



Zoe Petersen

January 31, 1923 - May 14, 2021

Zoe M. Petersen, age 98, of Storm Lake, Iowa died Friday, May 14, 2021 at Methodist Manor Retirement Community in Storm Lake.

Memorial services will take place Tuesday, May 18, 2021 at 11:00 a.m. at the Fratzke & Jensen Funeral Home in Storm Lake. Masks and social distancing will be encouraged. Burial will be in the Buena Vista Memorial Park Cemetery in Storm Lake. Visitation will take place one hour prior to the service at the funeral home. The Fratzke & Jensen Funeral Home in Storm Lake is in charge of the arrangements.

She was born January 31, 1923, in Lehigh, Iowa, daughter of Lawrence Calvin and Ada (Hoshaw) Eslick. She lived on the family farm along the Des Moines River.

After country school, she passed a test qualifying for high school in Webster City. Zoe and her cousin Edith roomed together in Webster City to attend school. In 1940, Zoe graduated from Webster City, Iowa, high school and came to Buena Vista College and roomed with her brother Paul. She received normal training and taught country school. While at college she met her future husband, Bob. They were married June 29, 1943. While he served in the 101st Airborne in Europe, she and her brother worked at the Glenn L. Martin Aircraft Factory in Omaha, Nebraska. After the war they settled and taught in

Palmer, Iowa before coming to Storm Lake. Zoe also worked as a secretary for the AEA and later as a library assistant at the Junior High School in Storm Lake.

To say she was a world traveler is probably an understatement. Zoe and Bob had started to travel in the years before his passing. Velda Robinson and Zoe saw the world together. She had walked on the Great Wall of China. She had seen the Taj Mahal in India. She gazed upon Mt. Everest in Nepal. She had booked passage through the Panama Canal. She had cruised the Mediterranean and inland passage of Alaska. She was in Iceland when the tragedy of 9/11 happened and was delayed in returning to America. She visited the “Lost City of the Incas” of Machu Picchu in Peru. One entire trip was to Turkey. She traveled to Australia and New Zealand and claimed she would have moved there if she were younger. Russia, Thailand, Japan, Hawaii, South Korea, Brazil were also included in her travels.

Mom was one of the first women to gamble at a casino in Kathmandu, Nepal, while countless men stared and were appalled to see these brazen women. She chewed cacao leaves on the train leaving Machu Picchu to relieve altitude sickness on the way to La Paz, Bolivia. Mom illegally exchanged American dollars on the black market in Gorky Park in Moscow because she could get a better exchange rate.

She enjoyed spending time with family. She liked to go antiquing. She taught chair caning for Community Education. She was a Cub Scout leader. She enjoyed watching Hawkeye basketball. She enjoyed being “Mrs. Fixit” at the Buena Vista County Historical Society. Mom liked going “shopping” at WinnaVegas, Wild Rose or the Argosy Riverboat. She loved playing bingo Wednesday afternoons at Otsego Place. The highlight of her days was watching the birds and squirrels at her window feeder while sharing cups of coffee and conversations in the morning with Dave and Dana.

In addition to her parents, Zoe was preceded in death by her husband Bob, infant daughter Lynn Kristin, sisters Ruth (Calvin) Chalfant and Beverly (Joe) Bria, brothers Paul Eslick and Verne Eslick; sister-in-law Yvonne (Ray) Bertness

Zoe is survived by two children: David (Audrey) Petersen, Dana Petersen (Julie Hoft), two grandchildren, Kris (Kyle) Hartje and Jackie Petersen-Blake, two great-grandchildren Madeline and Clara Blake; and numerous nephews and nieces.

Cemetery Details

Buena Vista Memorial Park Cemetery

875 IA-7
Storm Lake, IA 50588

Previous Events

Visitation

MAY 18. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (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

MAY 18. 11:00 AM (CT)

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Tribute Wall



“ *Fratzke & Jensen Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Zoe Petersen*



Fratzke & Jensen Funeral Home - May 17, 2021 at 12:11 PM

DL

Had many great visits with Zoe over the years since she was my aunts roommate at the old manor at one time and then they sat together after her bad fall and she was so determined to recover and she did . Will always remember Zoe for her interesting stories of all her travels & loved her family more than anything . So sorry for your families loss . ☐



Dave & Patti Lange - May 17, 2021 at 10:49 PM

SS

“ *Such a wonderful woman! I thank her for being a very good friend and travel partner to my mom Velda. I treasure all the memories they shared. Both Bob and Zoe were dear fends of my parents. I hope they are playing cards and seeing the world without a plane! Hugs to all of you.*

