



Helen Marie Warren

October 21, 2013 - October 14, 2013

HELEN MARIE REYNOLDS WARREN At age 19, Helen's grandfather, James Montgomery, came to America alone from Ireland. He settled in Poweshiek County, Iowa, where he got a job farming. When he showed up for work in the fields wearing a white linen shirt, his employer was upset until she learned that was the only type of shirt he owned. James liked Iowa so well that he soon brought his younger sister, Rose, to live there. Little by little, as money was available, James brought his entire family to Iowa. He married Mary Jane Crawford, who was also Irish; their daughter, Mary Eva, Helen's mother, was born 04 Aug 1893 in Brooklyn, Iowa. She was the third of ten children. James and Mary Jane were the proud owners of the automobile in Brooklyn, a Spaulding. Austin Leroy Reynolds, Helen's father, born 29 Aug 1892 in Brooklyn, Iowa, was a barber by trade. One summer he and his father traveled to Lakeland, Florida, where he not only worked at his trade, he also returned to Iowa with a small alligator that he reportedly kept in the bathtub. He married Mary Eva Montgomery, who by now was a schoolteacher in Brooklyn, on 03 Aug 1913. Their first child, Helen Marie, was born in 1915. Helen's sister, Ferne Mae, was born in 1920. Soon after Ferne's birth, Austin gave up barbering and started farming. Mary Eva became exhausted cooking for the hired hands, keeping house, and tending to the girls, so Austin sent her to Fort Collins, Colorado, to visit her aunt and uncle for several months. She felt so much better at her aunt and uncle's where she was only responsible for the care of the children. The family moved to Fort Collins in 1923 and Austin

went back to barbering. His first shop was on Linden Street; then he moved to the 200 block of West Mountain Avenue. Austin died 18 Apr 1985 and Mary Eva died 19 May 1994, both in Fort Collins. Helen attended Franklin School and graduated from Fort Collins High School in 1932. Some of her most-cherished memories while growing up were her summer vacations when she visited her cousins back in Iowa. After graduation she went to work in the office at the Maytag store in Fort Collins. Helen met Charles Warren 1916-1990 at church. His parents homesteaded northeast of Carr, Colorado. The family later moved to Cheyenne, Wyoming, and then to Fort Collins when Charles was a teenager. Helen and Charles were married 29 Mar 1936, during the depression. Charles was working for Paul Wood Florist, and Helen wanted to attend beauty school. The tuition was \$100, money they didn't have, so Helen's father-in-law loaned her the money to attend school. She took every course offered at the school for that \$100. In 1944, Helen left her job as a beautician to spend time in California with her sister, a new mother. When she returned home, the permanent wave machine had been replaced by the cold wave and Helen found herself allergic to the solution. That ended her career as a beautician and she went to work with Charles at Paul Wood Florist. When Paul started Columbine Floral Products on East Lincoln Avenue, he took on Charles and Helen as partners, and they later bought out Paul's half of the partnership. At one time, they had about fifty employees, and Helen did the bookkeeping. Helen and Charles had one daughter, Lynette Ann Gierhart b. 1946. Helen was a member of Timberline Church and volunteered in the ICU waiting room at Poudre Valley Hospital. She had been a knitter for many years, and enjoyed cross-stitching. Survivors include her daughter, Lyn Gierhart of Fort Collins; four grandchildren; five great grandchildren and two great-great grandchildren. A Memorial Service will follow at 2:00 p.m. on Friday at Timberline Church, 2908 S. Timberline Rd. A Private Graveside Service will be held at Grandview Cemetery.

Tribute Wall

MJ

“ Hi, I am very sorry for your loss! Helen was such a sweet lady, not only to me, but to everyone she talked to. I remember my very first day at New Mercer Commons. She was the very first resident I met and I'll always remember her beautiful smile and caring spirit.

Maggie Jordan - November 08, 2013 at 12:00 AM

KB

“ Hi Lyn and families. My condolences to each of you. What a wonderful person. Helen will be missed. I so enjoyed having her as a neighbor on Cty. Road 11, Seeing her and visiting at Perkins. The 4-H years. Will miss her.

