



Erma Petersen

November 20, 2016 - November 20, 2016

Erma Petersen, 97, formerly of Kearney died November 20, 2016 at Regent Care in Kingwood, TX. Funeral Services will be 10:00 a.m. on Friday, November, 25, 2016 at Horner Lieske McBride & Kuhl Funeral and Cremation Services in Kearney. Rev. Robert Perry will officiate and burial will be at Kearney Cemetery. Visitation will be Friday morning prior to the funeral. Memorials are suggested to Faith United Methodist Church. Erma was born on April 10th, 1919 to Leon Nesiba and Anna Marie Ruzicka Nesiba in Farwell, Nebraska. There she attended school and graduated from Farwell High School in 1937. She met her husband, Gerald Ralph Petersen, at school where the two were friends growing up. After a case of appendicitis, hospitalized Gerald, Erma, devotedly visited her dear friend in the hospital, and the two fell in love and were married on May 2, 1942 in St. Paul, Nebraska. While Gerald was in the navy, the two lived briefly in St Louis, Missouri before settling in Kearney, Nebraska. They enjoyed fifty-two years of marriage before Gerald's death on June 28th, 1994. She was extremely active and involved in the community throughout her life. Her activities included Girl Scouts, Cub Scouts, PTA, Letter Carriers Auxiliary, Meals on Wheels, Red Cross Blood Mobile, County Elections, and the Golden Age Party at their church, Faith United Methodist. Family and friends were everything to Erma. Outgoing and social epitomized her as she never met a stranger and made friends easily. She was known to them and to all as strong, hard-working, smart, and giving. Erma was also very creative and her love of crafting was a

life-long hobby; although one incident involving finding the right flower for a project resulted in an unfortunate case of poison ivy. Another hobby was genealogy as tracing her and Gerald's family's roots were precious to her in insuring their story and history would be passed down for generations to come. Erma was also a fantastic cook and baker. She could make anything delicious and create a meal out of virtually nothing. Amongst her baking triumphs and treats, kolaches were her signature masterpiece. Erma was preceded in death by her parents, Leon and Anna Nesiba, and her brother, Leonard Nesiba, and her sister, Blanche Nesiba Nowak, as well her beloved husband, Gerald Petersen. Erma is survived by two children: Janet Petersen Oran and husband Gary of Houston, Texas; Ronald Petersen and wife Jennifer of Scottsdale, Arizona; five grandchildren: Jenny Oran Osment and husband Wil, Ryan Oran, Katherine Petersen, Lara Petersen and Christopher Petersen; great grandson Mason Osment. Her death is a great loss to us and we will miss her dearly. We are, however, comforted in the knowledge that she has transcended this mortal world into the eternity of God's Kingdom and will, once again, be reunited and together forever with her beloved Gerald. We love you Mom.

Tribute Wall



“ *Erma Petersen*

January 29, 2023 at 11:14 AM



“ *We were saddened to learn of Erma's passing. She was a dear friend. We met her after my Dad (Enver Cleland) renewed a friendship that began when Dad and Gerald played baseball with the Kearney Irishmen. Ken and I continued with our relationship after my Father's death. I last spoke with Erma a few months ago when we talked about Gary Stickney's appearance on the Antiques Roadshow program displaying the old NY Yankee uniforms he had in his possession. They were very valuable both historically and fiacially. Erma was very astute and readily took part in a variety of conversations. Fun to be around. Very caring.j*

Donna (Cleland) & Ken Cousino - November 22, 2016 at 12:00 AM