



Dorothy L. (Mess) DeLaet

October 13, 1938 - March 13, 2022

Dorothy L. (Mess) DeLaet, 83, of Kearney, ended her battle with Alzheimer's disease March 13, 2022 at Country House Assisted Living in Kearney. While death has not lost its sting we rejoice that she now lives in victory. Funeral services will be 10:00 am, March 19, 2022 at Holy Cross Lutheran Church with Pastor Tim Barone officiating. Burial will follow the service at the Riverdale Cemetery. Visitation will be from 5:00 to 7:00 pm, March 18, 2022 at the Horner Lieske McBride and Kuhl Funeral and Cremation Services. In lieu of flowers, memorials are suggested to the Holy Cross Lutheran Church.

Dorothy was born on October 13th, 1938 to Isabelle (Carr) Mess. She was baptized April 5th, 1953 at Evangelical United Brethren church in Kearney. She graduated from Kearney High School with the Class of 1956. During high school she was editor of the school newspaper and wrote a column called Spots by Dot. On June 26th, 1957 she married Celestian "Joe" DeLaet in Kearney. Three sons were born to this union. Dorothy then graduated and obtained her teaching degree from Kearney State College. She received her first and only teaching assignment at Kenwood Elementary School in Kearney where she taught for 26 years. Dorothy thoroughly enjoyed teaching her students and also developed many lifelong friendships with her coworkers. Dorothy was awarded the Peter Kiewit Nebraska Teacher Achievement Award for promoting Random Act of Kindness with Kenwood students. She also received the Kearney Public School Foundation Excellence Retired Educator

Award.

She was a charter member of PEO Chapter IX and was a past president of the chapter. She was a member of Holy Cross Lutheran Church where she was active in many Bible Studies, served on various boards, and was a past president of LWML (Lutheran Women's Missionary League). Upon her retirement in 1998, she volunteered for Kearney Public Schools, CHI Health Good Samaritan Hospital, and also with the adult literacy program. Dorothy had a dry sense of humor and a quick wit and could dish out as well as take good natured ribbing. She loved to travel with her husband and with her many friends even after her husband passed away.

Left to cherish her memory are her sons, Greg (Marlene) DeLaet of Kearney, NE Doug (Arlene) DeLaet of Odessa, NE, Brian (Maki) DeLaet of Wheat Ridge, CO; sisters, Gertie Lee of Wheat Ridge, CO, Shirley (Neal) Scott of New York City, NY; brothers, Leslie (Rosemary) Mess of Rogers, AR, and Leroy Mess of Wheat Ridge, CO; grandchildren, Jim (Jeny) DeLaet of Herndon, VA, Nathan (Melissa) DeLaet of Grand Island, NE Noelle (Elliot) Wegner of Lincoln, NE Caleb (Afnan) DeLaet, of Denver, CO, John (Tessa) DeLaet of Kearney, NE Drew Chancellor of Colorado Springs, CO Noah DeLaet of Wheat Ridge, CO, Cole Chancellor of Kearney, NE, Megan DeLaet and fiancé Tyler Adelman of Kearney, NE Sarah DeLaet of Fort Collins, CO, Anna DeLaet of Denver, CO; Great grandchildren, are Keith DeLaet, Jayson DeLaet, Kollin DeLaet, Kyle DeLaet, Frankie Wegner, Louie Wegner, and Ellis DeLaet.

Dorothy was preceded in death by her husband Joe in 2003 and her mother Isabelle in 2006.

Cemetery Details

Riverdale Cemetery

Riverdale, NE

Previous Events

Visitation

MAR 18. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Horner Lieske McBride & Kuhl
2421 Avenue A
Kearney, NE 68847
(308) 237-2259
<https://www.hlmkfuneral.com>

Funeral Service

MAR 19. 10:00 AM (CT)

Holy Cross Lutheran
3315 11th Avenue
Kearney, NE

Tribute Wall



“ Dorothy L. (Mess) DeLaet

January 29, 2023 at 11:14 AM



“ Dorothy's visits to Wheat Ridge Lutheran were always special, she was my Other Nebraska Mother, and was always ready to jump in and give her "other" son Brian a solid ribbing!! My mom knew her through LWML gatherings and only had the nicest things to say about her. I think my mom and Dorothy probably swapped stories of each raising their own "Brian". Dorothy was a true blessing to all around her, we celebrate her New Life in Heaven, but will miss her dearly in this Earthly life....

Brian Echtenkamp - March 19, 2022 at 11:01 PM



“ Family of Dorothy,
She was greatly appreciated as a teacher at Kenwood Elementary. My heart and prayers go out your family at this time of loss. Parent of Chris Meng



Kimberly Rebman Meng - March 19, 2022 at 05:24 PM



“ My favorite memory with Dorothy was when I lived with her one summer while I was in college. We had so much fun chatting in the evenings and playing Bridge with my grandparents. Thinking about all of her loved ones during this time, she will be greatly missed.

claire - March 18, 2022 at 01:35 PM

SH

“ Dorothy was a friend to all. She was a wonderful teacher and always a kind sweet and fun person. She made the world a better place.

Sally Hauff - March 16, 2022 at 10:07 AM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Dorothy L. (Mess) DeLaet.



March 15, 2022 at 09:38 PM

DS

“ Doug & Arlene - You have my Deepest Sympathy! She was such a Special Lady! Deb Schrack

Deb Schrack - March 15, 2022 at 04:25 PM

SP

“ I wanted to share with the family what a joy having Mrs.DeLate was. I was always a nervous kid, and one of the teachers I had prior explained to not be worried and to remember that she will be a "delight" to have. That she was. She had the softest voice and most infectious smile.

My deepest sympathies for the family. I bet she was happy to be reunited with her Husband.

Shannon Petrick - March 15, 2022 at 11:39 AM

RW

“ *Randy and Judy Warner purchased the Pink Tribute Spray for the family of Dorothy L. (Mess) DeLaet.*



Randy and Judy Warner - March 14, 2022 at 06:33 PM