Sue/Rue Smith and family

Sue/Rue Robinson Smith - May 31, 2021 at 05:24 PM

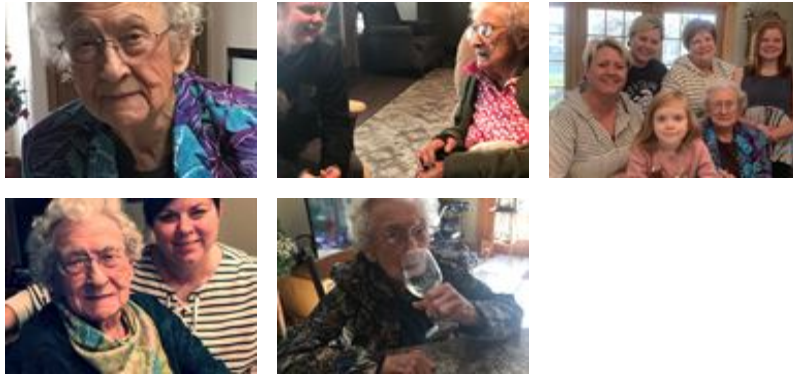
TK

“ Loved spending time with my Aunt Zoe when she would come to visit us in the UP of Michigan. She always had great travel stories to tell. I also always remember the letters she would send to my Mom, her sister Beverly. We would pass the pages around. And occasionally boxes would arrive with finds from garage sales and her travels. I hope I can travel and be as active as her.
Theresa Bria Kimmes, niece.

theresa kimmes - May 17, 2021 at 03:37 PM



“ 105 files added to the album LifeTributes



Fratzke & Jensen Funeral Home - May 17, 2021 at 11:56 AM

FH

“ 2 files added to the tribute wall



Fratzke & Jensen Funeral Homes - May 17, 2021 at 11:09 AM

KR

“ *Caning....quilting....birds....stamps.....there were a lot of things that Grandma tried teaching me. I'm pretty sure I wasn't the greatest of students! But the one thing that she taught and installed in me was the sense of travel. As a kid, I would ask "Where is your next trip to Grandma" and she would smile and chuckle and say "well....." and then I would try to guess. Our little game :) I think she passed her love of travel onto me. She took me on a trip to Washington DC when I was in sixth grade. Old enough to behave and remember, a right of passage so to speak (my sister got the same gift around the same age). Grandma sure did love history - we went to all the historical spots in DC....Such a great and memorable experience and trip. I hope you are flying high Grandma. Enjoy your travels now and rest in peace!*

Love - Kris

Kris - May 17, 2021 at 10:13 AM

RM

“ *Dear Dana and David,*

So sorry to hear of your loss! It has been wonderful that Zoe could join us at our summer parties in recent years. We will miss her!

Take care.

Love,

Joyce, Ron, and Deb McCabe

Ron McCabe - May 16, 2021 at 01:51 PM

EY

“ Zoe and Bob were the favorite Aunt and Uncle. We loved when they and our cousins David and Dana came to visit our family in the Northwoods of the Upper Peninsula of Michigan. We anxiously awaited the arrival of the family in the Mercury. It was like Christmas in July !!! Great and loving memories. ❤️ Wishing love and eternal rest to them both. Your niece, Elizabeth Ada Bria Youren.

Elizabeth Youren - May 16, 2021 at 12:02 PM

TF

“ The Blake and Dehner families purchased the Serene Green™ Bouquet For Sympathy for the family of Zoe Petersen.



The Blake and Dehner families - May 15, 2021 at 12:56 PM

RG

“ Ross Blake and girls purchased the Red & White Rose Fireside Basket for the family of Zoe Petersen.



Ross Blake and girls - May 15, 2021 at 12:09 PM

KS

“ Zoe was a wonderful neighbor and never turned down a cup of coffee!! Still have a chair she caned for us. A great auction buddy!! Our sympathies to Zoe's family and know that Bob has been waiting a long time for her to be by his side once more.

Ken and Janet Strouse - May 15, 2021 at 08:03 AM

KH

“ *Loved my time with Zoe and such great visits we had !!! Our prayers are with you all!!!*

Karmen Hodgdon - May 14, 2021 at 07:41 PM



“ *Sympathy Arrangement In Basket (Large) - Pink & White was purchased for the family of Zoe Petersen.*



May 14, 2021 at 05:52 PM