



Gretchen Patterson

June 22, 1928 - June 3, 2020

Gretchen Patterson, age 91, of Linn Grove, Iowa died on Wednesday, June 3, 2020 at her home in Linn Grove.

Public Graveside Services will be held on Monday, June 8, 2020 at 1:30 p.m. at the Barnes Township Cemetery in Linn Grove. Public is welcome but social distancing will be enforced. There will be a memorial service at a later date as well. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to: Trinity Lutheran Church in Linn Grove, Ingham Okoboji Lutheran Bible Camp, or a charity of your choice. The Fratzke & Jensen Funeral Home in Storm Lake is in charge of the arrangements.

Gretchen Huntoon Dokken Patterson, the daughter of Herman and Dorothy Huntoon Dokken, was born on June 22, 1928 in Des Moines, IA. She was baptized and confirmed by Pastor K.G. Hatten at Trinity Lutheran Church, Linn Grove. Her grade school education was in the Linn Grove Consolidated School and high school at Highview Consolidated School, where she graduated with the class of 1946. She continued her education at St. Olaf College and Morningside College, graduating in 1950.

On June 24, 1951, she was united in marriage to Stanley Patterson at Trinity Lutheran. Their marriage was blessed by two children, Kent and Sara.

Gretchen's life was centered on her family, her church, friends, and the staff and students of Cleghorn, Linn Grove, Sioux Valley, and Sioux Central during the 37 years she spent in teaching. She was a lifetime member of Trinity Lutheran in Linn Grove, where she was a member of Trinity WELCA. She was also a devoted member of Chapter GJ of P.E.O. Gretchen was the first and greatest supporter of the RebelPack weekend backpack food program for Sioux Central and Albert City-Truesdale schools.

Her parents, Herman and Dorothy Dokken, her husband, Stanley, and her sister, Dorothy Ann, preceded her in death.

Left to mourn are her beloved children and grandchildren: Kent and Linda Patterson of Linn Grove, IA; Maggie and Jon McInnis of Sioux Falls, SD; Sara, Heidi, and Brock Blanchard of Longwood, FL; great-grandchildren Jaydin, Ava, and Brooklyn Garcia of Longwood, FL; nephew David, Suzanne, Robert, and Rachel Ritterhoff of Ocala, FL; and nieces Sarah Ritterhoff Williams and Danny, Emily, and Allison Williams of Ocala, FL; Beth (Ritterhoff) Noble and Claire and Troy Noble of Ocala, FL; Carla and Rod Yonak of Hanover, MN; Joan Tracy of The Villages, FL; Carolyn French of Wichita, KS, and Jackie and Kit Boyles of Wichita, KS.

Cemetery Details

Barnes Township Cemetery

Linn Grove, IA

Previous Events

Graveside Service

JUN 8. 1:30 PM (CT)

Barnes Township Cemetery
Linn Grove, IA

Tribute Wall

FS

“ Warmest regards, thank you so much Kent, for reaching out to me after so many years, and although I had only been introduced to Gretchen during a brief visit with my Grandma Huntoon in the mid 70's, I remember vividly the warm hospitality and friendly demeanor of the entire Dokken family. Through my (occasional) shared written correspondence with your Mom, I was allowed a glimpse of the LinnGrove farm activities from time to time which I appreciated greatly and was offered (in a small way), a composite portrait of the wonderful lady that I had met so long ago. My deepest condolences to you, Kent and family.

Sincerest sympathy,

Farley Stroud, Southern California

Farley Stroud - August 22, 2020 at 06:22 PM



“ 1 file added to the album Gretchen Patterson Graveside Part 2



Fratzke & Jensen Funeral Home - June 13, 2020 at 10:31 AM



“ 1 file added to the album Gretchen Patterson Graveside Service Part 1



Fratzke & Jensen Funeral Home - June 12, 2020 at 05:10 PM

JK

“ You have my sincere sympathy on the loss of Gretchen. What a special lady and beautiful soul. She brightened the lives of those around her and always had a smile and a kind word. She treated my girls with lots of love and kindness, even making the buns for Megan's graduation from high school! (Hers were the best!) She will be missed by many.



JoLee J. King - June 09, 2020 at 11:01 AM

LJ

“ First of all, our most sincere sympathy to you, Sara, Kent and family. Your mom was such a special lady and will be sorely missed by all who loved her and had the privilege to know her. She "groomed" many bakers, cooks, seamstresses and "domestic engineers" in her many years of teaching. I am forever grateful for the many lessons I learned from her. Thanks for the memories, Mrs. Patterson.

Linda (Mangold) and Randy Johnson

Linda Johnson - June 08, 2020 at 12:31 PM

PB

“ Paul and Jeannine Blanchard purchased the Peace, Prayers, & Blessings- Lavender and White for the family of Gretchen Patterson.



Paul and Jeannine Blanchard - June 07, 2020 at 06:08 PM

JT

“ Gretchen was my dear aunt who married my mom's brother, Stan. We'd see them at Sunday dinners when we lived in Iowa. She was a lovely lady who did many things. She was a hard working farm wife and school teacher and I think she played organ at her church. She was well known and liked in her community. She and my mother would have phone visits and later Gretchen and I would have phone chats to keep up with family news. She always had something positive to say and she was a good listener. She'd tell me stories of family history. I'm so sorry for her loss but will remember her with admiration and love.

