



Ima Jean V. Tjepkes

August 20, 1935 - August 29, 2018

Ima Jean Verona Tjepkes, 83, of Cedar Falls, went to be with the Lord on Tuesday, August 28, 2018. She had been under care at Nation Cottage-Western Home and Cedar Valley Hospice.

Ima, often called Ima Jean, or Imo, was born the daughter of Albert and Susie (Andreesen) Tjepkes on August 20, 1935 on a farm near Holland, Iowa.

Ima was a graduate of Grundy Center High School Class of 1953. Ima worked at Grundy Center Schools for 10 years, until 1965, then attended UNI and received a BA in Office Education in 1968. She taught at Cedar Falls High School for approximately 10 years and also received her MA degree in Business Education in 1977. In 1980 she was employed by Viking Pump where she worked until her retirement in 1994.

Ima thoroughly enjoyed being retired, helping others and spending time outdoors. She liked to travel, attend Women of Faith and other gospel and country music concerts. Her hobbies included bicycling, walking, fishing, listening to gospel and country music, bird watching, reading and spending time with dear friends and family.

Survivors include her sister-in-law, Minetta Tjepkes; her nieces and nephews, Curt (Julie) Tjepkes, Sheila Steinmeyer, Rhonda (Shawn) Samo, Karla (Rob)

Weissenfluh and Delwyn (Wendy) Tjepkes and many great nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents, her sister, Phyllis, and brother, Arnold.

She lived by her philosophy:

Jesus first

Others second

Yourself last

A Time of Remembrance will be held during the morning service at the First Presbyterian Church in Cedar Falls, 10:30 AM on Sunday, September 9.

Memorials may be given to Cedar Valley Hospice. Richardson Funeral Service assisted the family.

Cemetery Details

Cedar Valley Memorial Gardens

Cedar Falls, IA 50613
(319) 233-6136

Tribute Wall

RM

“ Miss Tjepkes was my Office Education teacher also. She was a most passionate lady regarding being a representative of the Office profession. I still carry many of the traits she taught as well of great memories of her class at CFHS.



Rebecca VanKerckhove McCarter - September 02, 2018 at 08:37 PM

SS

“ Miss Tjepkes (as we knew her) was one of my favorite high school teachers. She was always gracious and kind. I learned much from her during my Office Ed classes. When I ran into her around Cedar Falls over the years she always remembered my name and greeted me with a smile. 😊

Shirley (McCullough) Sluiter - September 02, 2018 at 06:43 PM

JM

Miss Tjepkes was a consummate professional , inspirational and FUN! During her first years of teaching at CF, she helped me excel in all things Office Ed. With her help I got the co-op job at the Board of Education where I stayed after graduation. One Christmas Eve she rescued me from the worst mess imaginable! I was running the mimeograph machine printing curriculum after hours alone. The printing room had JUST been redecorated, new carpet, walls etc. alone on the job and over confident, out of ink, I loaded a new tube of thick black Ink into the machine~~~ then turned it back on full blast without returning the CAP onto the machine! You can imagine what happened to the ceiling, floor , walls and me in the seconds it took to unplug the machine. Sobbing - who ya gunna call, Miss Tjepkes of course. Calmly she arrived in a beautiful white wool suit , heels and hose. I'd never seen her so dressed up, or so calm. I was inconsolable , she was masterful. She wiped the ink off my face and hands. Hugged me - and sent me on my way. I've no idea how she saved the room or my job, but she did both. What a neat lady she was. There's no doubt a special place saved for teachers /women like her!

jo meskimen - September 02, 2018 at 08:30 PM