



Irene Flohr Barels

June 28, 1920 - August 20, 2014

Irene Barels, age 94, of Indianapolis, Indiana formerly of Storm Lake, Iowa died Wednesday, August 20, 2014 at St. Vincent Hospital in Indianapolis.

Memorial services will be held Saturday, September 20, 2014 at 1:00 p.m. at the Fratzke & Jensen Funeral Home in Storm Lake. Inurnment will follow in the Storm Lake Cemetery with Military Rites by the Storm Lake AMVETS Post #66. Visitation will take place from 12:00 p.m. until the beginning of the service at the funeral home. The Fratzke & Jensen Funeral Home in Storm Lake is in charge of the arrangements.

Irene was born June 28, 1920, in Flagler, Colorado, the daughter of Menno and Cora (Rogge) Bentzinger. In 1923, her family moved to a farm near Deweese, Nebraska. In 1936, the family moved to a farm near Hickman, Nebraska, where Irene graduated from the Roca High School, and went on to Peru State Teacher's College where she completed her Associate's degree.

As with many of Irene's friends and classmates, WWII changed her life. She taught one year in the Honeycreek Consolidated School in Salem, Nebraska and spent two years working in the Glenn L. Martin Bomber Plant in Omaha, Nebraska before joining the Navy WAVES. Irene served from April 1944 to July 1946 and was stationed in San Francisco, Fleet Post Office. She was honorably discharged after serving two years and three months.

As a child, Irene enjoyed the family photographs, so attending Kansas City School of Photography for two years, helped her to enjoy a life-long “hobby”.

June 20, 1951, Irene was united in marriage to Ray J. Flohr of Storm Lake, Iowa. Ray passed away January 15, 1977. On November 12, 1977, Irene married Dr. Robert F. Barels who had been a high school classmate of Rays.

After Dr. Barels retired from his fifty-one year dental practice in Carroll, Bob and Irene moved to the Kimberling City, Missouri area. They were active members of the Kimberling City Coast Guard Auxiliary, Flotilla 5-3, for twenty-six years. Irene was a member of the United Methodist Church of Kimberling City; Life member of WAVES National and American Legion Post #79, Zionsville, Indiana. In July 2007, Bob and Irene moved part-time to Indiana to be closer to Irene’s son Ray and his family, along with Bob’s daughter, Becky and her family, while still keeping their home in the Ozarks.

Irene is survived by her son, Ray (Anna) Flohr; grandchildren, Brian Flohr and Sarah Flohr, step-daughters: Becky Drahovzal, Penny Wade, and their families; many loving nieces, nephews, extended family, as well as the many wonderful friends she had met over her long and interesting years on this beautiful earth.

Irene is preceded in death by her husband, Ray; and their son Robert; husband, Bob (Dr. Barels); two brothers, Rollie (Dot) Bentzinger and Arnold (Neva) Bentzinger; and sister, Ruth (Loren) Imes.

Cemetery Details

Storm Lake Cemetery

Storm Lake, IA 50588

Previous Events

Visitation

SEP 20. 12:00 PM - 1:00 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>

Memorial Service

SEP 20. 1:00 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>

Interment

SEP **20** (CT)

Storm Lake Cemetery
Storm Lake, IA 50588

Tribute Wall

BH

“ We considered Irene and Bob dear friends. We met them through the woodcarving in the Branson, MO area. They always treated us and our son Jeff so well. A couple of our favorite memories are blueberry picking with Irene and when Bob let Jeff drive the boat when he was about 4-5 years old. Two wonderful people! We loved them dearly.

Desi & Bernie Hajny

Bernie Hajny - September 17, 2014 at 10:21 AM

DA

“ Such a beautiful lady in every word. I met Irene and Bob in 1991 in Branson, Mo. We became such good friends over the years. I will miss her annual Christmas letters and pictures she shared. She will be missed by all who knew her.

Donna Anderson - Amboy, IN

Donna Anderson - September 16, 2014 at 04:36 PM

SL

“ Irene was as my husband Steve says "Quite a Gal". My husband became involved with the Coast Guard Auxiliary before he had really met Irene & her son Ray. After we got to know Irene better Steve found out that she too belonged to the same Flotilla in Kimberling City. Then the wonderful stories & pictures she shared with us began a great friendship. She introduced us to the wonderful United Methodist Church in Kimberling City that we now belong to. She also inspired my husband to become a radio watchstander. Now Steve is using her old call sign of INDIAN POINT RADIO. She was very much admired in the Coast Guard Auxiliary in all areas. She developed a lake mileage system used by the Coast Guard Auxiliary on Table Rock Lake & is still used today. She will be greatly missed by several of her neighbors here in Roxborough where she resided before moving to Indiana. God Bless You Irene.



Steve & Barb Larsen - September 10, 2014 at 04:54 PM