



Marie Grace Clara Allan

December 14, 1924 - December 21, 2018

Marie Grace Clara Fratzke was born at home in rural Buchanan County December 14, 1924 to Clara Marie Sophia Lobeck Fratzke and Henry August Fratzke.

Marie attended country school, going on to high school in Jesup. She grew up on her family's farm with no electricity until her Senior year in high school. As a child she was in 4H and raised a prized Ayrshire cow, winning champion rank at the county fair.

Marie went to Iowa State Teacher's College in Cedar Falls beginning at age 16. Marie majored in vocal music, traveled and performed with the faculty choir, sang and made recordings for the local radio station. She was a member of Delta Phi Delta Sorority, concert band, Sigma Alpha Iota, and was crowned one of ISTC's Old Gold Queens.

While attending college Marie worked at J.S.Latta's book store and sang for local church services weekly. Also during one summer of her college years she traveled to San Francisco, working for the war effort distributing ration books.

Marie met John William Allan during college and they married March 6, 1947 at St. Matthew's Lutheran church in Readlyn, Iowa where Marie's Grandfather Ludwig Lobeck was founding pastor. After graduating from ISTC Marie taught music at New Hartford for two years while John finished his college degree. They then moved to Northwood and she taught music in Stanley, Iowa. Two daughters were born, Mary Patricia Allan in 1951 and Annette Kay Allan in 1952.

The family moved in 1953 to the edge of Allison to farm and Marie taught vocal music in grades 8-12 for some of those years. She often sang for local church services, weddings, funerals and other events.

During summers, as their daughters grew up, John and Marie took a trip each year, loading up the family in their trailer and traveling to Minnesota, Wisconsin, Michigan, Illinois, Kentucky, North and South Dakota, Wyoming, Montana, Colorado and Canada.

John began working in 1966 for Hawkeye Tech in Waterloo and the family moved to Cedar Falls in January of 1967. They joined Nazareth Lutheran Church. Marie began teaching vocal music in their public schools, Main Street and Minor from 1967 to 1971, after which she achieved her Master's degree from UNI in Library Science and became the Children's Librarian for the Cedar Falls Public Library.

While living and working in Cedar Falls, Marie and John bought farmland in Butler County. They worked together keeping daily tabs on crop prices and selling their corn and beans for the legacy that is now Allan Family Farms.

In the winters following their retirements, John and Marie traveled in their RV to Texas. They delighted in spending several months there every year.

Marie loved her 2 daughters, 6 grandchildren and 9 great grandchildren very much.

Survived by: 2 daughters, Mary Chien of Cedar Falls, Annette Allan Andres (Robert) of Waterloo; 6 grandchildren, John Andres (Jennifer) of Ankeny, Lindsey Buck (Andy) of Ames, Kelly Huck (Josh) of Waterloo, Amy Guffy (Erik) of St. Paul, MN, Sean Chien of Portland, OR, Kristin Chien of Cedar Falls; 9 great grandchildren, Audriana Hardy, Madison Chien, Simon Guffy, Addison Andres, Nico Buck, Clint Uhlenhopp, Charles Andres, Lucas Buck and Elliot Guffy.

Proceeded in death by: her parents, husband, and 5 brothers Erwin, Kurt, Robert, Harold and Ronald Fratzke.

Services: At Marie's request a formal funeral service will not be held. The family will gather in private to honor the life of their beloved mother and grandmother with burial in Fairview Cemetery, Cedar Falls.

Memorials: may be given to The Children's Department of the Cedar Falls Public Library.

Cemetery

Fairview Cemetery

12th and Division Streets

Cedar Falls, IA, 50613

Comments



“ Annette and Mary,

I am so sorry for the loss of your mother. She sounded like a wonderful musician and loving person. I now know where her family and grandchildren get their musical talent!

Steve Citta, Asst. Richardsons Funeral Service

Steve Citta - December 27, 2018 at 01:21 PM



“ Thank you Mr.Citta!

Annette Andres - December 29, 2018 at 12:05 AM



“ Marie was a wonderful woman to work with at the Cedar Falls Public Library. I first met her when I was a student at Main Street school and had her for music and then later I started working at the library as a teenager and worked with her until her retirement.

Renae Loomis - January 04 at 03:31 PM



“ Annette and Mary, I have such fond memories of your Mother! She was always so kind and gracious to me. I remember that she made Spanish Rice for dinner when I was at your home, and it was wonderful! I asked her for the recipe, and I still make it to this day. She was such a sweet and kind lady, and I know that you are both going to miss her very much. My thoughts and prayers are with you during this sad time. Hugs!

Rhonda Schilling - December 25, 2018 at 09:36 PM



“ Thank you Rhonda. I still often make Spanish rice too.

Annette Andres - December 29, 2018 at 12:06 AM



“ Thank you dear friend!

Annette - December 31, 2018 at 09:56 PM



“ Annette and Mary,

We are sorry to hear about the loss of your mother. Our thought and prayers are with you at this difficult time.

Sue and Phil Leeson

Sue Leeson - December 22, 2018 at 10:03 PM



“ Was sorry to hear of Marie's passing. Thinking of you.

Doug Bruce

Doug Bruce - December 24, 2018 at 01:35 PM



“ Mary & Annette: I first met Mrs Allan when I was 3 yrs old & Cedar Valley Daycare took our group to the CF Library for story time. She read "Mr Willowby's Christmas Tree", which to this day is still my all-time favorite book & always makes me tear up at the end. My mom said I told her about the visit & that "Mrs Allan was MY librarian." She retired when I was in Jr High, but I visited her at home several times, as my gma lived just a couple blocks away. For most of my life I wanted to be a librarian and until I discovered geography, thought I'd go to school for that. And even though I have a Geography degree, I went to work at the library in 1991, as a shelver & I'm still there! So, I guess I still lived a bit of my dream, encouraged by this wonderful woman. I thought of her often, as I'd drive past her street & especially after your father passed away. She will be missed.

Aimee T Erne - December 26, 2018 at 08:23 AM



“ What a lovely tribute to our mother. Thank you very much for this!

Mary Chien - December 27, 2018 at 06:11 AM



“ Thank you so much Aimee!

Annette - December 27, 2018 at 11:24 AM