



Elda R. Kohls

September 19, 1924 - February 10, 2018

Elda Roselle Kohls, 93, of Grand Island, died Saturday, February 10, 2018.

A Celebration of Life service will be held on Saturday, February 24, 2018 at 2 p.m., at the Baptist church in Mason City. A private family burial will be held at a later date in the Fairfield Cemetery in Litchfield.

All Faiths Funeral Home is serving the family.

Elda was born on September 19, 1924, to Albert and Emma (Anderson) Anderson. She was raised alongside her five siblings on the family farm in the Etna community near Gothenburg, Nebraska. Elda graduated from Gothenburg High School in 1942, and then attended The Chicago Museum of Art School and Kearney State College where she obtained two Bachelor of Arts degrees and a Master's degree.

Elda was joined in marriage to Paul Kohls on November 7, 1953 in Gothenburg. Two children were blessed into this union. Together they lived on the family farm north of Litchfield where Elda was an art education teacher and raised her family. In 1962 she began to teach school in Ft. Collins, staying during the school year and returning to Litchfield in the summers to help on the farm until 1972. When Paul retired from farming in 1975, they moved to Ft. Collins, CO and Elda continued to teach until her retirement in 1985.

After retiring, Elda started her second career in fiber arts. She is well known for designing unique clothing of fabric and leather, stenciling on and the dyeing of fabric and leather, spinning yarn, and weaving. Her creative work is known for its embellishment and fine details. She carved elaborate stencils for fabric and the loom. She also developed her own Ikat technique for dyeing. Elda taught fiber art workshops from Alaska to New Mexico, California to North Carolina, and many places in between. Elda was a lifelong member of the Northern Colorado Weavers Guild. She loved the work she did and always remained active, doing her best work at night.

Her exquisite clothing has been widely shown in gallery shops, as well as in competitions, for which she has received many awards. Her creations are in private collections across the US, Europe and Africa. In 2013, she was commissioned by the Denver Art Museum to produce a wearable art garment for their permanent collection.

Elda moved to Grand Island in 2013 to be near her family. She longed for her heavenly home and to be reunited with her husband and other family members. Elda was a born-again believer and daily lived her deep devotion to her Lord Jesus Christ.

Those that will cherish her memory are her children John (Joan) Kohls of Litchfield and Jeanne (Daryl) Lutes of Grand Island; her grandchildren, Lacie, Keri, Trevor, Hannah, Marshall, Naomi, Christopher, Jeremy, and Desiree; a sister-in-law, Eunice Evans; three great grandchildren and numerous nieces and nephews.

She was predeceased by her parents, her husband, and her five siblings: Milton Anderson, Emelyn Anderson Bonde, Lawrence Anderson, Helen Anderson Ostergard and Eunice Anderson Edson.

Memorials are suggested to the family to be designated at a later date.

Tribute Wall



“ *Elda R. Kohls*

October 08, 2023 at 11:02 PM



“ *I started a note to express my affection for Elda and my sympathy for her family but I think the note was accidentally eliminated before I was done.*

Elda was one of my favorite friends. We've had a long history together starting before we both taught art in Poudre R-1. I was lucky enough to be included in a textile tour of India where we both shared rooms across many wonderful communities in India. Elda also spent many days at our family cabin in Story, Wyoming. I've been amazed at her creativity and will always treasure the weavings and the leather vest and the many photos I have of us together.

Ann Ryan - March 05, 2018 at 01:14 PM



“ *Dear Family,*

Just saw the article about Elda in the Coloradoan. So sorry to hear of her passing. She was a very caring and loving person to our family over the many years.

Such a talented person in many ways. Berta and her were wonderful friends. Now they can reunite and enjoy each other again. God bless you all.

The Kuster Family

Mary Ann Kuster - March 02, 2018 at 11:30 AM

MD

“ I am a member of the Northern Colorado Weavers Guild. I have known Elda since she moved to Colorado and joined the guild. I feel we have lost an icon. I have always admired her for caring and sharing personality, her beauty and elegance and of course her artistic talents. I learned so much from Elda and will miss her so much. She is my role model and hero and I hope I can accomplish a fraction of what she was able to in her lifetime. I'm glad she was able to spend her last few years surrounded by her loving family. I want you to know how much she was loved, respected, and appreciated. She will be dearly missed. God bless you all and comfort you at this time as you mourn but also celebrate a life that was lived to the very fullest.

Mary Doty - February 15, 2018 at 11:55 AM

HK

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Hannah Kohls - February 15, 2018 at 12:51 AM

HK

“ 1 file added to the album New Album Name



Hannah Kohls - February 15, 2018 at 12:50 AM

MS

“ *Elda was a gem of a person. So knowledgeable in so many fiber arts. Elda showed me some of her projects one day. You all should be so proud of her accomplishments over the years. Hopefully one of the grandchildren will take over what she has left. Elda was Awesome! My condolences to her family. Mary Sims*

Mary Sims - February 14, 2018 at 10:47 AM

HK

Thank you Mary!! She was a wonderful person, friend and grandmother. I will try and do the best to carry on what she has left, just praying i can do half as good as she has.

Hannah Kohls - February 15, 2018 at 01:48 AM