



Carol Ann Menken

September 28, 1948 - November 13, 2020

DIKE-Carol Ann Menken, 72, of Dike, Iowa died Friday, November 13th in the Intensive Care Unit at Mercy One – Waterloo.

Carol was born September 28, 1948 in Waterloo, Iowa, the daughter of Helmuth and Alice Janssen Mayer. She graduated from Dike High School and was a lifelong resident of Dike, IA. On March 18, 1967, she was united in marriage to Merlin D. Menken at Dike United Methodist Church where she was a member her entire life. Carol was active in the church and enjoyed using her gift of hospitality to make others feel welcome and cared for. Carol worked at the Cedar Falls Wal-Mart as the department manager of fabrics & crafts from their opening until her retirement 25 years later. An avid seamstress and lover of craft making, she loved sewing for others and coming up with handmade treasures to share.

Carol loved to be on the go and travel with her family, some of her favorite times were traveling up to Lake Winnibigoshish every year with the entire family. Her love for a good bargain meant she never passed by a Wal-Mart without stopping to check it out. She had a knack for engaging everyone in conversation which ultimately became an opportunity for her to brag on her children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren. She loved her family deeply and was always looking for ways to bring them together and make memories. She began preparing for the family Christmas 364 days before it arrived, scheming ways to fill the 4 foot stockings she handmade each member of the family and coming up with scavenger hunts for clues to find gifts and other

games to make the family gift opening time memorable.

Carol is survived by her husband of 53 years, Merlin Menken; a daughter, Kim (Dave) Frontzak; a son, Rich Menken; five grandchildren, Nick Elliott, Alyson (Brady) Lahmann, Austin Elliott, Kaleb Menken, & MacKenzie Menken; three great grandchildren, Ezra Elliott, Elijah Lahmann, and Peyton Lahmann; two step-grandchildren, David Frontzak, Jr & Mary Frontzak; and many nieces, nephews and friends.

Carol was preceded in death by her parents, Helmuth & Alice Mayer.

The family is having a private gathering to honor her memory. A memorial service will be planned at a later date due to COVID-19.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations be made in Carol's honor to Dike United Methodist Church "Women In Mission", 439 Church Street, Dike, IA 50624.

Tribute Wall

NK

“Merlin, Rich, Kim and family so sorry about your loss! Carol will be missed by many! Our thoughts and prayers go out to you and your family! We were so glad we got the chance to meet your wonderful mom! She was such a joy to be around and the energy she had. The memories when shucking corn and the time she'd meet you half way and was glad to do it to can all of those tomatoes. The love she showed you guys and how proud she was of you, your sister all of her grandkids she loved talking about them all and the newest addition to the family the twins! ((Hugs)) Dana and Nancy Kramer



Nancy Kramer - November 24, 2020 at 07:30 PM

BP

“Menken Family,

We are so very sorry for your loss. Carol was an amazing woman and we know that she will be missed my so many. We had the pleasure of having her alter Baylee and Sydney's prom dresses for a couple years, so got to spend some special time with her. She was always so enjoyable to be around and she always spoke so highly and excitedly about her family. We hope the many wonderful memories you have together will give you the strength and courage to get through this very difficult time. Our thoughts and prayers are with you all. Bobbi, Duane, Baylee, Sydney, Payton, and Jady Petersen

Bobbi Petersen - November 24, 2020 at 09:30 AM

RR

“ I have just heard of Carol passing .I am very sorry for this said news.Prayers for the family . I have known Carol for years through as a teenager working at the Barn Cafe in Dike with her Mom and then through her years she worked at Walmart and after. Always a smile and a conversation,Carol will be missed by many.

