen; 31 great-grandchildren; nine step great-grandchildren; three great-great grandchildren; sister: Lonnie Gaffey.

Ellen is preceded in death by her parents: Chris and Esther Kjolhede; husband: Van Dean; son: Tommy D "Tom"; great-grandson: Taylor Thomas Gaes (son of Shannon and Dawn); siblings: Clifford Kjolhede; Arnold "Arnie" and Marian Kjolhede (daughter: Jan); Cyril and Bettie Kjolhede (daughters: Mary Jane and Julie); Ronald "Ron" and Glenda Kjolhede (son: Rodney); Agnes and Ivan Lathrum; Doris "Dusie" and Dean Orcutt (son: Jay); Lillian "Aunt Pill" and Skelly Rystad; and Jim Gaffey (son: Dell and daughter: Nancy).

Previous Events

Memorial Service

OCT 8. 2:00 PM (CT)

Trinity Lutheran Church -- Alta
401 West 2nd Street
Alta, IA 51002

Tribute Wall



“ *Fratzke & Jensen Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Ellen Parker*



Fratzke & Jensen Funeral Home - October 04, 2022 at 11:32 AM



“ *2 files added to the tribute wall*



Fratzke & Jensen Funeral Home - October 04, 2022 at 10:33 AM



“ *Thoughts and prayers in the loss of your mom. She was quite the lady.*
Linda Hoops

Linda Hoops - July 15, 2022 at 10:42 AM

CS

“ *Colleen & Steven Swanson lit a candle in memory of Ellen Parker*



Colleen & Steven Swanson - July 14, 2022 at 10:39 PM

MY

“ *Mark/Chris Young lit a candle in memory of Ellen Parker*



Mark/Chris Young - July 13, 2022 at 10:47 PM

PH

“ *Parker Family,
We are so very sorry for your loss. Your mom was an amazing person. Will miss seeing her around town. Many memories of her will stay with us always!*

The Don and Lela Hansen Family

Pam (Hansen) Henderson - July 13, 2022 at 07:41 PM

PH

“ *Pam (Hansen) Henderson lit a candle in memory of Ellen Parker*



Pam (Hansen) Henderson - July 13, 2022 at 07:21 PM

SB

“ Use to see her out on her porch with her dog while I was walking. We would chat and she would talk about her family, what they were doing and what she was up to. Have not seen this summer though.

Sherrie Bradford - July 13, 2022 at 12:56 PM