



Velma Zylstra

November 23, 1930 - January 27, 2024

Velma Rose Zylstra, age 93, of Alta, Iowa, passed away peacefully on Saturday, January 27, 2024.

A Celebration of Life will take place Sunday, February 18, 2024 from 1-3:00 p.m. with a prayer service at 3:00 p.m. at the Fratzke & Jensen Funeral Home in Storm Lake. The Fratzke & Jensen Funeral Home in Storm Lake is in charge of arrangements.

Velma was born on November 23, 1930 to Frank and Elizabeth (Hemming) Lonneman in Adrian, Minnesota. She was married to Leland Zylstra on January 20, 1954 at the First Presbyterian Church in Little Rock, Iowa. They were blessed with two children: Layton and Lorinda.

Velma was well known for her strong faith and work ethic. As a young girl, she loved helping her father on their family farm. After she was married, Velma played a vital role in all aspects of the Zylstra farming operation, including serving as a bookkeeper for their farming operation, snowmobile dealership, lime truck business, and the antique tractor restoration and sales business. Velma also drove school bus for the Alta Community School District for thirty-one years, and she cherished each day with the students who affectionately referred to her as "Mrs. Z."

Velma was also an incredibly kind woman. She enjoyed her many friends in the Alta community, but her greatest love was her family, especially her children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren. She treasured spending time with them whenever she could. In the final year of her life, she was overjoyed to move in with her daughter, Lorinda, and her grandpuppy, Rusty. She socialized with friends, travelled with family, and cheered on the University of Iowa and Iowa State University's athletes, especially their basketball teams. Her last months were full of love, kindness, and peace.

Left to cherish Velma's memory include her children: Layton (Becki) Zylstra of Cave Creek, Arizona and Lorinda Peterson of Alta, Iowa; her grandchildren: Matthew (Brittney) Zylstra of St. Louis, Missouri, Tyler (Ashley) Zylstra of Marion, Iowa, and Lindsey Peterson (Adam Bockelman) of Sioux Falls, South Dakota; and her great-grandchildren: Sophie and Aidan Zylstra and Zoey Zylstra; and her extended family and friends.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Frank and Elizabeth Lonneman; her husband, Leland Zylstra; and son-in-law, Brent Peterson.

Cemetery Details

Pleasant View Cemetery

898 Leland St
Little Rock, IA 51243

Previous Events

Celebration of Life

FEB 18. 1:00 PM - 3:00 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>

Prayer Service

FEB 18. 3:00 PM (CT)

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Tribute Wall



“ *Fratzke & Jensen Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Velma Zylstra*



Fratzke & Jensen Funeral Home - February 16, 2024 at 11:24 AM



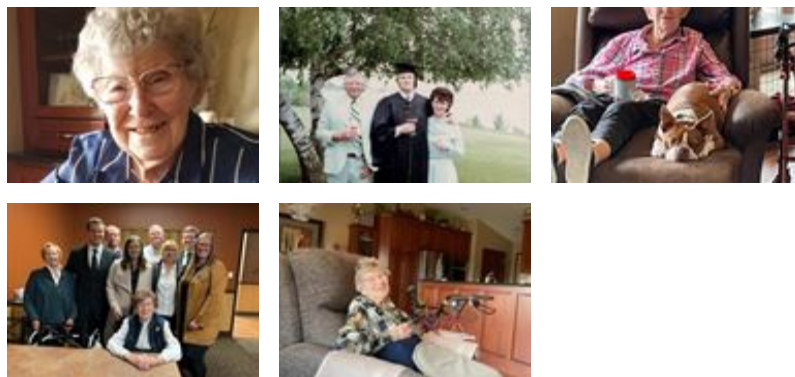
“ *2 files added to the tribute wall*



Fratzke & Jensen Funeral Home - February 16, 2024 at 11:34 AM



“ *48 files added to the album Life Tributes*



Fratzke & Jensen Funeral Home - February 16, 2024 at 11:21 AM

MA

“ Mandy sent a virtual gift in memory of Velma Zylstra



Mandy - February 14, 2024 at 12:00 PM

EN

“ Elaine John- sister, Art and Anna Lonneman-brother, Bruce Lonneman- nephew, Greg Lonneman- nephew purchased the Enchanted Cottage for the family of Velma Zylstra.



