



## Mavis M Te Slaa

May 13, 1944 - November 14, 2014

Mavis M. Te Slaa (1944-2014)

WAVERLY- Mavis M. Te Slaa, 70, of Waverly, died Friday, November 14, 2014 at Bartels Lutheran Retirement Community, Waverly.

She was born May 13, 1944, in Cedar Falls, IA, daughter of Bruce R. and Mona L. Mitchell Place. She married Ronald Brandos August 3, 1963 in Cedar Falls. They were later divorced. She then married Kenneth G. Te Slaa July 29, 1995 in Tucson, AZ

She received her Bachelor of Science degree in Nursing from the University of Iowa in 1979, her Master of Science degree in Nursing from the University of Arizona in 1994, and obtained her certificate as a Rehabilitation Registered Nurse 1991 and also was a Certified Nurse Educator.

She worked as a licensed beautician in Cedar Falls, Rehab staff nurse at Schoitz Memorial Hospital, Waterloo; School nurse, Jesup Schools; Rehab nurse, St. Joseph Hospital, Tucson, AZ; Director of Nursing, Parkview Nursing and Rehab Center, Waterloo; Outpatient Rehab nurse and Case Manager, Allen Hospital, Waterloo.

Mavis joined the faculty at Allen College in 2000 as Assistant Professor and

taught numerous classes in the Baccalaureate in Nursing program. She was a member of the Faculty organization, Pi Kappa Chapter of Sigma Theta Tau International, Honor Society of Nursing, American Nurses Association, Iowa Nurses Association, Association of Rehabilitation Nurses, and the Gerontological Nurse Education Consortium. She was a previous Board member of the Visiting Nurses Association and the Jesse Cosby Center in Waterloo.

Mavis was the recipient of the Nursing Graduate College Stipend award in Tucson, AZ; the Faculty Scholarly Award and the Faculty Recognition Award at Allen College; and was a 2012 Great Nurse of Iowa. She was also awarded Emeritus Faculty status upon retirement from Allen College in 2014 after 14 years of service.

Survived by: her husband of Waverly, four daughters, Melanie (Richard) Phelps of Charles City, Deb (Brian) Raymon of Maple Grove, MN, Becky (Eric) Lewis of Prior Lake, MN, and Melissa (Jon) Lawrence of Fargo, ND; son, Mitchell Brandos of Mapleton, MN, six grandchildren, Joe, Luke, Matt, and Isaac Raymon and Jack and Sophia Lewis; and special cousin, Dianne Nagen of Waverly.

Preceded in death by: her brother, Bruce W. Place

Services: 11:00 a.m. Wednesday, November 19, 2014 at First Presbyterian Church, with interment in Cedar Valley Memorial Gardens, both in Cedar Falls. Visitation will be from 5 to 8 p.m. Tuesday at the Richardson Funeral Service. Online condolences may be left at [www.richardsonfuneralservice.com](http://www.richardsonfuneralservice.com). Memorial contributions may be directed to the Cedar Valley Hospice, American Cancer Society, or the church

Condolences may be left at [www.richardsonfuneralservice.com](http://www.richardsonfuneralservice.com).

# Cemetery Details

## Cedar Valley Memorial Gardens

Cedar Falls, IA 50613  
(319) 233-6136

# Previous Events

## Visitation

NOV 18. 5:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

Richardson Funeral Service  
615 Main Street  
Cedar Falls, IA 50613  
(319) 266-3525  
[richardsonfuneralservice@gmail.com](mailto:richardsonfuneralservice@gmail.com)  
<http://richardson.funeralplan2.com>

## Funeral Service

NOV 19. 11:00 AM (CT)

First Presbyterian Church  
902 Main Street  
Cedar Falls, IA 50613  
(319) 277-3930  
<http://www.firstprescf.org/>

# Tribute Wall

MH

“ *I am so sad to hear of Mavis's passing. She was a genuine and kind person who was a delight to visit with. She will be missed*

*Meg Heatley PA-C*

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**Mary M Heatley** - March 29, 2015 at 08:35 PM

“ Mavis was the personification of hospitality. She welcomed you-- with open arms, with open heart, with open mind. Knowing her was a gift for which I will always be grateful.

