



Leona B. Pedersen

July 14, 1922 - January 30, 2016

LEONA PEDERSEN was born on July 14, 1922 in Cedar Falls Iowa, daughter of Joseph and Hermina Lechner.

She married Adolph Pederson on October 26, 1962 at Nazareth Lutheran Church in Cedar Falls, Iowa.

Leona lost her mother at a young age, she was in charge of caring for the house hold needs while her father and brother did the farming. She also worked in a wool mill for several years and then was a professional seamstress for a tailor shop down town Cedar Falls.

Leona was the most loving, beautiful and talented person. Her talents include painting, crafting, stained glass, sewing, and cooking. Everything she touched turned to magic.

She and Adolf spent 25 winters in South Texas, where they helped care for children in Mexico. They would gather clothes and shoes for them, make peanut butter sandwiches to hand out, and they helped build a small house for a family.

Leona joined God in heaven, surrounded by loving family on January 30, 2016, in Rockford Illinois, at the age of 93.

Leona is survived by a son, Danny Holtz of Cherokee, IA; a step son, Norman Pedersen of Rogers, AK; a step daughter, Mary Kay Burgess of Marion, IA; three grandsons, Jeffery (Karen) Reisetter of Machnesney Park, IL, Norman (Sue) Reisetter of Cedar Rapids, IA, and Austin (Lori) Reisetter of Rockford, IL; a granddaughter, Onna (Gene) Lorsung of Center Point, IA; thirteen great

grandchildren; and five great-great grandchildren

She was preceded in death by her husband, Adolph; her parents; her step mother, Marian Lechner; and her brother, Oscar Lechner.

Services will be held 10:30 a.m. Friday, February 5th at Nazareth Lutheran Church Chapel in Cedar Falls. Visitation will be from 10 a.m. until service time. Burial will follow at Hillcrest Cemetery, rural Grundy County. Richardson Funeral Service is assisting the family.

Cemetery Details

Hillcrest Cemetery

Intersections of 130th
and N Pioneer
Rural Grundy County, IA

Previous Events

Visitation

FEB 5. 10:00 AM (CT)

Nazareth Evangelical Lutheran Church
7401 University Avenue
Cedar Falls, IA 50613
(319) 266-7589
<http://naz.org>

Funeral Service

FEB 5. 10:30 AM (CT)

Nazareth Evangelical Lutheran Church
7401 University Avenue
Cedar Falls, IA 50613
(319) 266-7589
<http://naz.org>

Burial

FEB 5. 11:45 AM (CT)

Hillcrest Cemetery
Intersections of 130th
and N Pioneer
Rural Grundy County, IA

Tribute Wall

KW

“ *Leona, we wish we could have known you longer. But we are so thankful for the time we did have with you. You truly are amazing.*

*Love,
The Wilsons*

kim wilson - February 05, 2016 at 10:33 AM

PB

“ *I'm sorry for your loss. Leona was a good friend of my mother's. My mother Viola Schutte was Mildred (Poock) Lechner's first cousin. Leona was in my parents wedding in 1942 and I have a color film/video of the wedding! I'm sure you all would love to see Leona in it. If so, please email me and I will send you the information & link to view it.*

*Patti (Schutte) Benesh
pbenesh@oplink.net*

Patti Schutte Benesh - February 03, 2016 at 10:41 AM

MJ

“ *Leona was a friend of my grandma. She did the alterations on the my wedding dress: the same one my mom and grandma wore. Leona was a wonderfully friendly and sweet soul.*

Maria Jaramillo - February 02, 2016 at 02:08 PM

JB

“ LEONA was my neighbor on South Main when I was growing up. It was always fun to have a garment that needed her attention. It came with a cookie when my mom and I dropped it off....and another when we picked it up. I moved back 5 years ago. Everytime I head downtown and drive by the big house on the corner of State St. I would think of her. May her loved ones find comfort and strength in all the love and memories you shared. A beautiful woman with a smile.

Jackie Bradford - February 02, 2016 at 06:58 AM

LO

“ Love you forever and ever Grandma.



Lori - February 01, 2016 at 10:24 AM

DG

*Fond memories of Grandma. Will always remember going to their house and drawing for hours with her at their kitchen table. Not to mention, she made the best mashed potatoes! She was a great artist, seamstress, cook, and grandmother.
Dennis Pedersen - grandson*

Dennis Pedersen- Grandson - February 02, 2016 at 10:03 AM

MP

I remember going over to gma and gpa's house and seeing all of the very cool paintings that gma did! She was so talented in so many ways and loved her cooking! She was always very kind and welcoming.

Mindy Pedersen - February 02, 2016 at 10:30 AM

SO

I will always remember going to Grandma and Grandpa Pedersen's house and the wonderful smells of Grandma's cooking! Sitting around the kitchen table and playing board games. If I needed a dress for a concert or prom, she was always willing to make one for me. Whenever I was back in Cedar Falls, I would always stop by. She will be greatly missed!

Sandy Pedersen Ott

Sandy Ott - February 02, 2016 at 12:30 PM

RD

I rented from Adolph and Leona on State Street. If she was at her sewing machine and saw me coming or going, she always yelled 'hi' and asked how my day was going. Often would spend time sitting with her visiting while she performed her magic for the store downtown. She was wanting to 'slow down' and pass her duties on and offered to teach me the trade. Through the years I wished I had taken her up on it. She would have been an excellent mentor! She was a very special lady!!

Ruth Van Deest - February 02, 2016 at 12:51 PM

OL

So nice to hear from everyone...Gma was a truly remarkable woman who had the kindest heart for anyone who came to meet her...her and Gpa did so many things for people in need...they helped us to learn how much better it was to give than to receive, and be thankful for everything....even if they didn't have anything, they would give whatever they had to anyone in need! And yes, she was multitalented.....I am so lucky she taught me so much....I will miss her dearly.

Onna Lorsung - February 02, 2016 at 02:31 PM

BS

I was the first renter they had in their house on State Street. She made my wedding dress & the maid of honor, brides maid, flower girl dresses & they were beautiful. I ate meals with them often. When I lived upstairs she call me to come & eat with them. She gave of herself to so many people. She tried to teach me some sewing. We'd do a long of crafts & projects together. I had the opportunity to visit them in Texas after my husband passed away. I was able to be a part of taking clothes, shoes, peanut butter sandwiches to the homeless. Everyone should have that opportunity to see the poor people & children that had nothing. It made you appreciate what you have. I would go move their lawn quite frequently & then I'd have to be sure & eat with them. She & Adolph were amazing people. I really missed her when she moved to Rockford. I wanted to go & see her so many times but I didn't have a car & my health took a downward drop. I really missed her & more so now. I really felt bad that I was unable to go to her funeral. I had to be hospitalized the day before & am still going thru tests. I want to express my sympathy to Austin, Lori, & the rest of the family for their loss. She will be miss by many. God bless your family in you sorrow.

Bonnie Aneweer Stevens

Bonnie Stevens - February 06, 2016 at 02:28 AM