



Ruth E. Harrington

November 30, 1919 - January 15, 2015

Ruth E. Harrington, 95, formally of Grand Island, died on Thursday, January 15, 2015 at the Good Samaritan Society in Hastings.

Memorial services will be held at 11:00 a.m. on Saturday, January 31, 2015 at First Presbyterian Church. Rev. Caroline Price-Gibson will officiate. Private family burial will precede the service in Grand Island City Cemetery.

Those left to mirror Ruth's amazing example of love and service are her sons, John (Barbara) Harrington of Hastings, and Doug (Jolyne) Harrington of Conifer, CO; eight grandchildren (Michael Harrington, Ben Harrington, Dr. Anne Harrington, Megan McQuillan Crane, Erin McQuillan Howe, Patrick McQuillan, Jonathan Fitzpatrick, and Lindsay Fitzpatrick); nine great-grandchildren; along with a host of extended family and friends.

She was preceded in death by her parents, husband, H.W. "Bud" Harrington on June 8, 1977; daughter, Sue Ann Fitzpatrick; brother, Kenneth Eisenhart.

Ruth was born on November 30, 1919 at Culbertson, to Arvene C. and Fern (Solomon) Eisenhart. She was extremely proud of her hometown, often citing it as the very bedrock of hospitality, neighborliness, and compassion.

After graduating from Culbertson High School in 1936, she pursued higher

education at McCook Jr. College and Hastings College, finally graduating as a RN from St. Luke's School of Nursing, Denver, CO, in 1942. Ruth considered her training and commitment as a nurse to be of the highest calling, one that she selflessly shared with family, community, and friends throughout her life,

On January 12, 1947 she was united in marriage to H.W. "Bud" Harrington. Following their marriage they lived in Holdrege, Minden, and Hastings until they settled in Grand Island in 1952.

Besides assisting in the operation of Harrington Feed Yards, Ruth loved flowers and tending her manicured lawn, active for many years in the Garden Club and downtown beautification. She was also a member of P.E.O., Red Cross, Gourmet Club, YWCA, Saturday Church School Teacher for the Mentally Challenged, and active in First Presbyterian Church.

In those rare moments when she was not thinking and working for others, Ruth enjoyed swimming and was famous for her near fanatical devotion to Big Red Football.

In honor of her daughter Sue Ann, who refused to allow a life-long struggle with juvenile diabetes to significantly restrict a giving and inspiring career as a teacher of special education, memorials are suggested to the American Diabetes Association.

Cemetery Details

Grand Island City Cemetery

Grand Island, NE

Tribute Wall



“ *Ruth E. Harrington*

October 08, 2023 at 11:02 PM



“ *I thought of Ruth on many occasions after we moved from GU in 2005 She gave me her copy of Sonnets from the Portuguese with a note of encouragement She was my friend when I was organist at First Presbyterian and we lived in the same neighborhood. I see that I am late by almost three years. But am giving thanks to God for her*

Nancy Schroeder - September 28, 2017 at 06:00 AM



“ *We were blessed to know Ruth and our lives were all the richer for it. She is at home with God. Our sympathies to Ruth's family. May God's grace strengthen you and God's love surround you.*

Cheryl and Dave Lamb - February 02, 2015 at 10:14 AM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Ruth E. Harrington.*



January 30, 2015 at 07:52 AM

DS

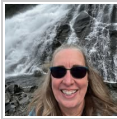
“ This beautiful lady knew how to be the hands and feet of Jesus. I admired her as a young person in the Presbyterian Church and later as a young mother when she visited the hospital when my young son was there for surgery. She was so kind and caring. She was the example of a Christian woman that definitely influenced my life. So thankful that she will spend eternity with her Lord and Savior. May God comfort and strengthen her family.

Deb Shirley - January 29, 2015 at 01:20 PM

BJ

“ Fond memories of being a part of "The Lunch Bunch" Gourmet Club with Ruth. It was always a challenge to come up with new and fun menus when paired with Ruth. Lots of laughing , sharing and caring! My sincere sympathy to her family! God's peace and love to you all! Sincerely, Becky Janda

Becky Janda - January 29, 2015 at 07:41 AM



Many wonderful memories of swimming at the house. Ruth you will always hold a special place in our hearts.

Wanda Mecone - January 29, 2015 at 01:22 PM

JD

Ruth, I met you at the Presbyterian Church and always loved chatting with you through the Preschool. Then I had the priveledge of being in Garden Club with you and got to know you much better. Our visits were always special. You are a precious friend who I'll always remember.
Judy Desch

Judy Desch - February 02, 2015 at 05:39 PM