*Mavis and I worked together in Tucson, Arizona at St. Joseph's Hospital and became fast friends. We spent a lot of time together enjoying the beauty of the desert and visiting over caffeinated beverages. Mavis loved her coffee and she loved to visit, and she was good at it.*

*Mavis was highly intelligent, hardworking, a wonderful nurse, but one of her greatest talents was as a friend. She knew how to truly be there for people. In times of sorrow she lent a thoughtful compassionate ear. In times of joy she shared her laughter and her spirit. She was not a person who experienced envy, but truly rejoiced in the good fortune of others.*

*Mavis just made every occasion more fun. She took me shopping for my wedding dress. I saw Iowa for the first time on a road trip with Mavis. We drove up from Arizona, singing to a tape of John Denver's greatest hits.*

*As much as Mavis enjoyed Arizona, Iowa was in her heart. She had reminders of Iowa in her apartments in Tucson--a stump from an Iowan tree used as an end table, a painting of mailboxes at the end of a dirt road that reminded her of home.*

*When Mavis married Ken, I, like any self respecting good friend, wondered if he was good enough. But seeing them together was like watching a dance of opposites attract. He was measured, moderate, deliberate. She was expressive, enthusiastic, passionate. They truly enjoyed and appreciated each other. And their lovely home was a fun, nurturing place to be.*

*One thought has made it a little easier for me to deal with her passing is the knowledge that she enjoyed her life. She appreciated the beauty of her surroundings. She had strong friendships. She wasn't someone who spent life on sidelines, but was fully present.*

*How can I honor Mavis? How can I show my gratitude for her presence in my life? By gathering with people on a regular basis, toasting her, reading her favorite Garden Meditation by Max Coots, and visiting. Being open, hospitable, engaged, and appreciative of others and this life.*

*Martha Nicoloff  
St. Paul, Minnesota*

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**Martha Nicoloff** - December 14, 2014 at 11:18 PM

BK

“ *I knew Mavis because we attend the same book club. She was such a kind person. She made you feel welcome in her world and always valued the time spent with anyone. She was proud of her career, but more so of her family. I'm glad I got to know you Mavis!*

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**Bee Klemzak** - November 18, 2014 at 10:19 PM

MJ

“ *Mavis was such a huge inspiration at Allen College. She was my teacher and mentor during my undergrad and a happy familiar smile in the halls when I returned for my graduate degree. When I did clinical hours in Des Moines, Mavis drove down from Waterloo that afternoon to check on me and make sure everything was going okay. She was a constant cheerleader for the future generations of nurses and a little bit of her will live on in each of our lives and careers. She will be missed.*

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**Maryjane Jackson** - November 18, 2014 at 09:50 PM

RC

“ I was always encouraged to receive assignments or emails from Mavis with "Blessings, Mavis" at the end. She was a truly great nursing instructor who took great care and pride in teaching her students. She will be missed!

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**Rachel Clark** - November 18, 2014 at 11:02 AM

HC

“ Mavis was such a kind person and always brought a smile to class. I enjoyed having her as an instructor and mentor. She will be greatly missed!

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**Heather Cue** - November 18, 2014 at 10:57 AM

EA

“ Mavis was a wonderful nursing instructor. She radiated warmth, compassion, intelligence and positive energy. I remember how she would always send back replies and papers marked "blessings - mavis". What a wonderful lady the world will miss, especially the local health care community. So sorry for the family's loss.

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**Elizabeth Ackerson** - November 18, 2014 at 10:46 AM

DH

“ Mavis was such a special lady and her bright smile and infectious laughter will be deeply missed. Our thoughts and prayers are with Ken, Melissa and family during this difficult time.  
Denise and Tony Hanson

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**Denise Hanson** - November 17, 2014 at 09:56 PM

AS

“ Allen College Student Services purchased the Arrive in Style for the family of Mavis M Te Slaa.



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**Allen College Student Services** - November 17, 2014 at 05:20 PM

LP

“ Lynn (Wilsey) Phillips lit a candle in memory of Mavis M Te Slaa



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**Lynn (Wilsey) Phillips** - November 17, 2014 at 05:07 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Mavis M Te Slaa.



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November 17, 2014 at 02:19 PM

DM

“ Mavis was the most positive person I know. She was a great friend and mentor who made everyone she encountered feel welcome and loved. She was a great friend and I will miss her dearly!!!!

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**Doreen Mingo** - November 17, 2014 at 01:58 PM

SC

“ I didn't have the opportunity to know Mavis very long but she made a great impression on me. What a lovely soul she was. She will be missed immensely by myself and all her colleagues at Allen College. My prayers go out to Ken and family.

*Sandy Crain*

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**Sandy Crain** - November 17, 2014 at 10:28 AM

DW

“ Mavis was encouraging and supportive to everyone who crossed her path, and her positive attitude and zest for life were as contagious as her smile and laugh. She will be greatly missed by her Allen College family. My deepest sympathy to her family and friends for your loss.

