



Henriette Madsen

November 22, 1913 - March 14, 2009

Henriette (Henree) Catherin Muller Madsen (1913-2009)

Henriette (Henree) Catherine Muller Madsen of Cedar Falls died Saturday, March 14, 2009 at the Elizabeth Martin Health Care Center in Cedar Falls. She was 95. A memorial service will be held at 1:00 p.m. on Friday, March 27 at First Presbyterian Church in Cedar Falls.

She is survived by her nieces Kathryn (Bill) Kilbourn and Marilyn (Ken) Windhorst, a nephew Jim (Vicki) Frerichs, her stepson David (Sandy) Madsen, stepdaughter Mare (Randy) Schmidt, great nephew Paul Stum, great niece Sara Stum, great nephews Joe and Carl Frerichs, step grandchildren Laura (Aleks) Kivilaan and Amy (Steve) Ross and step great grandchildren Jessica and David Kivilaan and Zachary, Noah and Joseph Ross.

She was preceded in death by her husband of 33 years Edwin Madsen, her parents William and Anna Harken Muller and her sisters Ann Giese and Wilma Frerichs.

Henree was born in Butler County, Iowa on November 22, 1913. She graduated from Ackley High School and earned her BA from the University of Northern Iowa and her MA from the University of Colorado in Denver. She taught typing, shorthand and business education at Cedar Falls High School

for 39 years, served as head of the Business Department for most of those years and was there for the introduction of computer classes such as Data Processing. During her teaching career she was active in a number of local, state and national professional organizations and she was a real influence in the lives of many of her students. Henree also volunteered her time and talents to many local organizations including Arts Alive, The Cedar Falls Historical Society, The Wyth House and The Hearst Center for the Arts. She recorded books for the Iowa Commission for the Blind, volunteered at Sartori Hospital, tutored ELL students, was a longtime active member of the UNA, AAUW, CFEA and ISEA and was a strong UNI supporter.

Henree always had time for her family and served as a role model for three generations through her example of patience, intellectual curiosity and service to others. She was a voracious reader and kept up her reading and discussions about what she and Ed were reading until the time of her death. Henree and Ed enjoyed travelling and learning about places and people new to them. Her companionship and caring presence will be missed and long remembered by those who knew and loved her.

Memories of Henree may be shared at www.richardsonfuneralservice.com. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to the Western Home Foundation.

Tribute Wall



“ *Mary, Randy, and Family,*

I am so sorry to hear of your Step-mother's passing. She was a wonderful woman! I remember our times at your house, walking around Cedar Falls, the Northern Lights, working together, church, your wedding, it was just such a long time ago. It was 3 years ago on the 19th my mom passed away, and her service was also on the 27th.

I pray that you are all well. Please know my thoughts and prayers are with you all that God will watch over you and keep you in His loving care.

Marcia (Davids) (Hehr) Gackle

March 29, 2013 at 02:51 PM



“ *To the family of Henriette Muller Madsen*

It is difficult for me to adequately express the sympathy I have for you -- and for me -- in the loss of Henree. "Miss Muller" was one of those "special" teachers who not only fill one with knowledge -- they fill one with encouragement. I was privileged to have Miss Muller for two years -- in 1954 and 1955 -- for Shorthand and Office Practice. On one occasion she told me, "Betty, you need to go on to college." Later, when I was working at Viking Pump Company, she asked me come up and talk to one of her classes! This was THE supreme compliment!

Henree was one lovely queen of a woman! Her caliber graces us only once in a great while.

With much sympathy,

Betty Hjulsager Mortimer

March 28, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ *Miss Muller was my typing and shorthand teacher at Cedar Falls High School in the early 1960's. I remember her wit and wisdom and the note she sent me one day in class when I was chewing gum. She said "you're too pretty to chew gum". That bolstered the confidence of a very shy and insecure teenager. Thanks, Miss Muller and may you rest in peace!*

March 26, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ Miss Muller had been my mother's favorite high school teacher in the 1940s and one of my very favorites when she, in turn, taught me in the early '60s. Besides, typing, shorthand and office practice, there were two "lessons" I learned from her that especially stayed with me -one serious and one humorous. Seriously, the unique format she showed us for putting together a job resume never failed to impress employers and I never failed to get the job. On a humorous note, she taught me how to get rid of hiccups. If I had hiccups in class, she would stare at me and say, "Let me see you do it." Of course, the hiccups would instantly be gone. I have ever since practiced the same hiccup-begone technique on myself, pretending Miss Muller was staring at me and challenging me to hiccup. And it's worked every time. I think she would get a kick out of that! And, as you can see, she remained in my memory quite often! She was a classy lady, a superb teacher, and a wonderful soul. My mother, too, has passed; but I know she would also want a thank-you expressed to Miss Muller on her behalf. Sincere condolences to the family.

March 26, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ Miss Muller/Madsen was my teacher in 10th and 11th grades. I appreciated her wisdom, understanding and patience in the learning process of typing, office practice and shorthand. I lost touch with her after high school. She blessed many lives.

*Sending sympathy,
Elizabeth Sassaman Gardner*

March 25, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ I had Miss Muller (as I knew her) as my shorthand teacher in the early 70's at Cedar Falls High School. She was an excellent teacher. I always admired her beautiful shorthand penmanship. I recently met up with her after my mother became a resident of the Western Home. She was so interesting to talk to. Her mind was still sharp. I stopped to visit often when I would see my mom, and she always asked me how my mom was doing. I will miss her, as I know many people will, especially the other residents and staff at the Western Home. She was a great lady.

March 23, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ David, Mary & Family: I am Betty & Leon Koch's daughter. We lived next door to Ed & Henree on 13th Street. I am saddened to hear about Henree & Ed. They were wonderful people. The memories I have of both of them will be treasured forever....Ed working in the yard, the Siamese cat they had when I was growing up, and the summer visits with Laura & Amy. You & your families are in my thoughts & prayers.

March 23, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ Mary,

I was so sorry to hear of Henree's death. My sister sent an e-mail to tell me. You have had an extremely difficult month. I am so sorry for your loss. Please know that I will keep you in my prayers.

*With deepest sympathy,
Lurnet*

March 18, 2009 at 12:00 AM