



Ellen Mae Durham

January 21, 1927 - October 30, 2020

Ellen Durham, 93, of Oskaloosa passed away Friday, October 30, 2020, at the Oskaloosa Care Center.

Ellen Mae Durham, daughter of Franklin Harris and Mildred Lee Newell Sherman, was born January 21, 1927, in Oskaloosa, Iowa. She was a 1945 graduate of Oskaloosa High School. Following her education, she worked as a telegraph operator for Western Union. On September 7, 1947, she married Forrest Lee Durham at the Central United Methodist Church in Oskaloosa. For many years, Ellen devoted her time to homemaking and raising her daughter, Lee Ann. In 1967, Ellen began working at the William Penn College Snack Bar; she worked there for 32 years when she went to work at Wal-Mart. She worked as a greeter and in the snacks section at Wal-Mart until her retirement in 2007. Ellen was a member of Central United Methodist Church, IHN Kings Daughters, Pythian Sisters, and Royal Neighbors. Her hobbies included embroidery, cross-stitch, reading, and attending all her grandchildren's events. Ellen's family includes her daughter and son-in-law, Lee Ann and Fred Rice of Ottumwa; three grandsons: Brenton (Katrina) Rice of Cedar Rapids, Iowa and his children, Quinten and Hayden; Caleb (Shelby) Rice of Fremont and his daughter, Carter; and Heath Rice of Ottumwa. She is also survived by a bonus grandson, Clint Osterloh, of Tracy.

Ellen was preceded in death by her parents and her husband, Forrest, on September 4, 2009.

Graveside funeral services for Ellen will be held at 10:30 a.m., Tuesday,

November 3, 2020, at University Park Cemetery with Pastor Alvern Boetsma of the Good News Chapel officiating. Visitation will be held from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., Monday at Langkamp Funeral Chapel. According to the rules put in place by the Iowa Department of Public Health, proper social distancing and appropriate personal protective equipment are advised for attending this public event. The service will be available to view on the Langkamp Funeral Chapel's YouTube channel Tuesday afternoon for those unable to attend the ceremony. Memorial contributions can be made to Mahaska Health Hospice or Stephen Memorial Animal Shelter.

Cemetery Details

University Park Cemetery

University Park, IA 52595

Previous Events

Open Visitation

NOV 2. 10:00 AM - 6:00 PM (CT)

Langkamp Funeral Chapel & Crematory
2116 N 3rd St
Oskaloosa, IA 52577
(641) 672-2181
langkampfuneralchapel@gmail.com
<https://www.langkampfuneralchapel.com>

Graveside Funeral Service

NOV 3. 10:30 AM (CT)

University Park Cemetery
University Park, IA 52595

Tribute Wall



“ *Ellen Mae Durham*

October 05, 2023 at 11:57 PM



“ *Lee and family, I am so sorry to hear about Ellen. May God be with you in your time of sorrow. She was a special lady. My mom will be very sad to hear that she has passed. God bless. Joyce (Burke) Webb*

Joyce Webb - November 03, 2020 at 10:41 AM



“ *Paulette LSchneider lit a candle in memory of Ellen Mae Durham*



Paulette LSchneider - October 31, 2020 at 12:32 PM



“ *Just feel like she was a blood part of the Rice family. Always part of our gatherings, faithfully and sweetly participating with her special sense of humor and good will. She will be missed. Love and prayers to the family.*
steve and Leslie Rice

Steve and Leslie Rice - October 31, 2020 at 01:57 AM

RL

“ Our sincere sympathy to the family in this time of loss. It was truly a blessing to have known Ellen and Forrest as two of the most caring people on earth. Their kindness was indeed unmatched by any and they provided compassion and comfort at a very difficult time in my life for which I will be eternally grateful. I certainly hope your memories will be a comfort to the family. Sincerely, Ron & Judy Langgin

Ron & Judy Langgin - October 30, 2020 at 08:11 PM

SD

Ellen and Forest were Special people to the Hamilton Methodist Church- Ellen stayed in contact with my mom Barbara Pottorff and Dorothy Morgan for many years- Prayers to all of her family-

sandy dyer - October 30, 2020 at 10:16 PM

SH

“ Rest in peace Ellie, you're back with your hubby, where you belong. You are a sweetheart, and have such a wonderful family. Hugs and prayers to LeeAnn, Fred and family!



Sandy Hildebrand - October 30, 2020 at 08:02 PM

CW

“ Lee Ann,
I remember your precious mom. She was always so happy and a pleasure to be around. So sorry for your loss of your mom. May God give you comfort and strength during this difficult time and for the days ahead.
Connie Wymore Wright



Connie Wright - October 30, 2020 at 05:23 PM

BR

“ So sorry for your loss. Keeping your family in my thoughts and prayers.



Bonnie Richards - October 30, 2020 at 05:18 PM

CW

“ Lee, Fred and family I am so sorry to see that Ellen has passed. She will surely be missed. Prayers to all that you find comfort.

Cindy Williams - October 30, 2020 at 05:04 PM

DF

Lee. Fred and family, We are so sorry in the passing of Grandma Ellen, She was such a special lady not only to visit with at Brenton and Katrina's family celebrations, but in the beautiful letters she used to write to me. Her love of family was so apparent. Love and prayers.
Donna and Jerry Fitzgerald

donna fitzgerald - October 31, 2020 at 12:22 PM