



Joan Lichter

May 30, 1933 - March 28, 2021

Joan Lichter, 87, of Holstein, Iowa, formerly of Storm Lake, Iowa, died peacefully on Sunday, March 28, 2021 at the Good Samaritan Society-Holstein.

Funeral Mass will be held on Tuesday, April 6, 2021 at 10:30 a.m. at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Storm Lake. Masks are required for all guests in attendance at the church. To watch the live stream of the service, click the link- <https://bit.ly/31uzvsK> and enter in the password: funeral. Burial will be in the St. Columbkille Catholic Cemetery in Varina. Visitation will take place on Monday, April 5, 2021 from 5:00-8:00 p.m. at the Fratzke & Jensen Funeral Home in STORM LAKE. In lieu of the flowers, the family requests memorials be given to the Holstein Good Samaritan Society at 505 W 2nd St. Holstein, Iowa 51025. The Fratzke & Jensen Funeral Home in Storm Lake is in charge of the arrangements.

Joan Marie (Howell) Lichter was born in her grandparents' farmhouse, Waveland Township, Elliott, Iowa on May 30, 1933 to James Clayton and Marian (Wilson) Howell. Joan was born in the same bedroom where her mother was born.

Joan was baptized into the Christian faith at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Griswold, Iowa, and was confirmed at the Catholic Church in Red Oak. Her

childhood included sitting upon her father's shoulders at a FDR train whistle stop in Red Oak, and missing a year of school due to rheumatic fever.

She attended schools in Red Oak and Onawa, graduating from Onawa High School in 1951. She received a full tuition scholarship at the all-girl Briar Cliff College, Sioux City Iowa, earning a degree with honors in home economics in 1955.

On a visit to Fonda, Iowa with a college friend, she met Bud Lichter. They were married the next year on April 16, 1955, at MacDill Air Force Base in Tampa, Florida. To this union were born 8 children. They lived in many locations, including Holly Springs, IA; Pilger, NE; Tampa, FL; Newell, IA; Bancroft, NE; and Pender, NE, before finally settling on their own farm outside of Varina, IA in 1969. Throughout those years, Joan taught home economics and English in many schools. She loved running into former students.

In 1983, Joan moved with her youngest children to Storm Lake, where she resided until 2017. She worked as a Head Start cook, a night aide at Faith, Hope, and Charity and as a private home care provider. She was a devout member of St. Mary's Catholic Church, attending daily mass and many funerals. Joan was a prayer warrior, belonging to the St. Mary's prayer line, and prayed for each of her children every night. She was a member of St. Mary's quilt group and Catholic Daughters of America, Varina Council.

Throughout her life and into her retirement, Joan's great gift was her creative flair. She was a member of the Quilt Sew-ciety. She completed many projects, sewing clothes and quilts for children and grandchildren. Her pastimes included recording and watching movies, reading, going to TOPS, working crossword puzzles, and playing Scrabble. Cats brought her great joy, and she was an unforgettable character who walked her cat around town.

Joan embraced her eccentric and social personality. She had a wry and witty sense of humor, yet simultaneously showed great love and compassion to her children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren. Reunions and meetings with Joan were always kicked off with great, expressive joy. Birthdays focused on each person's unique personality, with her quirky gifts and commentary. Joan was a great family historian, passing along many stories and heirlooms.

Joan is survived by her children John (Cindee) Lichter of Galva, IA; Gam (Leonard) Hill of Leonard, MO; Mary Lichter of Long Beach, CA; Jim Lichter of Richmond, VA; Tom (Valerie) Lichter of Newell, IA; Charlie Lichter of Richmond, VA; Teresa (Steve) Conner of Chesterfield, VA; and Sharon (Scott) Kahnke of Apple Valley, MN. Grandchildren are Nick Hesse, Katie (Shannon) Tesch, Daniel (Shateen) Lichter, Emily (Kyle) Sauter, Sarah Lichter, Shaun (Aaron) Murphy-Lopez, Alicia (Jeremy) Jepsen, Maureen Murphy, Rachael (Aaron) Elgas, Kyle Hill, Derrick (Brittany) Hill, Ethan Smith, MaryKate (Andrew) Neal, Jay (Elisa Grotjohn) Lichter, Nathan (Stephanie) Lichter, Andrew (Lauren) Lichter, Audrey (Austin) Buchholz, Rita Lichter, Phillip (Claire) Frazer, Samuel Frazer, Mandy Turner, Zac (Desiree) Conner, Ella Kahnke, and Sophie Kahnke. She is also survived by 31 plus 1 on-the-way great-grandchildren, one great-great grandson, sister Angela (Bob) Stuhr and niece Amy (Doug) Paterson.

Ugly the cat survives. She resides in Galva with John & Cindee.

