



## Clara L. Wells

October 27, 1928 - February 4, 2016

Clara L. Wells passed away on February 4, 2016 in Loveland, Colorado at the age of 87. Her gentle, kind, and loving spirit will be enormously missed by everyone who had the great fortune to know her. She was a caring and loving daughter, sister, wife, mother, grandmother, great grandmother, and friend. She will also be remembered for her sparkling smile and a sense of humor that could get you laughing so hard that you cried.

Clara was born on October 27, 1928 in Sheridan, Wyoming to Otto and Lina (Gerer) Blankenburg. She grew up with two loving brothers, Edward and Walt. She worked in the family bakery in Sheridan, and later became a telephone operator. Clara met her future husband, Horace Howard ("Lefty") Wells, in a labor union dispute picket line. Clara and Lefty were married on March 13, 1948 and remained so until Lefty's passing in 2004.

Clara is survived by her children, Vicki Ditchkus of Loveland, Colorado and Kathy Stewart and son-in-law Steve Stewart of Los Gatos, California, as well as her grandson, Gregg Johnson, his wife Patricia Johnson, and their two children Sadie and Annie of Montgomery, Alabama. Clara was preceded in death by her parents, husband, and brothers. She is cherished and loved by many extended family members and friends.

Clara's graveside service will be on Thursday, February 11, 2016, at 1:00 p.m. at Olinger Crown Hill Cemetery, 7777 West 29th Ave, Wheat Ridge, CO.

Viewing and personal respects may be made prior to this service on Wednesday,

February 10, 2016 from 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. at Bohlender Funeral Chapel, 121 W. Olive Street, Fort Collins, CO. A memorial service in Clara's honor will be held on Friday, February 12, 2016 at 1:00 p.m. at the Mirasol Greenhouses,

where she lived at her passing. 435 Mirasol Drive, Loveland, CO.

In place of flowers, donations may be made to the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW). You can make donation on the internet by going to:

[http://heroes.vfw.org/site/PageNavigator/Giving%20Ways\\_to\\_Give.html?\\_ga=1.159981370.661608566.1454700777](http://heroes.vfw.org/site/PageNavigator/Giving%20Ways_to_Give.html?_ga=1.159981370.661608566.1454700777)

Click on Memorial Giving.

# Cemetery Details

## Olinger Crown Hill Cemetery

7777 West 29th Ave.  
Wheatridge, CO

# Previous Events

## Viewing

FEB 10. 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM (MT)

Bohlender Funeral Chapel  
121 W. Olive Street  
Fort Collins, CO 80524  
(970) 482-4244  
<https://www.bohlenderfuneralchapel.com/>

## Graveside Service

FEB 11. 1:00 PM (MT)

Olinger Crown Hill Cemetery  
7777 West 29th Ave.  
Wheatridge, CO

## Memorial Service

FEB 12. 1:00 PM (MT)

Mirasol Greenhouses  
435 Mirasol Dr.  
Loveland, CO



# Tribute Wall

KA

“ *I wish you were here today to celebrate your birthday.  
I wish you were here period. I miss you so very much.  
I miss our time together. I miss our conversations. I miss you telling me that you love me. I miss telling you how much I love you. I miss that special and unique something we had had together--something that was different than just Mother/Daughter. I bought you some pretty flowers today for your birthday. I hope you are enjoying them from heaven above.*



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**Kathy** - October 27, 2016 at 02:27 PM

KA

“ *1 file added to the album New Album Name*



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**Kathy** - February 09, 2016 at 01:44 AM

KA

“ *2 files added to the album New Album Name*



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**Kathy** - February 09, 2016 at 01:42 AM

“ My Dear Mother,

*You and I have enjoyed a very unique and special relationship. Not even in death can anyone take that away from us. It will be so difficult to fill the void of our years together and years of daily conversations--my day was never quite complete unless I heard your voice. I suppose that we will just continue to have those conversations, just in a different way and not limited by the telephone hardware that had become so frustrating to contend with these past several months.*

*I love you heart and soul and the greatest consolation I have is that I truly know from the bottom of my heart that you have always known that and you will continue to know that every day in heaven. We told each other every single day how much we love each other and I will hold that in my heart until the day I die.*

*I will never forget all the love and emotional support that you have given me all the days of my life. I am the person I am because of you and Dad. I will never forget the many times that we laughed so hard together that we cried. I will never forget the wonderful times we had together in the clothing store in Boulder that we owned.*

