



## Virginia Nola Richardson

July 16, 1922 - May 9, 2020

Virginia Richardson went to be with her Savior on May 9 after a long and full life, at the age of 97. Virginia is survived by: her children--Mary Norman, Ginny (Jim) Garnett, Stephen (Susan) Richardson, Sharon (Douglas) Laird, Mark Richardson, Marcia (Craig) Johnson, and Dan Richardson; 21 grandchildren, many, many great-grandchildren, and one great-great-grandchild on the way; her brother Russell (Barbara) Spear; and many nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her beloved husband Ray; her son Kenneth, and grandchildren Peter Wheat, Shawn Bleeker and Melissa (Bleeker) Swisher; and her brother Lloyd Spear and sister Julie (Spear) Kraft.

Virginia Nola Spear was born on July 16, 1922, to Virgil and Nola Spear in Fairmont, Minnesota. She was born again, trusting Christ to save her, during her high school years in Algona, Iowa. She and Ray Richardson began dating soon after that. She attended Northwestern Bible School after high school. She and Ray were married in 1942, and were married nearly 64 years. For all her married life, Virginia loved, supported and helped Ray as he pastored in Baptist churches in Wisconsin (LaCrosse), Minnesota (Stewartville), and Iowa (Waukon, Waverly, and Winterset). Together, they raised eight children. Virginia worked in the home caring for the children, keeping them fed and clothed, cheering them on in their schoolwork and music lessons, and pointing them to Jesus. She volunteered continually at church and was a true partner in ministry with Ray. When the two dozen grandchildren and 40-plus great-

grandchildren began to arrive, she received much joy from spending time with them. She was a faithful prayer warrior, and knew ALL of their names and prayers requests.

In their retirement years, Virginia and Ray lived in Algona, Cedar Rapids, and Waterloo. Friendship Village has been a wonderful final home for them both, since 2002. When Ray developed Parkinsons, Virginia was able to care for him in their apartment until his last year of life (2006), when he moved to the Friendship Village Pavilion. As Virginia has needed nursing care in her final months, once again the staff at the Pavilion, along with Cedar Valley Hospice, have cared for her with skill, compassion and love. The family is so grateful to all the staff and volunteers—especially those of the COVID-19 team—who have made her comfortable during her final days.

Memorial Services are scheduled for 10:00 a.m. Friday, July 31, 2020 at Hagerman Baptist Church in Waterloo. Private family graveside services were held at East Lawn Cemetery in Algona, Iowa.

In lieu of flowers, Virginia would have greatly appreciated a memorial to Hagerman Baptist Church, or Friendship Village Foundation.

# Cemetery Details

## East Lawn Cemetery

Algona, IA

# Previous Events

## Memorial Service

JUL 31. 10:00 AM (CT)

Hagerman Baptist Church  
1105 Knoll Avenue  
Waterloo, IA 50701

# Tribute Wall



“ *Large Basket Garden was purchased for the family of Virginia Nola Richardson.*



---

July 29, 2020 at 04:50 PM



“ *I will miss Virginia. She had a very gentle way about her. I always wanted to hear what she had to say. Heaven looks sweeter now Thank you for sharing her with us.*  
*Vivian Weimer*

---

**Vivian Weimer** - May 13, 2020 at 09:13 PM



*To all the family,  
“Mom” is what I called her; one of gentlest people in my life. “And be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God in Christ forgave you. Therefore be imitators of God as dear children. And walk in love, as Christ also has loved us and given Himself for us, an offering and a sacrifice to God for a sweet-smelling aroma.”  
Ephesians 4:32-5:2*

*Thanks for sharing Virginia Richardson with me,*

*“Jesus paid it all, all to Him I owe”,  
Gerry Welch  
Tomball, TX*

---

**Gerry Welch** - May 16, 2020 at 02:06 PM

SB

“ I am truly sorry for your loss. Your family will be in my prayers during this difficult time.  
I visited with many of the family at Faith Baptist Bible College, Ankeny Baptist Church, and Ladies Retreats at Clear Lake. I always asked about her when I visited Hagerman when I was in Waterloo visiting friends and family.

Sharon Bennink - May 13, 2020 at 09:58 AM

YR

“ Your Grandson Matt Richardson purchased the Florist Choice Bouquet for the family of Virginia Nola Richardson.



Your Grandson Matt Richardson - May 12, 2020 at 08:26 AM

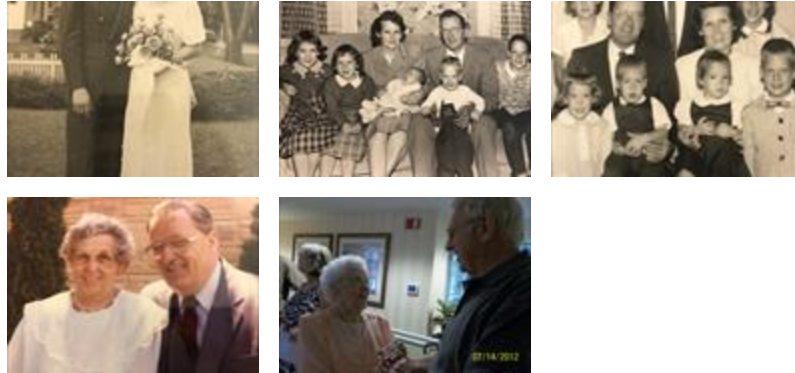
MH

“ Aunt Ginny was consistently faithful, kind, humble, gracious, always selfless and serving. She was a wonderful friend to our mom, and a great role model for her nieces and nephews. Her home going is the last of that generation, and I love imagining the amazing reunion that is going on right now in heaven. What a delight to know they are together again and a precious hope that we will join them. May the Lord comfort all the "Richardson kids" during this bittersweet time. Love to you all.

Marilyn Hansen - May 09, 2020 at 10:17 PM

MH

“ 8 files added to the album Memories Album



---

**Marilyn Hansen** - May 09, 2020 at 10:06 PM

VP

“ To me, Virginia represents “goodness”. She lived her faith & loved her family; practicing humility & generosity. Rest In Peace.

---

**Velda Phillips** - May 09, 2020 at 06:08 PM