Roma Ries - November 20, 2020 at 12:53 AM

KA

“ Worked withCarol at Wal-Mart from the beginning (fun times, doing crafts, selling hot dogs, pot lucks all for children’s miracle network.) The laughs we had and of course brag about our kids! Those were the days, now the page turned so Rest In Peace my friend. Kay

Kay Adams - November 19, 2020 at 09:55 AM

MS

Worked with Carol also, and enjoyed listening to her story s about her family. Was also fun when we all retired friends would meet once a month for supper. Also to celebrate birthdays. This is so sad she is gone now, but forever to be remembered

Mary Sevey - November 19, 2020 at 10:01 PM

DS

“ Carol was a member, just as I was in the Dike Domestic Darlings 4-H Club in Dike. Her mother was the leader. I loved going to 4-H meetings with the different ages of friends - different than your classmates in school. Carol would always help us if we needed some. I remember going to their house sometimes to get help, or bring in my "record book". They always had so many interesting projects going on! We lived only a couple of houses away growing up. Always friendly and kind.

Donna Waltermann Schmeidel - November 18, 2020 at 02:28 PM

CR

“ *My daughter is married to Eric Groezinger. We live in Waverly and Carol was always so friendly to me when I would see her at the store. My prayers are with all of you for God's comfort and peace in the months ahead.*

Carol Rasmussen - November 18, 2020 at 01:34 PM

BB

“ *My condolences to the Menken family. I used work at Wal-Mart with her. She was wonderful and fun person to be around. Barbara (Ward) Bushby.*

Barbara Bushby - November 17, 2020 at 07:42 PM

MK

“ *My sympathies, thoughts and prayers go out to each of you in the loss of your loved one. Carol was such a great friend to me over the years - a best friend in all of the years of school at Dike! I have so many memories of times we spent together that I will forever treasure. Carol would speak lovingly of each and every member of her family each time we were together. You were truly an inspiration to her! May your many memories help to comfort you in the days and years ahead! Love and sympathy, Mary and Tom Kies*

mary kies - November 17, 2020 at 09:16 AM

KS

“ *I have great memories of Carol! Please give Merl and the rest of your family my love and prayers.*

Kathi (Paige) Sternhagen - November 17, 2020 at 09:16 AM

KW

“ *Condolences to you all. Sending healing hugs and prayers to you all.*



Kristie Wintz - November 17, 2020 at 07:39 AM

JC

“ *I have great memories of hanging out at the Menken's. Carol was always so inviting and smiling. I had a memory come up over the weekend of the time she helped us sew together pillows to sit on for wrestling cheerleading I was in with Kim. Merle was my bus driver and a close friend of our family so we spent lots of time together. My prayers are with you Kim, Rich, and Merle as you journey your grief together thru the upcoming days.*



Jennifer Clow - November 16, 2020 at 11:18 PM

VR

“ *Carol was an angel...literally! She loved angels and made them and gave them away to people. She will always be remembered as the angel lady in my book. She did so many things for people without even being asked. She made meals for us when we were going through a hard time or one of us had been laid up from a knee replacement! I was planning on bringing Carol a meal to pay her back when she got home...but she went home to Jesus instead. Now she is with the other angels and praising Jesus! I just want to say, "Thank you, Carol. You will be missed...when I see an angel, I will think of you first!*

Valerie A Ridnouer - November 16, 2020 at 10:36 PM

DP

“ Carol was a 1966 classmate but I really got to know the true Carol through all she did at church. She loved helping in any way possible. She was so creative and shared her talent! I know Carol's family is lost without her. Pray for them and Carol is so proud of all of you!!

Diane Paige - November 16, 2020 at 01:48 PM

KF

“ 1 file added to the album Carol Menken



Kim Frontzak - November 16, 2020 at 12:54 PM

KF

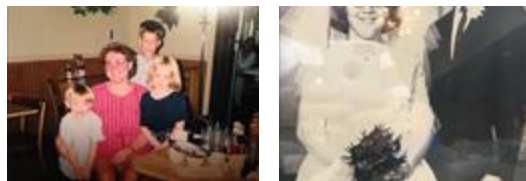
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Kim Frontzak - November 16, 2020 at 12:54 PM

KF

“ 2 files added to the album Carol Menken



Kim Frontzak - November 16, 2020 at 12:54 PM