Katherine Holtzinger Bridwell - November 02, 2013 at 12:00 AM

LN

“ Lyn, I am sorry to hear of the loss of your mother. I have wonderful memories of her and all of you when we were growing up. Linda Lindon New

Linda Lindon New - November 01, 2013 at 12:00 AM

JO

“ Lynn, I met your mother at New Mercer Commons while visiting my mother in-law. I was toting my knitting supplies and stumped. Your mother stopped by to ask what I was doing and she invited me to her room and she took the time to help me with my small project. What a delightful lady! Her completed crosswords, her beautiful paintings and yes, she still had her needles even when crippled hands could hardly make the motion. We visited a couple times. She was a very sharing and caring person and I was the lucky one that got to meet her. Sorry for your loss. I would have gone to the memorial, but we too had plans to go out of town. She was a wonderful woman.

Jody - October 31, 2013 at 12:00 AM

BJ

“ Dear Lyn, It is with great joy and fond memories that I remember your mother. She was so kind to my mother and meant so much to my mom. Her cheerful countenance blessed all who knew her. May God uphold you and comfort you in your time of sorrow and give you the hope of eternal life in Christ Jesus. Praying for you and your family. Beth Joyner.

Beth Aanes Joyner - October 27, 2013 at 12:00 AM

JH

“ Lynn, Just wanted you to know I am thinking of you. Let me know if there is anything I can do to help you. Judy

Judy Starke Haines - October 25, 2013 at 12:00 AM

KH

“ Dear Lyn and Family, I am sorry about the loss of your beloved Mother. We send our deepest condolences to you and to your family. Our precious memories will last forever! Helen was a great teacher for my daughter Sisi who lost her precious life only at 14 and she was inspired her knitting and cross stitching. My daughter was so happy to learn knitting and she was dancing and singing when she finished knitting her first scarf. Later on, she made a hat from that scarf and She was so happy and proud! Thanks a lot for these great memories and for your great teaching Helen! I hope your journey to Heaven is wonderful and you will meet your husband and my Sisi up in the sky. I imagine how you two hugging each other! Love, Khishig and family

Khishig - October 25, 2013 at 12:00 AM

CS

“ Lyn and family! I am so sorry to hear of Helen's passing. She will be dancing in Heaven with family and friends. I hope that she meets up with Mom! She was such a wonderful friend to Mom and I know that they both enjoyed each other so much. Helen was a real blessing! I am sorry that I will not be in town to come to her memorial service, but know that our thoughts and prayer will be with you and family. God bless you richly and give you peace that she is in a wonderful place and free of pain and suffering. Even though you feel prepared for your Mothers passing, I found that it was the hardest thing I have ever had to do. I miss Mom so much, but rejoice that she is no longer in pain and with my Dad and my special brother who visited us in Mom's room the night before she passed away. I hope you find peace and understanding with God's amazing Grace. With much love, Carol and Gunther

Carol Seligmann - October 24, 2013 at 12:00 AM

SB

“ I will always remember the trip Helen, Phyllis Kovac & I took to visit you in Sarasota, Lynn. I had the most wonderful time and felt like I made a wonderful friend with you. Your Mother was such a vivacious person and I know she will be sadly missed.

Sharon Brookshire - October 23, 2013 at 12:00 AM

MF

“ I loved your mother & I love you. Margaret F

Margaret Fillmore - October 22, 2013 at 12:00 AM

JT

“ Dear Lyn, Your mom was certainly a lively, interesting woman. We always remember her driving to the mailbox so she wouldn't slip on the ice! Smart and fun to talk to, she will be remembered fondly by us. Jane and Rich

Jane and Rich Thompson - October 22, 2013 at 12:00 AM

JM

“ Helen was a delightful friend and tablemate to both Louise and me at Columbine West.

John Metzner - October 22, 2013 at 12:00 AM

GS

“ May God bless you at this time. I know he will be with you. Garry Simpson

garry simpson - October 22, 2013 at 12:00 AM

PK

“ *There could have never been a better friend than Helen Warren. We have been friends for 70 years. Helen always looked for the good in everyone and had many friends. She was willing to do whatever she could for whomever needed help. Her passing leaves a great void in our hearts but the memories live on. Special blessings to you, Lyn, and your family. Love and prayers, Phyllis and Gwen*

Phyllis & Gwen Kovac - October 22, 2013 at 12:00 AM

CF

“ *I am so sorry for your loss. My thoughts and prayers are with you and your family. Carol Frank*

Carol Frank - October 22, 2013 at 12:00 AM