



Harriette Claire Laursen

November 7, 1926 - December 1, 2015

Harriette C. Laursen, age 89, of Newell, Iowa died Tuesday, December 1, 2015 at the Newell Good Samaritan Society in Newell.

Funeral services will be held Friday, December 4, 2015 at 1:30 p.m. at Nain Lutheran Church in Newell. Burial will follow in the Newell Cemetery. Visitation will take place Thursday, December 3, 2015 from 5-7:00 p.m. at the Fratzke & Jensen Funeral Home in Storm Lake. The Fratzke & Jensen Funeral Home in Storm Lake is in charge of the arrangements.

Harriette Claire Shirk was born in Ida Grove, Iowa, on November 7, 1926, the third child of William E. "Ed" and Jessie (Krick) Shirk. She was later baptized into her Christian faith. She joined her loved ones in Heaven on Tuesday, December 1, 2015.

Growing up in Ida Grove, many relatives, neighbors, and friends influenced her life. She was active in her church and enjoyed many school activities including sports and music. She graduated from Ida Grove High School in 1944. She was then employed at Ida County State Bank.

On February 26, 1947, she was married in the Ida Grove Church of God to Chris M. Laursen of Battle Creek, Iowa. They farmed in Battle Creek and Ida Grove for several years before moving to Newell, Iowa, in 1960. They were blessed with four children. Harriette was a member of Nain Lutheran Church,

where she was known for her beautiful voice and served as choir director, Sunday School Superintendent, teacher, and council member.

Harriette held various jobs throughout the years – working for World Book, Varina Grain, the Good Samaritan Society, and Newell Schools as a bus driver and a teacher of ESL. She actively promoted community projects and civic groups, centennial, Newell Happenings, Business & Professional Women, and Newell Golf Club. She nurtured her garden and generously shared flowers, produce, and baked goods. She loved to take her children and grandchildren fishing, camping, golfing, and for rides on her Honda 70. She enjoyed their school activities and was an ardent Mustang fan. She shared her love of golf by teaching young children. She was always ready for a good card game.

A tragic event in her life was losing her oldest daughter, Sharen, in a traffic accident in 2001. Harriette was a loving mother, grandmother, and great grandmother. She is survived by her husband of 68 years, Chris Laursen of Newell, Iowa; three children: Cynthia (Doug) Bruner of Mt. Juliet, Tennessee; Susan (John) Anderson of Yankton, South Dakota; Lynn (Tami) Laursen of Lakeside, Iowa; son-in-law, Arlin Brower of Saratoga, Wyoming; nine grandchildren: Jerod Bruner of Nashville, Tennessee; Jaime (Al) Archuleta of Brighton, Colorado; Rhett (Autumn) Bruner of Mt. Juliet, Tennessee; John W. Anderson of Yankton, South Dakota; Wade Brower of Scottsdale, Arizona; Tyler Anderson of Omaha, Nebraska; Garrett Bruner of Mt. Juliet, Tennessee; Katelyn Laursen of Grimes, Iowa; Blake Laursen of Lakeside, Iowa; two great granddaughters, Linden and Mila Bruner of Mt. Juliet, Tennessee; one great grandson, Jase Archuleta of Brighton, Colorado; sister, Virginia Wellendorf of Ida Grove, Iowa; sister-in-law, Leona Laursen of Battle Creek, Iowa; many nieces, nephews, and friends.

Harriette was preceded in death by her parents; daughter, Sharen; sister,

Betty (Ray) Raasch; brother, Jim (Ardith) Shirk; brothers-in-law, Darrel Wellendorf and Earl Laursen. All who knew and loved her, will miss her loyalty, ready smile, and caring compassion.

Cemetery Details

Newell Cemetery

Previous Events

Visitation

DEC 3. 5:00 PM - 7:00 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>

Service

DEC 4. 1:30 PM (CT)

Nain Lutheran Church -- Newell
Newell, IA 50568

Interment

DEC 4 (CT)

Newell Cemetery

Tribute Wall



“ *Fratzke & Jensen Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Harriette Claire Laursen*



Fratzke & Jensen Funeral Home - December 03, 2015 at 02:18 PM

DW

“ *Dennis Warne lit a candle in memory of Harriette Claire Laursen*



Dennis Warne - December 06, 2015 at 06:37 PM

DW

Harriette was a person you'd look forward to seeing anytime you came home to Newell. Our thoughts go out to Chris and the whole wonderful Laursen family.

Dennis and Lois Warne

Dennis Warne - December 06, 2015 at 06:41 PM

BM

Sue and John:

When you sent me an email and told me about your mom's passing, it brought back memories of my mom when she passed away. I know the hurt you feel and am so sorry for you and all your family.

I remember when my mother was promoted to Glory --- there was peace because I KNEW where Mom was, but at the same time I felt a horrible pain inside and I always will.

I pray your family will treasure all the wonderful memories that your mom gave you. May the Holy Spirit bring a peace that no other can give. You will always be bound together with chords of love. We love you and pray for you.

