



## Haleen Nelson

June 10, 2009

Haleen Nelson, 97, passed away peacefully at her Fort Collins home on June 10, 2009. On February 10, 1912 Haleen Gebbie Nelson started life in the coal mining town of Carbon, Iowa population 500 as the daughter of Tom and Annie Gebbie. Haleen married Don Nelson in 1939. She and her family lived in Columbia, Missouri and Omaha, Nebraska before moving to Fort Collins in 1954. Haleen taught 6th grade at Lincoln, Remington, and Tmnanth between 1955 and 1972. Besides teaching the basics Mrs. Nelson's students learned to knit and purl yarn into hats, sweaters, mittens, and scarves. Haleen's husband Don and son Kent preceded her in death. Haleen is survived by daughter Karen Dunn, son Ned, 7 grandchildren, and 8 grandchildren. Haleen took great pleasure in family activities that included, romping at the Nelson Farm, swimming at Warren Lake, travel, time at the Estes Park retreat and sharing her Fort Collins home. A memorial service for all of her family and friends will be held at 2 p.m. on Monday, June 15, 2009 at Bolender Funeral Chapel, 121 W. Olive. A reception will follow the service. Please visit [bohlenderfuneralchapel.com](http://bohlenderfuneralchapel.com) to send an online condolence.

# Tribute Wall

CI

“ Although we never met this remarkable woman, we feel like we knew her through her remarkable daughter, Karen. A teacher is finally rewarded knowing that she touched the lives of many, and the world is a little different because she was important in the life of a child. Connie & Jim Isenburg

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**Connie & Jim Isenburg** - June 17, 2009 at 12:00 AM

JS

“ Mrs. Nelson was an awesome teacher, and I still have very fond memories of her teaching those boys to knit! Due to her wonderful influence, I have continued knitting throughout the years. My condolences to her family. She left a wonderful legacy her students, and will be missed.

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**Joan Saxbury** - June 15, 2009 at 12:00 AM

DS

“ I was a student in Mrs. Nelson's 6th grade class in 1966-1967. What a delightful teacher she was. We learned so much from her. It was the first year our class received new math books; unfortunately it was "New Math." I remember how hard she tried to make us understand, and we knew she was as perplexed as we were. I think she finally decided to just teach us the math we needed to know. It worked - several of us were in the top 10% of our graduating HS class. My sincere condolences to her family. She will be greatly missed.

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**Deborah Svedman** - June 14, 2009 at 12:00 AM

SH

“ Haleen Nelson

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**Shirley** - June 14, 2009 at 12:00 AM

NT

“ She taught all 3 of my daughters in Timnath Cindy, Deb, and Carol Svedman not only in the academics but to knit and purl too! She was a splendid example for them.

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**Neen Trumbauer** - June 14, 2009 at 12:00 AM

PR

“ Back in 1970 I was a rookie music teacher at Timnath Elementary & Junior High. It was both a privilege and a pleasure to work with Haleen and her students. What a delightful lady she was....always affirming and supportive of others, a great sense of humor, and very helpful to me as a new teacher! I have so many fond memories of her and feel blessed that I had the chance to know her and work with her. My condolences to her family...she was a special lady!

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**Peggy Rosenkranz** - June 13, 2009 at 12:00 AM

PG

“ Haleen was a special friend and an honorary member of Karen's class of 59. I was privileged to have shared our monthly luncheon with her. I always looked forward to hearing her stories. I will miss Karen's letters about Haleen's daily schedule.

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**Phyllis Geary** - June 13, 2009 at 12:00 AM

JB

“ Halen was a joy to know. She had a great sense of humor and was so interested in everything. I was fortunate to have the privilege to be one of her companions these last three years and get to know her wonderful family. She shared lots of stories of her life and how things have changed. We celebrate Haleen.

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**Jan Beyer** - June 12, 2009 at 12:00 AM

BE

“ Don and Haleen were two of the finest people I have ever known. They had a great sense of humor and were always so upbeat about everything. We purchased their farm and developed it back in the 70's and 80's and it was such a joy to see them and update them on what we were doing. I feel lucky to have known Mr. and Mrs. Nelson. Bob Everitt

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**Bob Everitt** - June 11, 2009 at 12:00 AM

JA

“ Our mothers were best pals, at Simpson College; and after. I have fond memories of visting the Nelson farm outside of Ft. Collins when I was growing up. I have pictures of mom & Haleen when they worked at the Stanley Hotel in Estes; and when they took time off to hike up Twin Owls. Boy! Think of the hundreds of young lives Haleen touched and helped mold when she taught school. That was a special gift!

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**John & Angie Akers** - June 11, 2009 at 12:00 AM

SS

“ Haleen Nelson was a wonderful lady who shared her talents with friends, family, and students. I am proud to say that some of my students were among those that learned how to knit thanks to her! She will be missed!

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**Suzanne Werber Sever** - June 11, 2009 at 12:00 AM

TB

“ My deepest sympathies to Karen and Ken and all the members at the Dunn Inn. Haleen was an amazing person with so many accomplishments. I know you will all miss her very much. Toni

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**Toni Bertolini** - June 11, 2009 at 12:00 AM

DE

“ Grandma Nelson was dear friends from college Simpson with my own grandmother, Maurine Rogers Miller, who passed before I was born. With grandmotherly love and open arms, Haleen Nelson, welcomed me into her life during my years living in Fort Collins while I attended Colorado State University. Haleen cooked me fresh meals, taught me to make sourdough bread, and taught me to knit! She was the grandma I never had. She even let me call her "Grandma". I will miss her. She is an inspiration to all of us.

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DeeDee Estevez - June 11, 2009 at 12:00 AM

KE

“ What a wonderful lady was Haleen. For readers' information, I am the mom of DeeDee who just wrote below. I mourn that my daughter never knew my wonderful mom Maurine Rogers Miller, but I was thrilled when Haleen and Dee seemed to click as friends when she was away at CSU. If she couldn't know and love her "real" grandmother, Haleen was a close second. She was so kind, so inviting, so fun, so interesting and interested, she truly blessed my daughter's life, and ours too. I consider us privileged to have known her. My deep condolences to Karen, Ned, and family. Kathy EStevez

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Kathleen Miller Estevez - June 11, 2009 at 12:00 AM