



Marlene Martha Behm

April 27, 1932 - March 17, 2018

Marlene M. Behm, 85, of Grand Island passed away on Saturday, March 17, 2018.

Service and celebration of Marlene's life will be at 10:30 a.m. Wednesday, March 21st, at Trinity Lutheran Church. Burial will be in Immanuel Lutheran Cemetery of Utica, NE.

Visitation will be from 5-7 p.m. Tuesday at All Faiths Funeral Home.

Marlene was born April 27, 1932 to Charles and Gertrude (Bender) Gausman in Seward County, NE. She grew up on a farm by Seward and attended Seward County District 6 School. Marlene graduated from Seward High School as Valedictorian with the class of 1950. She then taught country school for three years. In 1953, she married Donald Behm and they had five children.

Marlene started playing the organ for church at the age of 15 and has played ever since. She taught piano from 1950 until recently. She also learned the accordion at the age of 36. Known as the "accordion lady", she played in Polka bands from Miller to Blue Hill, played in accordion festivals, played for nursing homes in Grand Island and the surrounding communities and taught lessons. Marlene loved her students and they gave her so much joy. She also loved to sew, knit and crochet and has made countless items for family and

friends.

She was a member of Trinity Lutheran Church and a member LWML for over 40 years, serving as past-president, current vice-president, recently putting together the directory. Marlene also enjoyed the Bible Studies. She had taught vacation bible school on a trip to Alaska. She enjoyed traveling, visiting family in California and Colorado.

Those left to cherish her memory include her children, Barb (Rich) Klein of Grand Island, Karen (Jon) Kierbs of Hastings, Bernard Behm of Gresham and Joe Behm of Los Angeles, CA; grandchildren, Sherri (Jason) Probasco, Angi (Charlie) Dobrusky and Tiegan (Kiefer Wurm); step grandchildren, Channing, Tawnee and Chaz Churchill; brother and sister-in-law, Gene and Charleen Gausman; brother-in-law and sister-in-law, Larry and Sandy Behm; nephews, Darren Behm and Dustyn (Kaci) Behm; niece, Amy Gausman; seven great-grandchildren, Brennan and Alaina Probasco, Austin and Morgan Dobrusky, Harley and Harper Wurm, Michael Beck, dear friends, Glenn and Dorothy Jares, and her constant companion for 16 years, Kitty Pete.

She was preceded in death by her parents; husband, Donald on September 18, 1995; son, Norman Behm; and dear friend, Clayton Jares.

In lieu of flowers, memorials are suggested to Trinity Lutheran Church or to Marlene's family to be designated to additional organizations.

Previous Events

Visitation

MAR **20**. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

All Faiths Funeral Home
2929 S Locust St
Grand Island, NE 68801
(308) 398-2929
allfaiths@giallfaiths.com
<https://www.giallfaiths.com/>

Service

MAR **21**. 10:30 AM (CT)

Trinity Lutheran Church
Grand Island, NE

Tribute Wall



“ *Marlene Martha Behm*

October 08, 2023 at 11:02 PM



“ *What a talented, lovely, and personable lady was Marlene! I envied her energy and boundless talent. The world is a better place for having had her in it, and for the talent she leaves behind in the students she trained who, hopefully, will continue to proliferate her legacy. My sincere and deepest sympathy to all loved ones in Marlene's family. I'm glad she passed through my life. She left her mark on it.*

M. Emma Trouba

M. Emma Trouba - March 22, 2018 at 03:50 PM



“ *Marlene was a dear friend to myself, my mother and my dog Peanut. Would always play the song Peanut Polka at the Wood River Nursing Home. My deepest sympathy goes out to the family. Janice Dittmer from Shelton, NE.*

Janice Dittmer - March 20, 2018 at 05:05 PM



“ *Marlene was my very first teacher. There could have been no one better for the beginning of my school years! There are no words to express how special she was and how much she helped me. My sympathy goes to her entire family. Wishing God's peace to all of you.*

JoAnn Klintworth Sieck

JoAnn Sieck - March 20, 2018 at 04:57 PM

GB

“ *Marlene was a lovely, talented lady who was always so kind. We will miss her. The Bender reunions will never be the same without Marlene's happy accordion music. Thinking of and praying for all of the family.*

Gayle and Milt Bayer

Gayle Bayer - March 20, 2018 at 03:05 PM

JT

“ *So sorry to hear about your loss. You will be in my thoughts.*

If I remember correctly, Marlene played the piano for me when I sang Davy Crocket at a talent show at a fair in Gresham. I won first place, probably thanks to your mom.

I didn't realize that Joe (you know I really want to say Joey) was living in Los Angeles. I've been out here for 12 years.

*Sincerely,
James Tobey
james.tobey@arup.com*

James Tobey - March 20, 2018 at 02:01 PM

ML

“ *So sorry for your loss. Marlene was a beautiful lady. She was a neighbor in Gresham, Ne. She was always smiling and helping someone. Great piano teacher. She loved to help at St Peters Lutheran Church in Gresham too. Lovely lady.*

Mona Lambert - March 20, 2018 at 11:49 AM

KW

“ I was so sorry to learn of Marlene’s passing. What a faithful servant she was and now she is home. RIP Marlene.



Karleen Watts - March 20, 2018 at 07:37 AM



“ Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Marlene Martha Behm.



March 19, 2018 at 06:57 PM

GG

“ Gene, Charleen, and Amy Gausman purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of Marlene Martha Behm.



Gene, Charleen, and Amy Gausman - March 19, 2018 at 01:56 PM