*I will never forget your sleep-overs during those times--we had so much fun. I will never forget the many newspaper clippings you sent me about the Broncos and so many other things worthy of my attention--they always made me smile. I will never forget the day you and Gregg gave me away on my wedding day to the wonderful man who has loved and cared for you as much as I do. I will never forget your beautiful smile and your beautiful hair that I hope I inherit as I grow older.*

*I will never, never, ever forget you.*

*You don't get to pick your parents, so I am truly a lucky person*

*to have you as my Mother. An even greater gift is that you were also my best friend. In my heart I know it is time to quit being so selfish and to let you go be with Dad. You have been waiting 12 long years to be with him. It is just so very, very hard to let you go.*

*I love you, my dear Mother.*

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**Kathryn Stewart** - February 09, 2016 at 12:54 AM

“ Memories of my Mother-in-Law, Clara:

*I spoke to Clara via the telephone frequently, maybe two or three times a week since around 2005. Kathy would call her daily from wherever we were and at some point in their conversations, Clara would always ask about what I and her extended grandkids were up to. Kathy would always hand the phone over to me. She was always genuinely interested in the conversations and excited to hear my stories and adventures. Clara always asked about my bicycle riding and or racing activities and what I was up to in general. I would always ask her what she'd been up to and how things were going with her assisted-living scene and her various physical therapy activities, bingo, and other things she participated in.*

*We often visited Clara and always took her out to lunch, dinner, or sometimes just driving around town showing her places I'd been on my bicycle that she'd not been to. The most memorable visits were in the summers when we would all meet-up at her time-share in Winter Park. We did this for years, every August, and it was always a wonderful week of dining in, dining out, barbecues in the nearby park, watching movies, her and daughters playing board or card games and just hanging out. Clara would always make sure everyone accommodated my daily ritual of escaping outdoors to ride my bike somewhere before we'd make plans for the day. She knew I enjoyed it and always supported it, wherever we were or who we were with.*

*I am not sure Clara and Lefty liked me much when we first met, but both eventually warmed up to me and accepted me into their wonderful family. Clara, especially, really made me feel truly loved and respected. She was incredibly generous to me and to my two sons, as well as to my entire family. Clara often came out to California for various holidays and events and enjoyed and loved all of her extended family members. Because of Clara's warmth and caring personality my family loved and enjoyed her as well. She will be sadly missed by all, I am certain.*

*While Clara's immediate family was small compared to mine, I was always amazed at how well she handled those visits with my boisterous and much larger family. We truly enjoyed having her as part of our extended family and she truly enjoyed my family as well. She was loved by each and every one of them.*

*Clara was a straight-shooter and fiercely loved and looked after her daughter, my wife. My most fond memory of Clara was when her and I were driving up to Winter Park in 2011. Kathy and Vicki were following us in another car but had lagged behind so I had pulled over on Highway 40, just before the road pitches up on Berthoud Pass. I had planned to ask Kathy to marry me on that trip, and since her father had passed away years earlier, I thought I'd ask Clara for her blessing and support. When I told Clara that I wanted to marry Kathy, and since her father, Lefty, was no longer with us, would she do me the honor of granting her approval? Clara paused for a moment and responded by simply saying "Why now?"*

*Not exactly the response I was expecting, of course., But given that Kathy and I had been together for over 20-years without even a mention to Clara of marriage, I guess it was appropriate. We've laughed together about this moment ever since. I'll never forget that drive with Clara for as long as I live.*

*Kathy loved her Mom deeply, so I spent a great deal of time over the years talking with or being with Clara. Our relationship blossomed over the years into something very special. I truly felt so loved and I enjoyed a very special bond with Clara. I love her so much and will always miss her humor, wit, laugh, and that beautiful smile.*

*Clara's favorite son-in-law, Steve*

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**Steve Stewart** - February 09, 2016 at 12:04 AM

MA

“ *Miss Clara was such a delight to know. She was everything sweet and kind in this world and she will be greatly missed by all of us who knew her.*

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**Marcie** - February 08, 2016 at 03:41 PM

LW

*I was one of Clara's care takers at Park Regency. I enjoyed talking with her and spending time with Clara in the evenings. She always asked about my family and how things were going for me. She was a wonderful and caring person, I will miss her much. Liz Wilson*

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**Liz Wilson** - February 11, 2016 at 04:54 PM

LB

“ *4 files added to the album New Album Name*



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**Laura Bestor** - February 08, 2016 at 03:41 PM