



Well one of the greatest decisions I ever made was moving in with my grandparents over a year ago after grandma was diagnosed with dementia. I decided to make the move to look after grandpa and grandma and make sure they were doing well; well I'll tell you what... I'm so happy and blessed I made that decision. As grandma's health was slowly deteriorating by the day and to see how my grandpa still took care of her and the unconditional love for her was so moving. I can't even begin to fathom the emotions and thoughts going through his mind as he watched the love of his life after being married for 59 years slowly slip away. The talks I had with grandpa and eating supper with both of them and just enjoying each other's company is something I'll never forget. This post isn't for sympathy for myself or my family, this post is about unconditional love and life. Life is too short to worry about things out of your control. Don't sweat the small things in life because at the end of the day, it doesn't matter. I saw a quote the other day that said, "everybody dies, but nobody lives" go out and enjoy life and experience new things. Show unconditional love to your friends, family, co-workers, your community.... Because you never know what someone is going through, and you don't know when that one person may need you. So yeah, don't hold grudges and don't judge... spread more love. Life is way too short to stress about small things and holding grudges.... Instead spread love. The way you present yourself and the aura you give off is everything, so make it a positive and happy environment around you. Fly high grandma 💕



Barbara Jean was born January 20, 1945, in Beresford, SD, the daughter of Isaac and Esther Lykken. She graduated from Alcester High School in 1963.

She was united in marriage to the love of her life, Dennis Dahlin, on April 30, 1965. Dennis and Barb made their home in Hawarden for the past 59 years of their married life. In recent months, Barb had a temporary stop at Hillcrest Health Care Services in Hawarden, due to her 5-year battle with dementia. Although the past few years challenged her to remember the days, Barb was blessed with a lifetime of remarkable moments that we cherish.

Dennis and Barb were blessed with their daughter, Denise, in October of 1965. Years later, Dennis and Barb opened their hearts and home to other's children by way of hosting foreign exchange students. Barb worked close to home and for many years at Otis Radio, followed by serving in a supervisory role with K-Products. The definition of multi-tasker comes to mind, as Barb was also an Independent Mary Kay Consultant for over 30 years and managed to be a whiz with numbers, managing her own bookkeeping services.

Barb found tranquility in growing stunning flower gardens and keeping a beautiful, well-manicured yard. Her kitchen was a warm and welcoming paradise of her love for cooking and baking, and her home could have easily passed the white-glove test, as she was a meticulous housekeeper. In any conversation about her family or grandkids, it was easy to see that Barb's expression was captivately proud.

Barb passed to her everlasting home on Tuesday, August 27, 2024, at Hillcrest Health Care Services with her daughter, husband, and siblings at her bedside. She was 79 years of age.

Those left to smile when thinking of Barb are her husband of 59 years, Dennis Dahlin; daughter, Denise (Tom) Salker of Ireton, IA; grandchildren, Samantha, Seth, Shauna; sisters, Karen Kratochvil of Sioux Falls, SD, Diane (Bill) Bruns of Madison, SD, Nancy (Steve) Bell of Vermillion, SD; brothers, Kerwyn Lykken of Alcester, SD, David Lykken of Sioux Falls, SD; and sister-in-law, Marie Lykken of Alcester, SD.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Isaac and Esther Lykken; brother, Merle Lykken; brother-in-law, Gary Kratochvil; and nieces, Tami Mielke, Corrie Lykken, and Johanna Lykken.

***Celebrating The life Of
Barbara Jean Dahlin***

January 20, 1945 ~ August 27, 2024

FUNERAL SERVICE

11:00 a.m. Friday, August 30, 2024

St. Paul's Lutheran Church
Ireton, Iowa

OFFICIATING

Rev. Michael Boothby

ORGANIST

Marie Lykken

CONGREGATIONAL HYMNS

"How Great Thou Art"

"Amazing Grace"

"I Know That My Redeemer Lives"

CASKET BEARERS

John Lykken ~ Justin Lykken

Jayson Koopmans ~ Steve Mielke

Randy Ballard ~ Kelvin McMillan

INTERMENT

Grace Hill Cemetery

Hawarden, Iowa

*Please join Barb's family for lunch and fellowship
at the Ireton Community Center following the funeral service.*