Cemetery Details

St. Columbkille Catholic Cemetery- Varina

13505 580th St.
Fonda, IA 50540

Previous Events

Visitation

APR 5. 5:00 PM - 8:00 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>

Funeral Mass

APR 6. 10:30 AM (CT)

St. Mary's Catholic Church -- Storm Lake
320 Seneca Street
Storm Lake, IA

Tribute Wall



“ *Fratzke & Jensen Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Joan Lichter*



Fratzke & Jensen Funeral Home - April 05, 2021 at 03:42 PM

LN

“ *I only just now heard of Joan's passing. She would visit me, along with her cat (on a leash) when I worked in an office downtown. I always enjoyed conversations with Joan and hearing about her family and their adventures. My condolences to all who loved her.*

Leah Nelson - June 17, 2021 at 03:54 PM

DB

“ *Charlie,
I am so sorry to hear of your mom's passing. I remember her well and with fondness. Keeping your family in prayers.*

In sympathy,

Debora Blume

Debora Blume - April 28, 2021 at 10:39 PM

JL

“*Joan and I shared the same name, therefore, shared the same Saints Day. She was always sure to remind me of when "our" special day came up. We always sat right across church from each other and waved every morning for many years. She was so proud of her family. She also had a great sense of humor and was so kind. She will be missed by many.*

Joan Linnan - April 21, 2021 at 04:09 PM

VS

“*Mrs. Lichter was my home-ec teacher in Newell. She taught me how to sew a man's shirt (we had to pick a senior guy to measure and make it for) She was a great teacher and a wonderful lady. Sending prayers and love to the family.*

Vicki Sorbe - April 14, 2021 at 12:32 PM

VS

“*Vicki Sorbe lit a candle in memory of Joan Lichter*



Vicki Sorbe - April 14, 2021 at 12:26 PM



“*1 file added to the album Service*



Fratzke & Jensen Funeral Home - April 07, 2021 at 11:07 AM

LH

“ Dear Sarah-I had you as a student at St. Mary's when you were in band. I remember the love that your family shared with each other and all of us who were on the faculty and staff. Those were such special times. I hope you feel God's peace at this time and in the days ahead.



Laura Hahn Hanna - April 05, 2021 at 05:54 PM

SK

Thank you so much! So sweet. I definitely remember you. Best wishes, sharon (Lichter) kahnke

Sharon Kahnke - April 07, 2021 at 03:11 PM

SK



Sharon Kahnke - April 07, 2021 at 03:23 PM



“ 117 files added to the album LifeTributes



Fratzke & Jensen Funeral Home - April 05, 2021 at 03:37 PM

SB

“ *Scott Bodholdt lit a candle in memory of Joan Lichter*



Scott Bodholdt - April 05, 2021 at 03:15 PM



“ *Multicolor Pastel Large Sympathy Vase Arrangement was purchased for the family of Joan Lichter.*



April 05, 2021 at 11:20 AM



“ *Our thoughts and prayers are with you all. Randy and Mona Mason*

Mona Mason - April 02, 2021 at 10:43 PM

BR

“ *Bev Reis lit a candle in memory of Joan Lichter*



Bev Reis - April 02, 2021 at 10:37 AM



“ *Lynette & Bill Halder lit a candle in memory of Joan Lichter*



Lynette & Bill Halder - April 02, 2021 at 09:54 AM



“ *Healing Tears - Yellow and White was purchased for the family of Joan Lichter.*



April 02, 2021 at 09:14 AM



“ *2 files added to the album Memories Album*



Fratzke & Jensen Funeral Home - April 02, 2021 at 07:13 AM



“ *The Schachtner family is sad to hear of Joan’s passing. May you all keep the wonderful memories of her alive in your hearts and minds. Her beautiful smile will be greatly missed.*

Amy Schachtner Brody - April 01, 2021 at 09:10 PM

RS

“ Our prayers to Joan’s family on her call Home. Enjoyed teaching with Joan and working with her and her great kids in dramatic activities. Over the years, I so enjoyed visiting with Joan at numerous community gatherings. Creative and witty. God’s Peace to you all.

Randy and Marilyn Schmitt - April 01, 2021 at 08:51 PM

SK

Thank you so much ❤️

Sharon Kahnke - April 07, 2021 at 03:24 PM

JL

“ So many memories of Joanie and our friendship through the years. First met her when she visited Fonda while attending Briar Cliff. Our friendship continued for all the years to follow in both enjoyable and tough times. She was a very giving and caring person with many talents. Blessings to her children and families.

Jeanie Lamoureux - April 01, 2021 at 07:29 PM

SK

My mom adored you and your family ❤️❤️

Sharon Kahnke - April 07, 2021 at 03:22 PM

PH

“ Pam Henderson lit a candle in memory of Joan Lichter



Pam Henderson - April 01, 2021 at 10:55 AM

RF

“ No matter her age, it is hard to lose your mom. I always enjoyed seeing Joan and hearing about her cats and chatting about her current read. She was always a bright light , loved to share a good story and I will remember her fondly.