Bob & Doris

Bob Miller - December 07, 2015 at 11:20 PM

BR

“*Harriet was definitely the teacher that inspired our lives. If it weren't for you we would not be where we are today. You helped our family when we first came to Iowa. You were a great teacher and we will always be thankful for having been given the chance to have you in our lives. We will miss you dearly.*”

Brenda Mendoza

Sergio Mendoza

Brenda Mendoza Rivera - December 04, 2015 at 03:20 PM

DS

“*Donna Westergaard Stanton lit a candle in memory of Harriette Claire Laursen*”



Donna Westergaard Stanton - December 04, 2015 at 12:34 PM

KI

“ *Harriette was one of the first people we met when we moved to Newell. Of course, my sister Tami made that easy when she started dating Lynn. On their wedding day we were all getting dressed and I noticed a \$50 bill in her bra----I pointed it out and she said that was for the dollar dance! Loved her laugh/chuckle. She was the very best bus driver! I remember taking golf lessons from Harriette, and will remember always the sight and sound of her on her Honda!*

Kim - December 03, 2015 at 04:12 PM

FH

“ *2 files added to the tribute wall*



Funeral Home - December 03, 2015 at 02:32 PM

JA

“ *You were a good grandma too me. I miss you so much. I will never forget you ever. RIP Grandma*

Jayne - December 03, 2015 at 11:00 AM



“ *Classic Sympathy Dish Garden was purchased for the family of Harriette Claire Laursen.*



December 03, 2015 at 08:10 AM

RS

“ Our thoughts and prayers to Harriette's family on her call Home. We fondly remember that twinkle in the eye and clever comments each time we would see her. Harriette certainly brightened our days as part of the wonderful Newell-Fonda family. God's blessings and peace now and in the days ahead. Randy and Marilyn Schmitt

Randy and Marilyn Schmitt - December 02, 2015 at 09:33 PM

Leigh
Schultz

“ My sympathy to Harriette family she will be missed!



Leigh Schultz - December 02, 2015 at 07:10 PM

CS

“ I am so sorry to hear of Harriette's passing. Harriette and Mom (Marcella Piercy) were roommates at the Good Samaritan Center last Fall. When I went to visit Mom, it was so nice to visit with Harriette also. I know Mom really enjoyed visiting and sharing a room with Harriette.
Fondly,
Cathy (Piercy) Sanders

Cathy Sanders - December 02, 2015 at 06:41 PM

DB

“ Dana, Butch & Becky lit a candle in memory of Harriette Claire Laursen



Dana, Butch & Becky - December 02, 2015 at 06:06 PM

DB

And Butch

Dana, Butch - December 02, 2015 at 06:07 PM

BT

“ *Bill & Terry lit a candle in memory of Harriette Claire Laursen*



Bill & Terry - December 02, 2015 at 04:33 PM

BM

Lynn and Tami our condolences to your entire family!

Bill & Terry Mason - December 02, 2015 at 04:35 PM

 Dana
Davis

“ *Harriette was always quick with a smile and a witty comment. She raised a beautiful family and was a beautiful woman inside and out. Love to her family. Dana, Craig, Emma & Jake Davis*

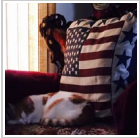


Dana Davis - December 02, 2015 at 03:46 PM

BD

“ Please accept my condolences on the loss of Harriette. She was such a special lady and I know that all of you will miss her. I have many memories of Harriette, both as a friend, Nain Lutheran Choir director, and a special mom of one of my classmates, Susan. But my memory takes me back to the days when Harriette was directing the Nain Lutheran Choir and I was a member. I could never sing. Still can't, but Harriette insisted that I try. With the help of many of my friends, I was able to fill a chair in Choir, something that at least contributed to the perception of a larger gathering of singers. My singing was so bad that Harriette and the Pastor would frequently thank the "Choir" and "Brent" for the Sunday presentations. I never really should have been in that Choir, you know. But thanks to Harriette, I was always welcome. Rest in peace, Harriette Laursen.

Brent Davis - December 02, 2015 at 03:11 PM



“ Suana Wessendorf lit a candle in memory of Harriette Claire Laursen



Suana Wessendorf - December 02, 2015 at 02:15 PM

DH

“ Doris Harvey lit a candle in memory of Harriette Claire Laursen



Doris Harvey - December 02, 2015 at 12:52 PM

AF

“ Amy Frehse lit a candle in memory of Harriette Claire Laursen



Amy Frehse - December 02, 2015 at 11:24 AM

TC

“ Tim & Pegi Cavanaugh lit a candle in memory of Harriette Claire Laursen



Tim & Pegi Cavanaugh - December 02, 2015 at 07:43 AM

TT

“ Theresa Tymeson lit a candle in memory of Harriette Claire Laursen



theresa tymeson - December 02, 2015 at 07:28 AM

T&

“ The Houstons, Hills, Pignes, Tylers, Kings, Russ's & Goodins purchased the Florist Choice Bouquet for the family of Harriette Claire Laursen.



The Houstons, Hills, Pignes, Tylers, Kings, Russ's & Goodins
- December 01, 2015 at 09:29 PM



“ *Lavender Dreams was purchased for the family of Harriette Claire Laursen.* ”



December 01, 2015 at 09:06 PM