*Dana Wedeking*

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**Dana Wedeking** - November 17, 2014 at 08:37 AM

KA

“ Mavis was and is a shining example of positive and good energy. She is greatly missed at Allen College. It was an honor to work with her and know her. My deepest sympathies and prayers for Ken, Melissa, and all her family and friends.



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**Kathie Aswegan** - November 17, 2014 at 08:14 AM

CO

“ *Corrine Ott lit a candle in memory of Mavis M Te Slaa*



Corrine Ott - November 17, 2014 at 07:57 AM

ZS

“ *Mavis was just a wonderful person. She was caring, funny and made everyone feel welcome. She loved life and her students at Allen College. She will be missed. I was lucky to know her. Ken and family, I am so very sorry for your loss. I will think of her often. My thoughts and prayers are with you all.*

Zoe Schaefer - November 16, 2014 at 08:54 PM

ZS

“ *Zoe Schaefer lit a candle in memory of Mavis M Te Slaa*



Zoe Schaefer - November 16, 2014 at 08:49 PM

JW

“ *Jay W. purchased the Arrive in Style for the family of Mavis M Te Slaa.*



Jay W. - November 16, 2014 at 06:37 PM

KB

“ I had the honor of knowing Mavis as an instructor, a colleague, a mentor, and a dear friend. We spent many an hour in the comforts of her tiny corner office mulling over the intricacies of work, politics, relationships, faith, and life. She exemplified what it means to live a life of positivity, joy, and kindness. Her laugh was contagious and unforgettable. She was a true blessing to me and to countless others. My deepest sympathies to Ken, her children, grandchildren, and loved ones. She will be greatly missed....

Kathi Bower - November 16, 2014 at 01:13 PM

RH

“ Rod and I were so sad to hear of Mavis's passing. I, too, remember "potluck" nights, crowding as many of us as possible into Mavis's car and going to "drive-in dollar nights", and the joy of laughter and fun of high school years. To Mavis's family, may the loving memories of the past, bring you comfort and blessing in the future.  
Rod and Cathie (Larson) Von Holten

Rod and Cathie (Larson) Von Holten - November 16, 2014 at 10:49 AM

AM

“ Sending our love and prayers from AZ.  
Praying for Gods comfort at this difficult time.  
Gary and Audrey Miller



Audrey Miller - November 15, 2014 at 11:59 PM

FS

“ Mavis was such a nice person and she was very special in our lives.  
Fred Santini

Fred Santini - November 15, 2014 at 11:21 PM

LE

“ Sending thoughts, prayers and hush to family and friends during this time! Love, Laura Eide

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**laura eide** - November 15, 2014 at 06:52 PM

MF

“ A smile and laugh that is instantly contagious! Such a wonderful woman. Many great times with Mavis at Allen on the skilled unit and with her at the college. She will be missed greatly. My thoughts are with you.

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**Michele Friedman** - November 15, 2014 at 05:41 PM

PB

“ You were there when we were in Brownies and Girl Scouts together. You were there when our 6th grade teacher read "The Outdoor Girls" to us, so we formed our own Outdoor Girls' Club. You were there on those daily morning walks to high school together. You were there with all our high school potluck fun times. You were there in your apartment drinking coffee while you dyed my hair and tried to keep the kids in order. You were there at the class reunions. You were there just last week online. You will always be there, dear friend.

*Patricia Ann Ravn Brimeyer*

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**Patricia Ann Ravn Brimeyer** - November 15, 2014 at 11:17 AM

C6

With great sorrow in the lost of yet another classmate!! CFHS Class of 1962

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**CFHS Class of 62** - November 15, 2014 at 07:15 PM

LB

*A few times in my life I have been blessed with the gift of a very special friendship. Mavis was one of my most precious gifts. We met in Junior High School while sharing lockers next to each other. Through those early years we shared many good times with a wonderful group of friends. I have many things to thank Mavis for but the most important was her insistence that I go on a date with Roger Benning, my wonderful husband. Last year Mavis and Ken traveled to South Carolina to celebrate our 50th anniversary. Reconnecting with Mavis and Jan Morabito and sharing several wonderful vacations with our spouses over the last several years has been a blessing. My condolences to all of Mavis' family on the loss of this beautiful, intelligent, and loving woman.*

*Linda Alderman Benning*

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**Linda Benning** - November 15, 2014 at 07:54 PM

ST

*She was well loved by her niece Sandy and her family. I always enjoyed the stories about Ken and the animals and their little spot in Iowa. My condolences.*

*Susan Turney*

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**susan turney** - November 15, 2014 at 10:11 PM

