



Marilyn Arlene (Bacus) DeZwarte

February 24, 1934 - May 23, 2022

After battling Alzheimer's Disease for many years, Marilyn Arlene DeZwarte (née Bacus) was called home to Heaven on Monday, May 23, 2022. She was 88 years old.

Marilyn was born in Knoxville on February 24, 1934, to Charles and Josephine (née Glasgow) Bacus and welcomed home by her older siblings, Armelda (Tillie), Bert, Charles, Buck, Betty, and Bill.

She fondly reminisced on her childhood and the strong bond her and her siblings shared. Marilyn's childhood was healthy and happy (aside from the endless, good-natured pranks played on her by her big brothers).

As is true with most children of the Great Depression, Marilyn learned the importance of money earned with hard work, the value of kindness, and the enjoyment of collecting things. These early life lessons formed her adult work ethic, passions, and hobbies.

She met the love of her life, Kenneth Dean DeZwarte, in Knoxville. They were married on June 22, 1951, with the wedding held at the family farm. Kenneth's brother, Carol DeZwarte, officiated the ceremony. Family photos document their romantic road trip honeymoon to Wichita, Kansas. In 1953, they welcomed Linda Nadine, the first of the three DeZwarte sisters.

From 1952 until 1958, Kenneth's career as a truck driver for the construction industry took the family all over Iowa, including Ute, Correctionville, Dennison, and Sioux City. In Ute, they met two couples—Swede & Nora Hathaway and Sherman & Rachel Naab—with whom they formed lifelong friendships and shared many adventures.

The three returned to Knoxville in 1958 and built their first home on East Cronkite. It was here Marilyn and Kenneth rounded out the family with the birth of Lisa Gaye in 1960 and Lori Michele in 1965. The family then moved to their "forever home" on Terrace Lane in 1968. Marilyn was proud of that home, knowing it had been featured in a Better Homes &

Gardens article.

Marilyn worked all her life and enjoyed meeting people through her various careers. Her first job was as a carhop at A&W Restaurant as a teenager. She later went on to work at Grand Theater, Elliott's Studio, and Harrison's. Later, she and the girls opened The Loft Antiques, fulfilling her love of collecting. Her last employment was with East Elementary, where she helped manage the staff and lunches for the school for over 25 years.

Marilyn had an eclectic collection of prized possessions. In addition to her beloved antiques, Marilyn also had a sizable assortment of Beanie Babies, elephants, salt and pepper shakers, and more! She loved to sew and crafted many of the outfits for her daughters as they grew up. Vacationing was a priority, and she saw much of the country with Kenneth. Marilyn also enjoyed NASCAR and sprint car racing. To the surprise of no one, her absolute favorite driver was Austin McCarl.

Every family holiday was held on Terrace Lane, with Marilyn cooking everyone's favorite foods (and desserts). Her homemade chicken and noodles were second to none, not to mention her "from scratch" potato salad!

Marilyn cared for people, whether family, friends, or strangers. Her ability to craft engaging stories was an art form. Her sense of humor was infectious, if not subtle. Marilyn could be counted on to raise spirits, provide love, and offer support. Her grandchildren and great-grandchildren were her pride and joy, and she never missed an opportunity to show her love to them. Marilyn rarely ever said no and was always willing to drop whatever she was doing if someone was in need. Her strong character has passed down generations and will last forever in testament to how wonderful she was in life.

She was preceded in death by her husband; parents; brothers Charles, Buck, Bert; sisters Armelda (Tillie) and Betty; sons-in-law Barton Oldham and Leland Carter; and grandson Samuel Hake. She is survived by her brother Bill; daughters, Linda Carter, Lisa Oldham (Larry), Lori Hake (Tim); grandchildren Chris Carter (Carrie), Jacy Carter, Briane Carter (Dennis), Lindsey Carter (Jeff), Tony Carter, Nicole Morgan (Mike), Natalie Brady, Alyssa McCarl (Austin), Colton VanBaale, Jaymi Saunders (Chris), Hayli Douglas (Brett), Lexi Crozier, Hannah Pederson, Olivia Hake, and Caleb Hake, as well as 20 (soon to be 22!) great grandchildren and many (numerous) nieces and nephews .

(... she is also survived by the hundreds of children who passed through the lunchroom doors at East Elementary, all of whom she cherished and loved as their honorary "grandma.")