Blessings and prayers to her family.

With love, her niece,

Joan French Tracy

Joan Tracy - June 07, 2020 at 06:07 PM



“ 2 files added to the album Memories Album



Fratzke & Jensen Funeral Home - June 07, 2020 at 03:04 PM

MD

“ I started my teaching career at Sioux Valley and met Gretchen. She was a neighbor of my grandparents and shared with me some of the stories of them. She also gave me my grandmother's angel food cake recipe and I've made that several times throughout my life. She was such a kind and caring person and I always think of her when making an angel food cake. God lift you up at this time of sadness.

Michael Diischer - June 07, 2020 at 01:42 PM

JK

“ Jeff And Lory Krummen lit a candle in memory of Gretchen Patterson



Jeff and Lory Krummen - June 06, 2020 at 08:43 PM

CF

“ Carla, Rod and Family purchased the Peace, Prayers & Blessings - Blue and White for the family of Gretchen Patterson.



Carla, Rod and Family - June 06, 2020 at 04:24 PM

JM

“ Gretchen was such a dear friend to the Lyster's . The memories we have of her and Red and Kent and Sara are such treasures. As a young girl I would sit in church and Red would wink at me! Gretchen was our church organist for many years at Trinity Lutheran.

She was a wonderful teacher who fixed many of my sewing mistakes! She was always so kind and understand and many of us thought of her as our second mother. She will certainly be missed by many of us a her memory lives on. God bless her memory.

Jill Lyster Meyer

Jill Lyster Meyer - June 06, 2020 at 12:30 AM



“ *Peaceful Wishes was purchased for the family of Gretchen Patterson.*



June 05, 2020 at 11:23 PM

BB

“ *Bean Blanchard purchased the Blue & White Sympathy Basket for the family of Gretchen Patterson.*



Bean Blanchard - June 05, 2020 at 10:27 PM

SR

“ *So sorry to hear of your loss. She was a wonderful lady.*

Sally J Rassler - June 05, 2020 at 09:40 PM

SR

“ *Sally J Rassler lit a candle in memory of Gretchen Patterson*



Sally J Rassler - June 05, 2020 at 09:40 PM



“ *Floor Plant for Sympathy was purchased for the family of Gretchen Patterson.*



June 05, 2020 at 07:08 PM

RG

“ *She was one of my favorite teachers and great person to talk with about anything.*

Rick Gilbert - June 05, 2020 at 03:50 PM

KC

“ *She was a wonderful person and teacher prayers to the family. She will be greatly missed . Kim Haffner Cowen*

Kim cowen - June 05, 2020 at 11:27 AM

DF

“ *Dawn Fuhrman lit a candle in memory of Gretchen Patterson*



Dawn Fuhrman - June 05, 2020 at 10:20 AM

GK

“ *Gary And Kathy lit a candle in memory of Gretchen Patterson*



Gary and Kathy - June 05, 2020 at 10:07 AM

DS

“ *Dave And Donna Stanton lit a candle in memory of Gretchen Patterson*



Dave and Donna Stanton - June 05, 2020 at 07:35 AM

DH

“ *So sorry for your loss. I had Mrs. Patterson in home ec in high school she was the reason I went into cooking when I graduated. I love to bake and she taught me things could always be better. Just need to practice your skills and when i made blue bon bons in class she told me that isn't a color that's appetizing. But, she did admit they were good and still gave me an A.*

Deborah Siekman Heien - June 05, 2020 at 04:05 AM

SS

“ She made the BEST ham balls! Will never forget the meals she made for us when I was on bed rest pregnant with Keegon and after we got back home from the NICU with him.

Sara Sangwin - June 05, 2020 at 02:49 AM

AR

“ She was a great lady! She was mom of a classmate & then got to have her for Home Ec! I loved her classes! Hugs & prayers to you, Kent & Sara & families!

anne rehnstrom - June 04, 2020 at 11:47 PM

CA

“ My sympathies to Kent, Linda and Sara. She was my favorite teacher. I always enjoyed visiting with your Mother. She was such a classy woman!

Candi Whittenburg



Candi - June 04, 2020 at 10:06 PM

JA

“ Her brownie recipe still hangs on my fridge! Always a great & compassionate lady, the community of Linn Grove will miss her greatly. Sending our prayers for the family.

Tim & JoDee Anderson

jazz - June 04, 2020 at 09:36 PM

DF

“ Was the best home economic teacher ever

Denita Fassler - June 04, 2020 at 08:53 PM

LS

“ Lisa Stoner lit a candle in memory of Gretchen Patterson



Lisa Stoner - June 04, 2020 at 07:27 PM

LS

“ Gretchen was a great teacher, mentor, and friend. We enjoyed all the many conversations we had through the years. She will be greatly missed! Our sympathy to Kent & family, and Sara & family.
Lisa and Paul Stoner

Lisa Stoner - June 04, 2020 at 07:26 PM

PB

“ She was a great lady, friend and teacher! She will be missed! Prayers for the family!

Paul and Jody Braunschweig - June 04, 2020 at 05:33 PM

PM

“ Peg & Rich Mosbo lit a candle in memory of Gretchen Patterson



Peg & Rich Mosbo - June 04, 2020 at 04:15 PM