



Iris Halverson

October 26, 1922 - August 19, 2020

Iris Kathryn Halverson entered into Eternal Life with her Savior Jesus Christ in Heaven on Wednesday, August 19, 2020 at St. Luke Lutheran Home in Spencer, Iowa.

Private funeral services will take place on Monday, August 24, 2020 at 1:30 p.m. at the United Methodist Church in Alta. To watch the live stream of the service, please use the link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83529875691>. Public graveside service will take place Monday, August 24, 2020 at 2:45 p.m. in the Barnes Township Cemetery in Linn Grove, Iowa with masks and social distancing required. In lieu of flowers, the family requests memorials may be directed to St. Luke's Lutheran Home Activity Fund; Alta United Methodist Church; or a charity of your choice. The Fratzke & Jensen Funeral Home in Alta is in charge of the arrangements.

Iris Kathryn Halverson was born on October 26, 1922, at her grandparent's home near Early, Iowa to Frank and Dora (Toomer) LaGrange. She graduated from Nemaha High School and went on to Buena Vista College to get her teaching certificate. After teaching for four years near New Hartford and Early, Iowa, she met and married the love of her life, Phillip Halverson. They were married on May 31, 1946, and lived north of Alta, Iowa, on his parent's farm. This union was blessed with three children: Ann Rosalie, Frank Theodore, and David Phillip. Iris stayed home to raise her family until 1960, when she began teaching in Alta. For 25 years, she was the patient and beloved kindergarten teacher who taught children their ABC's, the "Peter, Peter, Penguin" song and how to be kind. In 1978, she and Phillip moved to their home on Main Street in Alta. Tragically, Phillip was killed in a truck accident in 1979.

Iris was a true servant of Christ. She was always active in the Alta Methodist Church where she volunteered at almost every event and rarely missed a church service. Even when she was in her 90's, she would drive people to church who needed rides. She delivered thousands of Meals on Wheels, brought rolls or cookies for those who were sick, and volunteered at the Lord's Cupboard and Buena Vista Hospital Coffee Shop. She was an active member of a variety of organizations: UMW, Women's Circle, the Alta Methodist

Church Choir, Delta Kappa, PEO, Alta Horizons, and the Buena Vista College Alumni Board.

Iris loved nature and kept her flower gardens, which always contained her namesake iris, immaculate. She was a great supporter of Alta School. When her children and grandchildren attended there, she never missed an event, and even after they had graduated, you still found her there supporting the kids. She was an amazing baker and was always baking something to share with others. Her cinnamon rolls were treasured treats. She loved to read and made time for reading and devotions daily. Iris was also an active letter writer who regularly corresponded with her friends and family across the globe, and she treasured the letters she received in return. Iris enjoyed spending time with family and friends. She visited family all over the country and loved to go to coffee with her closest friends.

Preceding her in death are her husband Phil, her son Dave, son in law James Stimson her great granddaughter Madeline Stimson, sister, Frances Blackman, and brother and sister in laws Bernard Blackman, Harold and Lucille Halverson and Edith and Virgil Wittmer. Grateful for sharing her life are her children: Ann Stimson of Newfane, NY, Frank (Brenda) Halverson, of Linn Grove, IA and daughter-in-law, Sheryl Halverson of Galena IL; her six grandchildren: Heather (Darrol) Wilkins, Isaac (Anne) Stimson, Kerri (Michael) Smith, Holly (Aaron) McHone, John (Alina) Stimson, and Abigail Stimson; thirteen great grandchildren; one great-great grandchild; eight nieces and nephews.

Cemetery Details

Barnes Township Cemetery

Linn Grove, IA

Previous Events

Graveside Service

AUG 24. 2:45 PM (CT)

Barnes Township Cemetery
Linn Grove, IA

Tribute Wall



“ *Fratzke & Jensen Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Iris Halverson*



Fratzke & Jensen Funeral Home - August 24, 2020 at 11:08 AM

MW

*What a special lady!
It was a blessing to get to know her. Her life shone with Christ's love! . . . and now she's HOME in Heaven.*

Marge Warkentin - August 24, 2020 at 04:01 PM

CD

Not a more giving, loving servant of Christ for all of us.

caryl dukes - August 24, 2020 at 04:17 PM



“ *Iris was a very special lady to all.*



Sally Rassler - September 01, 2020 at 06:33 PM



“ *1 file added to the album Service Recording*



Fratzke & Jensen Funeral Home - August 27, 2020 at 05:43 PM



“ Iris was such a nice lady. When our daughter Madison was at Faith, Hope and Charity... Iris was her "volunteer" grandparent friend. She visited with her and small gifts were given,... we met her at the picnics FHC offered. Over the years we have exchanged Christmas cards... sharing a little about our families lives. She was always interested in Madison. We must be more like Iris....reaching out to strangers to show them we care.

