



Marilyn Vanderlinden

OCT 17, 1932 - DEC 3, 2021



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Marilyn Vanderlinden

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Marilyn Florence Vanderlinden, 89 of Centerville Iowa passed peacefully to heavenly glory on Friday, December 3, 2021 at MercyOne Centerville, in a sunny hospice room, wrapped in a warm blanket, surrounded by love.

Marilyn was born to Amos and Myrtle (Underwood) Siglin on October 17, 1932 near Woodward IA. She graduated from Seymour High in 1950 after her family moved to Cattleland Farm, south of Numa.

Marilyn was united in marriage to Willard (Bill) Lyle Vanderlinden on June 21, 1953. They were inseparable and deeply in love for 57 years, living in Ames IA, Seattle WA, Henderson IA, Cattleland Farm in Appanoose County, Seymour IA, Bismarck ND, Des Moines IA and, finally, Centerville. At their 45th wedding anniversary, Bill gave Marilyn a jeweled crown to honor their abiding love. There's also an engraved brick at the Iowa State Fairgrounds, a public testament to their love.

Marilyn obtained her RN degree from Iowa Methodist College of Nursing and worked at Putman County Hospital, Centerville Care Center, and Iowa Methodist among others, retiring in 1998. She loved being a nurse and kept contact with her nursing school friends with a round-robin letter for decades. Her daughter, Stacy, was inspired to become a nurse.

Marilyn enjoyed all kinds of technology including her fancy sewing machine. Passions included traveling to visit friends and family, quilting, flowers, reading, gardening, coffee and playing the piano. A favorite song was 'On Eagle's Wings' by Michael Joncas. She also enjoyed almost daily visits from her son Kirk, and his big farm dogs.

She received her pilot's license and flew small engine airplanes. This interest led to her serve on the Centerville Airport Commission. At 86, she jumped out of a perfectly good airplane with her son, Steven, at one of their events.



Obituary

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In her youth Marilyn enjoyed being outdoors and riding horses, learning to braid on a horse's mane. Later, she documented Siglin family genealogy and enjoyed Siglin family reunions.

She attended lay leadership classes and often provided inspiring sermons at her beloved church in service to her Lord. She hosted many church picnics and family parties in her beautiful garden.

Survivors include her children: Scott Vanderlinden (Beverly), Karen Steenhoek (Larry), Steven Vanderlinden (Karen), Kirk Vanderlinden (Debbie), Stacy Thomas (Dean), 20 grandchildren and numerous great grandchildren and extended family. She was preceded in death by her husband, Willard, daughter-in-law, Tena (Chitwood) Vanderlinden, her parents and her siblings: Doris Holland, Courtney Siglin and Darlene Shephard.

The family thanks Kathy Lange, MD, and the staffs at Centerville Specialty Care and MercyOne for their loving and compassionate care. Special thanks to Scott for seeing her through many of her last months with loving and thoughtful care in her home.

A memorial service will be 11:00 am, Friday, December 10 at First Presbyterian Church in Centerville. Should you desire, memorial contributions may be sent to the First Presbyterian Church of Centerville, 102 N Main Street, 52544. Condolences may be shared at www.thomasfh.com or facebook.com/thomasfuneralhome.



Tribute Wall

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Thomas Funeral Home posted:

October 21 at 4:31 PM



Thomas Funeral Home shared an album called **Obituary Wall**.



October 13 at 7:10 PM



Ron Bowen posted:

I just now found this, and am sorry to hear of Marilyn's passing. I wish I had known earlier. My condolences to all. Please be comforted as I am that she is reunited with Bill in the presence of their Savior.

March 26 at 7:00 PM



Dianne Strickler posted:

So sorry for your loss. She led a long full life.

December 18 at 7:00 PM



Mary Holland posted:

I've always admired my Aunt Marilyn. She lived life with grace and beauty, on her own terms, which included kindness and independence. I've always seen her as a role model, someone I aspire to be like. She will be missed, but she will be with us in all the many ways she touched our lives. One of my favorite stories is from when I went for a flight with her in her little plane. I must have been 6 years old or so, and I'd never been in a plane. I had the idea that people flying in planes like that needed parachutes, for some reason, and when I asked for one, she said I didn't need one, if we had to bail out for any reason I should just hop a little just before I hit the ground, and I'd be fine. I remember trying to make that work afterward, jumping from trees, going down in elevators, etc. It still makes me laugh, after all these years. Marilyn was so kind and helpful to my mother, her sister Doris, in her last years, for which I am forever grateful.

December 11 at 7:00 PM



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CM

Carin Murphy posted:

I had the honor to stay at aunt Marilyn's house during RAGBRAI in 2016. She did not know me before then but was instructed by her niece Sandy to "give her a guest bed!". We had such a great time and conversed well into the evening. Such a neat lady!

December 9 at 7:00 PM

WA

Wendy Argenta posted:

So very sorry to hear about Marilyn. She was a great neighbor. Tony and Wendy Argenta

December 7 at 7:00 PM

BA

Bambi posted:

To all of you, I was sorry to hear of your Mom's passing. One of my memories of her was, when I was at your house playing, many years ago, and Kirk and Steve were fighting. Marilyn said, "Bambi, you have to go home because the boys are in trouble". Not sure if those were the exact words, but I knew I had to go home, and you two were in hot water. She will be greatly missed.

December 6 at 7:00 PM

NV

Nila Veach posted:

So very sorry Deb and family. Nila Veach

December 6 at 7:00 PM

LP

Lisa Peard posted:

Our Deepest Condolences! Drew Sara Ayden, Ethan and Owen Scott. Lisa Peard

December 6 at 7:00 PM

DM

Dana Moritz posted:

This good woman was much appreciated.

