



Verna E. Barney

November 16, 1925 - July 23, 2019

Verna E. Barney, 93, of Kearney died Tuesday, July 23, 2019 at Good Samaritan Society – St. Luke's in Kearney surrounded by her family.

Memorial services will be Friday, July 26, 2019 at 11:00 a.m. at St. Luke's Episcopal Church in Kearney. Rev. Stephanie Swinnea will officiate. Visitation with the family present will be 1 hour prior to services at Fellowship Hall at the church. Private family graveside services will be at Kearney Cemetery. Memorials are suggested to St. Luke's Episcopal Church or to the Kearney Jubilee Center. Please visit www.hlmkfuneral.com to leave a tribute or message of condolence. Services are under the direction of Horner Lieske McBride & Kuhl Funeral and Cremation Services of Kearney.

Verna Elaine Davis Barney was born on November 16, 1925 to Homer and Frances (Haase) Davis. She grew up in Keystone, NE until the family moved to Reynolds, NE where she graduated from High School. Verna attended Nebraska Wesleyan University in Lincoln and is a graduate of Bryan Memorial Hospital School of Nursing.

Verna was united in marriage to William (Bill) Barney on August 24, 1947 in Lincoln, NE, where they first lived. They then moved to Kearney where they made their home. To this union three children were born; Richard, Patty and Kent.

Verna briefly worked in the pediatrics and newborn wards at Bryan Memorial Hospital and Bill graduated from the University of Nebraska School of Law. When they moved to Kearney, Bill worked in the family business of W. W. Barney & Son.

Verna worked at Student Health at Kearney State College and volunteered at the Red Cross Bloodmobile until 1987. She was primarily a homemaker while she and Bill raised their family.

She was an active member of P.E.O Chapter FN and a loyal member of St. Luke's Episcopal Church. At the church she was a member of the Altar Guild and sang in the choir along with Bill every Sunday. She volunteered at the Nearly New Shop at the church which later became the Jubilee Center. She was also awarded the Kiwanis Citizen of the Year in 1983.

Verna loved to play golf, getting a hole-in-one on number 4 (the water hole) at Kearney Country Club in 1965. She will best be remembered as a loving friend to all. She loved to work outdoors in the yard, and in her daily walks would make sure her neighbor's yards were free of trash and weeds. She took great pride in helping others. Her greatest joy was her family.

Surviving relatives include her children, Richard Barney and wife Brenda of Edmonds, Washington, Patty Engdahl and husband Jack of Lincoln, and Kent Barney and wife Cindy of Kearney; grandchildren, Joy Podliska and husband Shane and Jon Engdahl and wife Casey all of Lincoln, Adam Barney and wife Tessa of Omaha, Jason and Travis Barney of Kearney, Olivia Barney of Santa Cruz, CA, Emily Barney of San Francisco, CA and her great grandchildren, Riley, Connor and Grace Podliska of Lincoln, Cora, William and Oliver Barney of Omaha, Maddison Engdahl of Lincoln, and Chloe Engdahl of Gretna, and many nieces, nephews and great nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her husband Bill, her parents, Homer and Frances, her sisters Maxine Seay and Mary Jean Andrews and her grandson Jeff Engdahl.

Cemetery Details

Kearney Cemetery

4400 Avenue I
Kearney, NE 68847

Previous Events

Visitation

JUL **26**. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

St. Luke's Episcopal Church
2304 2nd Ave.
Kearney, NE 68845

Memorial Service

JUL **26**. 11:00 AM (CT)

St. Luke's Episcopal Church
2304 2nd Ave.
Kearney, NE 68845

Tribute Wall



“ *Verna E. Barney*

January 29, 2023 at 11:14 AM



“ *Verna was a pistol! She was smart and funny and I learned many things from her! She loved the oldies station and it's music, reminding her of events and memories from her younger days. She said, "You don't know how many hours I spent waiting on kids with that same music playing-of course that was current back then." I was fortunate to be working the day she was admitted and also the shift she went to see Jesus, She will always be remembered as a large presence in our facility. We ALL loved her very much and she will be missed. We are sure she is in a better place telling the powers that be just exactly how things should be done! Our condolences to you and thank you for sharing this phenomenal woman with us!*

Shawn Riley, Night Shift Charge Nurse, St. Luke's Nursing Facility

Shawn m Riley - July 30, 2019 at 09:42 AM



“ *Kent and family,
My heart goes out to you. I know the daily struggles of missing a loved one. You are thought of often and wished healing and peace.
Respectfully, Amanda Sok*

Amanda Sok - July 27, 2019 at 07:00 PM

KA

“ Kent & Cindy,
My thoughts and prayers are with you at this difficult time. I remember meeting Verna along with Bill probably at an NLTA Convention many years ago now in my Nebraska days! Spend time reflecting on all the wonderful memories you have today and know that they will live on for years to come.

*Blessings,
Kathy Austen*

Kathy Austen - July 26, 2019 at 06:39 PM

TF

“ *Kent, Cindy and family,*

We were one of those lucky neighbors of Verna's and to this day still think of her when we look across the street. She was a true gem, a lovely and kind lady who we never heard her say a mean thing about anyone(ok maybe the squirrels in her yard). She taught us gardening tips and most of all to look on the bright side of life. The heavens have gained another star called VERNA! Please know we are thinking of all of you and know that you have beautiful memories of this wonderful lady and a life well lived. Gene and Tamme Frick*

Tamme Frick - July 24, 2019 at 12:37 PM

TF

“ *Tamme Frick lit a candle in memory of Verna E. Barney*



Tamme Frick - July 24, 2019 at 12:32 PM



“ *Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Verna E. Barney.*



July 24, 2019 at 01:06 AM



“ *Heavenly Heights Bouquet was purchased for the family of Verna E. Barney.*



July 23, 2019 at 06:17 PM