Visitation for Marilyn will be held on Thursday, May 26, 2022, at Winfield Funeral Home in Knoxville from 3:00 P.M. to 7:00 P.M. Marilyn's family will be present to greet friends and relatives from 5:00 P.M. to 7:00 P.M. A funeral service will be held on Friday, May 27, 2022, at 11:00 A.M. at Community of Christ Church in Knoxville. Burial will take place at Graceland Cemetery in Knoxville. Following services, a luncheon will be held at the church.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be given in Marilyn's memory to Suncrest Hospice, Knoxville Racing Charitable Organization, or Knoxville Hospital Foundation.

Winfield Funeral Home in Knoxville is assisting Marilyn's family with arrangements.

Cemetery Details

Graceland Cemetery

102 N. Willetts Drive
Knoxville, IA 50138

Previous Events

Visitation

MAY 26. 3:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Winfield Funeral Home
202 Washington
Knoxville, IA 50138
leroywinfield@windstream.net
<http://www.funeralplan2.com>

Visitation with Family Present

MAY 26. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Winfield Funeral Home
202 Washington
Knoxville, IA 50138
leroywinfield@windstream.net
<http://www.funeralplan2.com>

Service

MAY 27. 11:00 AM (CT)

Community of Christ Church
714 Willetts Drive
Knoxville, IA

Tribute Wall

MS

“ I loved Aunt Marilyn. She would always stop by my Grandpa Bert and Grandma Vera’s house to check to see how they were doing. There was a 19 year difference between Aunt Marilyn and her older brother, Bert. She was always so concerned for her older brother and sister-in-law. I will always remember that and her.

Melanie Sickle - May 27 at 10:51 AM

JM

“ I worked with Marilyn at East Elementary. She was always so kind. I loved visiting with her. Prayers for the family!



Jeanne McCombs - May 26 at 01:56 PM

CB

“ Carolan Charlie Brooks lit a candle in memory of Marilyn Arlene (Bacus) DeZwarte



Carolan Charlie Brooks - May 25 at 10:54 PM

SB

“ Steph Bacus-Kitt lit a candle in memory of Marilyn Arlene (Bacus) DeZwarte



Steph Bacus-Kitt - May 25 at 08:20 PM

C(

“ So very sorry for your loss. Marilyn was a sweet lady!
Enjoyed visiting with her. Thoughts and prayers for the
family.



Cathy Betterton (Courtney) - May 25 at 06:02 PM

BL

“ Belinda Lafollette lit a candle in memory of Marilyn Arlene
(Bacus) DeZwarte



belinda lafollette - May 25 at 02:25 PM



Thank you, Belinda.

Chris Carter - May 25 at 05:35 PM



“ Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of
Marilyn Arlene (Bacus) DeZwarte.



May 25 at 01:48 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of
Marilyn Arlene (Bacus) DeZwarte.



May 25 at 01:24 PM

CN

“ I remember Marilyn taking me in as one of her own as my daytime caregiver during my 4th grade summer. She was so kind. She worked with my son many years later. I know they were fond of each other. That is precious to me.



Catherine Nichols - May 24 at 08:22 PM



We appreciate you sharing this beautiful memory.

Chris Carter - May 25 at 05:35 PM

LR

“ Lesta Rowland sent a virtual gift in memory of Marilyn Arlene (Bacus) DeZwarte



Lesta Rowland - May 24 at 07:31 PM

LR

Thinking of the family praying for comfort during this difficult time..She was a sweet lady.

Lesta Rowland - May 24 at 07:32 PM



Thank you Lesta.

Chris Carter - May 25 at 05:36 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Marilyn Arlene (Bacus) DeZwarte.



May 24 at 07:07 PM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Marilyn Arlene (Bacus) DeZwarte.*



May 24 at 06:45 PM

SS

“ *Sharon/Larry Spaur lit a candle in memory of Marilyn Arlene (Bacus) DeZwarte*



Sharon/Larry Spaur - May 24 at 05:38 PM



Thanks so much.

Chris Carter - May 25 at 06:14 PM

PC

“ *Phyllis Chambers lit a candle in memory of Marilyn Arlene (Bacus) DeZwarte*



Phyllis Chambers - May 24 at 05:24 PM

PC

My heart is breaking I loved my Aunt Marilyn so much. My Mom ,Aunt Marilyn, Kate and I enjoyed going on vacations and doing a little gambling. She was such a wonderful and sweet lady. I WILL MISS YOU DEARLY AUNTIE!

Phyllis Chambers - May 24 at 05:32 PM



Thank you so much Phyllis. ❤️

Chris Carter - May 25 at 06:15 PM



“ 6 files added to the album Memories Album



Charolette Noon-Kaster - May 24 at 05:11 PM

SK

“ Sheryl Karr lit a candle in memory of Marilyn Arlene
(Bacus) DeZwarte



Sheryl Karr - May 24 at 04:39 PM