CS

*Mavis, a blessing to every life you touched. Your light shines so bright - Keep shining dear friend, you are loved by so many. I wish comfort, peace and prayers to your family at this difficult time.*

*Chris Santini*

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**Chris Santini** - November 16, 2014 at 06:28 AM

JR

*With a heavy heart today I send my thoughts and prayers to Mavis' family. Her bright cheerful voice was always an "upper" for me. I got to know Mavis in 9th grade at CF Jr High on Main St. We had great fun times in HS, having "potluck" with our friends before home football games, riding the "pep bus" together to some away games. Mavis and I talked most recently last August and planned to get together when she was feeling better. We both enjoy Tucson AZ and talked of a possible winter visit together there. Her family sent me a text on her phone last night that was linked to some messages Mavis and I had exchanged last May. So bittersweet. Because of Mavis (and Linda Benning) I eventually met my former husband Larry with whom I have 3 children who are a great joy to me. Mavis was always the life of the party. She had a "can do" attitude which is so needed in this world. I will miss her greatly.*

*Sending love to all her family, Julie Richardson*

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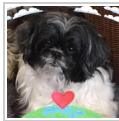
**Julie Richardson** - November 16, 2014 at 09:53 AM

LB

*Mavis lit up the room. I never failed to smile when she was around. She is loved and will be missed for years to come.*

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**Lisa D. Brodersen** - November 16, 2014 at 11:46 AM



*Mavis was my next door neighbor at 3rd & Pearl until I was five. We played together often and will be remembered as a friend as were her parents and brother Bruce. Later, she was my first babysitter. She was such a giving and loving person. We will all miss her.*

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**Richard Christie** - November 16, 2014 at 01:45 PM

DK

*What good memories i have of camping together in cedar falls a couple years ago as well as all the good times over her lifetime. We will miss you Bob and Delores*

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**delores kraai** - November 16, 2014 at 04:50 PM

AL

*Melissa, Jon and Family, Although we just had the pleasure of meeting your Mom last summer at your wedding she had that kind of personality that makes you feel like you have known her for years. Ken and her welcomed us with open arms that weekend and cared enough to want to see us when visiting here in ND. We only wish we had more time to get to know her, but thankful that we did get to meet her. All our love Joshua, Alison, Gavin and Ella Lawrence Fargo ND*

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**Alison Lawrence** - November 16, 2014 at 10:37 PM

JC

*My condolences to you and your family.*

*Jo Capoccioni*

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**Jo R H. Capoccioni** - November 17, 2014 at 10:19 AM

LP

*Mavis was a true Angel on Earth - she was so important to our family, so well loved, cared for and cherished by all of us. She was my mother's Best Friend, and a source of great support and strength to all of us. We are so saddened by her passing. We called her "Sister" our whole lives, and will remember her as one of the family. Every wedding, every special occasion, many dinners, many family events \ in good times, and the tough times, we had a dear confidant in Sister ... God Bless, We love you to pieces!*

*Lynn (Wilsey) Phillips*

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**Lynn (Wilsey) Phillips** - November 17, 2014 at 05:06 PM

NS

*Isn't it funny how memories keep popping into your head? I share many of the same memories mentioned by the potluck group from high school. They were great & giggly times, as was reconnecting with Mavis and the others at our high school reunions. Mavis was always the one in charge, but in a good way. She was very successful in her adult life, and I am privileged to say 'I knew her when...'. We prayed for a miracle but God had other plans for Mavis. She is now free from her earthly pain & suffering but will remain in our hearts and memories. Condolences and hugs to Ken and all of Mavis's family.*

*Nancy Stull Stevens*

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**nancy stevens** - November 17, 2014 at 09:21 PM

MS

*My Condolances to the family of Mavis, I was a classmate of hers and I always remember her friendly smile. God bless you!*

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**mary elizabeth spreitzer** - November 18, 2014 at 12:37 PM

PG

*Please accept our sincere condolences. May the words quoted from this song bring you a measure of comfort as it did for us.*

*"If a man or woman should die, can they live again?*

*Hear the promise God has made:*

*He will call; The dead will answer.*

*They shall live at his command.*

*For he will have a longing*

*For the work of his own hand.*

*So have faith, and do not wonder,*

*For our God can make us stand.*

*And we shall live forever,*

*As the work of his own hand "(Job 14:13-15)*

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**Peggy Gienau** - November 18, 2014 at 01:10 PM

MK

*It has been 10 years since I had Mavis as a nursing instructor. I still remember her big heart and love of life and people. My condolences to her family and friends.*

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**Mary Knutson** - November 19, 2014 at 08:25 AM