Elaine John- sister, Art and Anna Lonneman-brother, Bruce Lonneman- nephew, Greg Lonneman- nephew - February 13, 2024 at 02:28 PM

MH

“ My sympathy to the Zylstra family!

Marla Hoffman - February 04, 2024 at 07:02 PM



“ Sally Rassler lit a candle in memory of Velma Zylstra



Sally Rassler - February 02, 2024 at 10:20 PM

RS

“ Ray and Coletta Lonneman's Sons purchased the Sweet Tranquility Basket for the family of Velma Zylstra.



Ray and Coletta Lonneman's Sons - February 01, 2024 at 10:17 PM

RS

“ Ray and Coletta Lonneman's Sons planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Velma Zylstra.

Ray and Coletta Lonneman's Sons - February 01, 2024 at 10:17 PM

LK

“ Lorna Kahl lit a candle in memory of Velma Zylstra



Lorna Bruns Kahl - February 01, 2024 at 04:16 PM

PH

“ I will always cherish all the memories of this amazing women!! We had many good times at the Alta Community School! Velma was always smiling (as she is in this picture) and always upbeat. She was very kind and caring to all her bus kids and to all of us who worked with her. She was a great friend and just an all round amazing women!! She will never be forgotten and will always remain in my heart and mind! Rest in peace dear frined!

Pam Henderson

Pam Henderson - January 31, 2024 at 02:40 PM

PH

“ Pam Henderson lit a candle in memory of Velma Zylstra



Pam Henderson - January 31, 2024 at 02:36 PM

KS

“ Velma was such a sweet lady, with a smile that lit up the room. Our deepest condolence.



Kari Stuckel - January 31, 2024 at 12:42 AM

JP

“ Jennifer Peters lit a candle in memory of
Velma Zylstra



Jennifer Peters - January 30, 2024 at 11:10 PM

JC

“ Jeff/Jean Chindlund lit a candle in memory of
Velma Zylstra



Jeff/Jean Chindlund - January 30, 2024 at 07:23 PM

LE

“ Linda Ecker lit a candle in memory of Velma
Zylstra



Linda Ecker - January 30, 2024 at 04:51 PM

D(

“ Such a sweet lady, always kept us safe and
tried to keep us quiet on the bus. When I was
little I would pick lilacs and give them to her
as I entered the bus, she always excepted
with a welcoming smile. ❤️



Deanna Christiansen (Hinkeldey) - January 30, 2024 at 01:43 PM

DW

“ Dale Doris Wiley lit a candle in memory of Velma Zylstra



Dale and Doris Wiley - January 30, 2024 at 01:36 PM



“ Velma was our bus driver for years. She really enjoyed and cared about each of us. Rest in Peace Velma.

Lynn Snyder - January 30, 2024 at 01:22 PM

BS

“ Velma was my second mom and grandmother to our children. Such a sweet and caring person 💕💕

Beth Shea - January 29, 2024 at 08:12 PM

RT

“ A beautiful, kind lady gained her Angel wings. She was so dedicated to her “children” on her Alta bus routes. She was a blessings to so many.💕💕

Roxanne Tjaden - January 29, 2024 at 06:21 PM

RT

“ Roxanne Tjaden lit a candle in memory of Velma Zylstra



Roxanne Tjaden - January 29, 2024 at 06:19 PM

JU

“ *Velma was the grandmother to many children in Alta. She drove bus for my children. She was very caring and always had a smile on her face!*

Julie - January 29, 2024 at 04:34 PM

KC

“ *Sorry for your loss Lorinda and family. She was a sweet lady.*

Kris Combes - January 29, 2024 at 03:17 PM