Sheila Janssen - August 26, 2020 at 08:17 PM

SG

“ Iris was a wonderful Christian friend. Whenever a need or concern arose Iris was there with loving concern ,support , encouragement and probably food of some kind. She had a quiet, yet intentional way of sharing God's love to all she met. Her life was a surely a Christ-like life for all to model. My sympathy to the family. May you cherish all those good memories and realize that many thought she was such a special person!!!

Sue Geyer - August 25, 2020 at 02:22 PM



“ Iris was my Kindergarten teacher and she would always stop to visit when we saw each other. She was a very special lady.

Lynn Snyder - August 25, 2020 at 11:24 AM

PG

“ OUR MOST HEARTFELT SYMPATHY TO THE FAMILY OF IRIS HALVERSON. OUR PRAYERS ARE CERTAINLY WITH ALL OF YOU. LINDA GUNVILLE & I HAD BEEN VISITING HER IN HER HOME IN THESE LATER YEARS. VISITED HER IN THE ALTA NURSING HOME & THEN WE LOST TRACK OF HER. WE HAVE BEEN GONE TO LA. FOR OUR GRANDSONS' WEDDING & JUST LEARNED TODAY BY READING HER OBT. SHE WAS A GREAT LADY & ALWAYS HAD A CUP OF COFFEE & A TREAT WHEN WE CAME TO VISIT.
LOVE, LARY & PATTY GUNVILLE



PATTY GUNVILLE - August 25, 2020 at 10:19 AM

TM

“ Tammy Miller lit a candle in memory of Iris Halverson



Tammy Miller - August 24, 2020 at 05:52 PM

KP

“ Iris was one woman who truly a wonderful and faithful servant of the Lord. She was always thinking of others. It was a real joy to go to church with such a Christian. Our thoughts and prayers are with all of her family.

Kim and Susan Piercy

Kim Piercy - August 24, 2020 at 05:33 PM

RC

We remember Iris Halverson as the Christian teacher who got all of our kids off to a fine start in their education. "She made a difference!" She will never be forgotten.

Rich & Reba Crawford
Littleton, CO 80127

Rich Crawford - August 26, 2020 at 11:32 AM

DW

“ Iris was my aunt, and she was simply one of the nicest and most kind people I have known. She was so sweet, kind, thoughtful, patient, calm, caring, and loving. She had a delightfully reassuring smile. There were so many Halverson -- Wittmer gatherings at Christmas and other occasions. I really don't remember her ever saying anything unkind about anyone. She looked for the positive. She was the kind of person any community and family would be fortunate to have. She was always interested in our lives. She cared about others. She was special.

Our thoughts are with all the members of her immediate family and to the many who feel loss.

Love,

Dennis and Donna Wittmer

Dennis and Donna Wittmer - August 24, 2020 at 04:22 PM

FH

“ 2 files added to the tribute wall



Fratzke & Jensen Funeral Homes - August 24, 2020 at 02:35 PM

CP

“ Iris was a very special lady I got to associate with when we both were “special friends” with a resident at Faith, Hope, & Charity. She always had a ready smile and would ask how Mary Alice was. I always looked forward to seeing her at the FHC events.

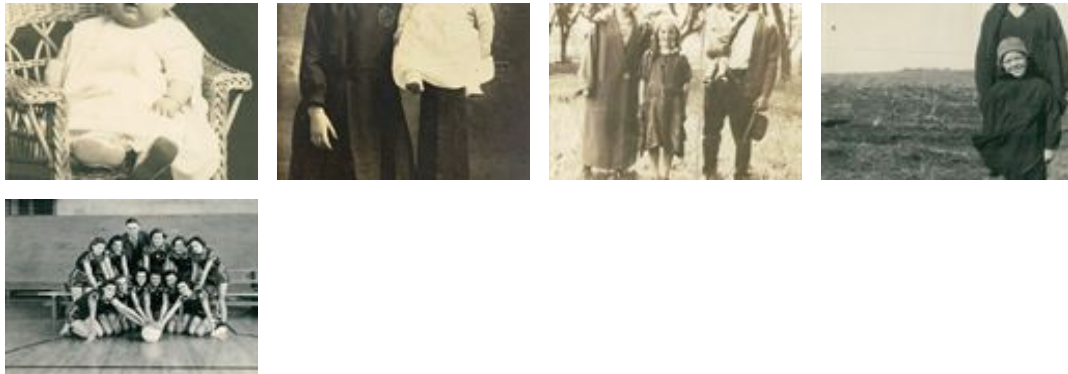
Our condolences to the family.

Charlene & Rod Plagman

Charlene Plagman - August 24, 2020 at 02:30 PM



“ 73 files added to the album Life Tributes



Fratzke & Jensen Funeral Home - August 24, 2020 at 10:56 AM

RS

“ Rachel Stephan lit a candle in memory of Iris Halverson



Rachel Stephan - August 23, 2020 at 12:01 PM

DA

“ Iris was the first person to knock on our door with a plate full of cookies, and warm welcome to Alta. She was one in a million, and I loved her as our neighbor!