December 5 at 7:00 PM



Tribute Wall

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JF

Jason Fraser posted:

With deepest sympathy, from the City of Centerville.

December 5 at 7:00 PM

NO

Nancy Hysell Ondrashek lit a candle in honor of Marilyn.

So sorry for your loss.

December 5 at 7:00 PM



ST

Sara Tait lit a candle in honor of Marilyn.

December 5 at 7:00 PM



AM

Aleta & Mike Mckelvy lit a candle in honor of Marilyn.

December 5 at 7:00 PM



JC

Joe Clark posted:

So sorry for your loss. She was a nice Lady

December 5 at 7:00 PM

SR

Susan Ryals posted:

I loved Marilyn. She was the school nurse when I was in HS. Always wore a smile and so kind even out of the school setting. Always made me feel liked she really cared and always speaking to you when out in the public! Rest In Peace Marilyn. Sending my sympathy to the family. Susan Whitacre Ryals Unionville HS class of 74

December 5 at 7:00 PM



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MP

Marcella Peak posted:



December 5 at 7:00 PM

GI

Grace United Methodist Church Of Moravia, Iowa posted:

I enjoyed her at our common Ground meetings.

December 5 at 7:00 PM

SM

Sherry Murphy posted:

Sorry. The world lost a good woman.♥

December 5 at 7:00 PM

PH

Patricia Huebner posted:

So sorry for your loss

December 5 at 7:00 PM

DR

Debbieandray Robinson posted:

I will miss you dear friend🙏

December 5 at 7:00 PM

CO

Carolyn Opperman posted:

So sorry for the families loss.

December 5 at 7:00 PM

NT

Nellie Thomas lit a candle in honor of Marilyn.



December 4 at 7:00 PM



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JP

Joe & Jean Pratte lit a candle in honor of Marilyn.



December 4 at 7:00 PM

LJ

Linda Louthan-Johnson posted:

Oh what a very sweet lady. Always smiling and so friendly. Prayer and hugs to you all

December 4 at 7:00 PM

DB

Debbie Brewer posted:

Thoughts and prayers

December 4 at 7:00 PM

JT

Jamiejaren Tubaugh posted:

So sorry!

December 4 at 7:00 PM

JR

Jonna Kruzich-Reed posted:

So sorry 😞

December 4 at 7:00 PM

JC

Jeannie Cruse posted:

So sorry for your loss.

December 4 at 7:00 PM

LI

Lola Louise Virden Ingram posted:

Prayers for all.

December 4 at 7:00 PM



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RM

Renea Monson Morrissey posted:

Our deepest sympathy!

December 4 at 7:00 PM

BP

Barb Pick posted:

So very sorry in my prayers

December 4 at 7:00 PM

SC

Susan Barker Cole posted:

So sorry for your loss. Marilyn was so sweet, with a little bit of spice when I would see her either at church events or quilt guild. I will miss her!

December 4 at 7:00 PM

GC

Gary Craver posted:

Sorry to hear about Marilyn!

December 4 at 7:00 PM

SC

Shirley Cormeny posted:

Sorry for your loss

December 4 at 7:00 PM

TD

Tony Deininger posted:

Sorry for the families loss! 🙏

December 4 at 7:00 PM

JE

Julie Eckles posted:

So sorry for your loss. Marilyn was such a sweet lady.

December 4 at 7:00 PM



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JM

Janice Mcelvain posted:

So sorry. We lost a beautiful person.

December 4 at 7:00 PM

RL

Reta Louise Sandner Long posted:

So sorry

December 4 at 7:00 PM

RH

Robert Houser posted:

Sorry to hear prayers

December 4 at 7:00 PM

MS

Marla Cox Smith posted:

So sorry 😞

December 4 at 7:00 PM

DH

Dustin Harvey posted:

We'll miss you neighbor!!

December 4 at 7:00 PM

LL

Lori Lunsford posted:

Prayers for the family.

December 4 at 7:00 PM

JP

Jean Pratte posted:

Prayers and condolences to the family.....

December 4 at 7:00 PM



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HO

Henry Ortmann posted:

She was a nice lady.

December 4 at 7:00 PM

AB

Angela Bratz posted:

She was a wonderful woman a d a pleasure to have met het

December 4 at 7:00 PM

DV

Deborah Bankson Vanblaricon posted:

So sorry for your loss ❤️

December 4 at 7:00 PM

JJ

Jeanie Johnson posted:

She was the school nurse at Putnam County R1. A wonderful nurse and friend. I am so sorry to see this obituary. I admired her passion for life. Jeanie Johnson

December 4 at 7:00 PM

WD

Willa Dobbs posted:

Sorry for your loss

December 4 at 7:00 PM

JS

Janet Seals posted:

Sorry for your loss she was a beautiful person

December 4 at 7:00 PM

KH

Kathy Banks Hunt posted:

A life well lived.....so sorry for your loss. Marilyn was always so nice. Take care.

December 4 at 7:00 PM



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JZ

Jill Pefley Zintz posted:

Sending prayers of comfort 🙏❤️🙏

December 4 at 7:00 PM

SS

Susan Sacco posted:

Sincere condolences 🙏

December 4 at 7:00 PM

CW

Cindee White posted:

What a very sweet lady, who will be greatly missed.

December 4 at 7:00 PM



Media

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Thomas Funeral Home shared a photo to the **Obituary Wall** album.

October 13 at 7:10 PM





Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Marilyn by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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