Ruth E Freese - April 01, 2021 at 09:49 AM

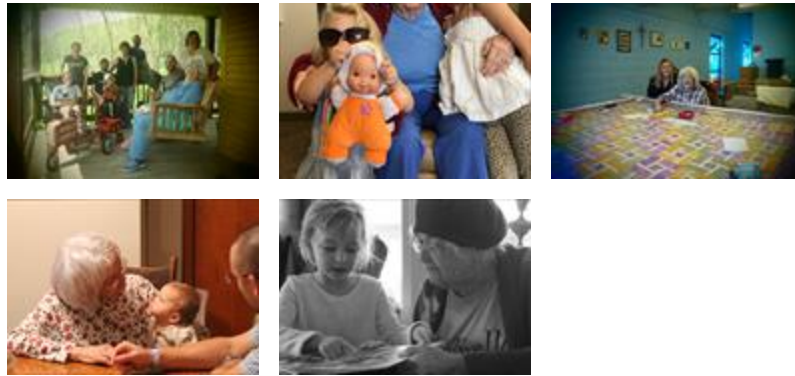
SK

Thank you, so sweet 😊

Sharon Kahnke - April 07, 2021 at 03:17 PM

AJ

“ 8 files added to the album Memories Album



Alicia Jepsen - April 01, 2021 at 09:48 AM

SM

“ Steph&Sharon Mickelson lit a candle in memory of Joan Lichter



Steph&Sharon Mickelson - April 01, 2021 at 08:55 AM

JK

“ Jeff And Lory Krummen lit a candle in memory of Joan Lichter



Jeff and Lory Krummen - April 01, 2021 at 08:17 AM



“ Sally Rassler lit a candle in memory of Joan Lichter



Sally Rassler - March 31, 2021 at 06:30 PM

JF

“ Jean Fassler lit a candle in memory of Joan Lichter



Jean Fassler - March 31, 2021 at 02:22 PM

J(

“ Jean Fassler (Nieland) lit a candle in memory of Joan Lichter



Jean Fassler (Nieland) - March 31, 2021 at 02:18 PM

PF

“ *Pippa Fineran lit a candle in memory of Joan Lichter*



Pippa Fineran - March 31, 2021 at 11:30 AM

PT

“ *To Joan's family,
I'm so sorry for your loss. I have many happy memories of your mom, as a 4H leader, as a customer at my folks' store, and as a friend. Such a funny lady, and how she loved her kids, cats and quilts! Unfortunately I'll be out of town and won't be able to attend the memorial or funeral, but know you will be in my thoughts and prayers. God's blessings.*

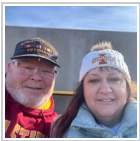
Pam

Pamela R Tidemann - March 31, 2021 at 10:30 AM

SK

Thanks so much!! ❤️❤️

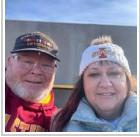
Sharon Kahnke - April 07, 2021 at 03:20 PM



“ *Sandy Robinson lit a candle in memory of Joan Lichter*



Sandy Robinson - March 31, 2021 at 09:36 AM



“ *My sympathies to Joan's family..she was a wonderful lady! I always enjoyed conversations with her.*

Sandy Robinson - March 31, 2021 at 09:36 AM

SK



Sharon Kahnke - April 07, 2021 at 03:21 PM

PB

“ *Paula Batzer lit a candle in memory of Joan Lichter*



Paula Batzer - March 31, 2021 at 09:09 AM

WT

“ *Wilbur/Karen Triplett sent a virtual gift in memory of Joan Lichter*



Wilbur/Karen Triplett - March 31, 2021 at 09:01 AM

CS

“ *My deepest Sympathy to Joan Family, she taught me to sew and cook in the Fonda Community School and I also worked as domestic help for her for a short time after I was out of school. Always enjoined visiting with her when I would see her in Storm Lake stores. Rest In Peace Joan.*

Carleen (Nieland) Schwieso



Carleen Schwieso - March 30, 2021 at 03:54 PM

SK

How sweet ❤️

Sharon Kahnke - April 07, 2021 at 03:22 PM

DS

“ *Donna M Stanton lit a candle in memory of Joan Lichter*



Donna M Stanton - March 30, 2021 at 02:23 PM



“ *Healing Tears - Blue and White was purchased for the family of Joan Lichter.*



March 30, 2021 at 02:02 PM

PO

“ Sorry to here this, Joan was the sweetest lady and always was there to help!!! RIP.

Pat O'Leary - March 29, 2021 at 07:18 PM

DH

“ Duane/Eldona Hornor lit a candle in memory of Joan Lichter



Duane/Eldona Hornor - March 29, 2021 at 06:29 PM

MF

“ Mark Rita Fitzgerald lit a candle in memory of Joan Lichter



Mark Rita Fitzgerald - March 29, 2021 at 04:15 PM

NH

“ Nicki Harrington lit a candle in memory of Joan Lichter



Nicki Harrington - March 29, 2021 at 03:12 PM