Dennis Anderson - August 22, 2020 at 09:01 PM

GB

“ Family of Iris, you are in our thoughts and prayers! Iris was always so happy and always with a smile. She loved helping people and worshiped the Lord. May God wrap his arms around you and you hold on to your wonderful beautiful memories of her!

Bryan and Gayle Bailey

Gayle & Bryan Bailey - August 22, 2020 at 05:25 PM

AK

“ I am so saddened to learn of Iris' passing. She frequently visited our Dad (Ed Toomer - her cousin) when he was living at Methodist Manor and prior to that an occasional cup of coffee at Ed and Gail's home near the Storm Lake Hospital. Those Methodist Manor visits were always accompanied by a huge smile, warm hug and of course.....freshly baked cookies. Our thoughts are with her family. Jerry Toomer and Ann Toomer Klaustermeier

Ann Klaustermeier - August 22, 2020 at 04:28 PM

NS

“ I met Iris through Delta Kappa Gamma and United Methodist Women. We traveled to many meetings together. Iris was the most pleasant and agreeable lady. She was always willing to help with a project and had a positive attitude. I know the last few years have been difficult but Iris will remain in my heart as a great teacher and friend.

Nancy Sliefert

Nancy Sliefert - August 22, 2020 at 03:35 PM

TP

“ To the Halverson Family: Every pastor has special people in the congregation he/she pastors. And there are some who stand out more than others and you wish that in every church you pastor, you had another person like that. Iris Halverson was one of those individuals! Iris was a big supporter of her pastor's ministry and I cherished being her pastor as well as the friend she was to me while I served as her pastor at Alta UMC from 2006-2011. A gentle person, a kind lady, ready to serve anywhere she could, incredibly active in the life of her church family and community, and always helping others in more ways than anyone can name, both seen and unseen - always a person who went above and beyond. Iris was a lady with a truly Christian disposition that exhibited all the fruits of the Spirit. I will always cherish her memory and her example in my life. I know she is safe in the arms of Jesus and she is with the Jesus she loved and served faithfully. My prayers are extended to all the family - may you have peace and grace from the Lord Jesus Christ during this time. - Pastor Terry W. Pollard (Des Moines, IA)

Terry Pollard - August 22, 2020 at 11:54 AM



“ Fields of Europe for Spring was purchased for the family of Iris Halverson.



August 22, 2020 at 11:08 AM

MT

“ Mrs Halverson was one of the kindest and most caring individuals to have ever claimed the title, teacher. She led by example and touched thousands of lives with her generosity.

Her legacy will live on in our hearts!
Melody Turnquist-Steed

Melody Turnquist-Steed - August 22, 2020 at 10:09 AM

CT

“ I'm very sorry for your loss! Mrs. Halverson was my kindergarten teacher in 1968-69. She touched many young lives. Her family is in my thoughts and prayers at this difficult time.

Christi Tam - August 22, 2020 at 08:31 AM

SF

“ Sue, Tammy, Joel, Tracey and their families purchased the Sprngtime Wishes for the family of Iris Halverson.



Sue, Tammy, Joel, Tracey and their families - August 21, 2020 at 07:18 PM



“ Floor Plant for Sympathy was purchased for the family of Iris Halverson.



August 21, 2020 at 05:49 PM

BS

“ I had the great honor and privilege to know Iris. She was a grand lady and will be remembered as always having a friendly smile and words of encouragement. Iris was a special person who will be missed by me and many others. She is now in Heaven with her beloved husband, Phillip. My sincere condolences to Frank and Brenda and all of Iris' family.

Brad Strader

Brad Strader - August 21, 2020 at 04:10 PM

DR

Kindergarten teachers set the foundation for a lifetime of learning. Iris was the best and sent many of us on to love school through her caring ways. It was like having your grandmother teach you. She cared about each one she taught. And she remained a good friend and supporter all through my life. Always wanting to know where the Lord was leading me and how I was doing. I will miss her so much. Heaven has truly gained a faithful servant. Prayers to the family.

Debra Hankel Ramquist - August 21, 2020 at 11:11 PM

MB

“ Miriam Peterson Baker purchased the European Sympathy Dish Garden for the family of Iris Halverson.



Miriam Peterson Baker - August 21, 2020 at 12:44 PM

JT

“ Thinking of you and your family Frank and Brenda. Know you are sad yet celebrating the good times together. I like thinking of the time we worked and played those years in Exira. Take care.

Judy Thompson - August 21, 2020 at 11:20 AM

KG

“ So sorry for your loss!! She was a awesome person with a heart of gold!!



Kathy Grienke - August 21, 2020 at 09:56 AM