



## Jenny V. Darland

November 3, 1924 - August 25, 2025

Jenny Darland, 100, of Norwalk and formerly of Oskaloosa, passed away Monday, August 25, 2025, at the Norwalk Nursing and Rehabilitation Center. Jenny V. Darland, daughter of Lucas and Effie (Brouwer) VanOoyen, was born November 3, 1924, in Pella, Iowa. Growing up, Jenny attended school in Pella through the 8th grade, before the family moved to Oskaloosa. Jenny graduated from Oskaloosa High School with the class of 1942.

Jenny & Leo met on Sunday, September 5. After a quick political debate at a coffee counter, Leo decided Jenny would be who he would marry; with his convincing salesman skills and her desire to be matched in wit, they were united in marriage on September 14, 1948, in Oskaloosa, Iowa.

After her education, Jenny began teaching in a one-room schoolhouse in Mahaska County. She taught in many schools and eventually retired from teaching while in North Aurora, Illinois. Jenny was a strong proponent of learning, and furthered her education at Rockford College and later obtained her Master's degree from Northern Illinois University, all while working and keeping a household going.

Jenny & Leo, their family, and many, many pets moved from Iowa to Kansas, to Illinois, and back to Iowa. Everywhere they went together, they made friends, supported and volunteered at their church, and grew a beautiful life together.

Jenny's family includes her four children, Jay Darland of Norwalk, IA, Jennifer Darland of Indianola, IA, Lyndsy (Jeff Mease) Darland of Norwalk, IA, Matthew

(Megan) Darland of West Des Moines, IA, niece Nancy Sammon of Indianola, IA, her grandchild, Sydney, great-grandchildren Alexis, and Sutton Darland, and a sister, June (Leonard) Chase, of Sugar Grove, Illinois.

Jenny was preceded in death by her parents, her husband Leo Darland on July 23, 2008, her three brothers, John, Luke, and Pete VanOoyen, and three of her sisters, Eva Schippers, Gertrude Kauffman, and Elizabeth Sammon.

The family will be having a private service. In lieu of flowers, please feel free to make a donation to your local library or animal rescue provider.

# Tribute Wall



“ Miss Jenny, as I remember her, when she taught all 8 grades at Greeley School not far from the farm of my childhood in Mahaska County. She is the main reason I wanted to become a teacher. We got to help the younger kids and that’s where we could “pretend” to be a teacher. I taught for 35 years before retiring and moving to MI. She would go outside at recess and play with us, and in the winter even go sled riding over on the hill in the Mathes’ field. I especially remember our family giving her a crate of banty chickens as a Christmas gift. Oh the memories of those one room school days. She was a wonderful person and may you cherish your memories as I do of her. Blessings.

Louise Binns Burson  
Manistique, MI

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**Louise Burson** - September 06, 2025 at 07:09 PM



“ We are deeply saddened by Jenny’s passing. She was so kind and generous to our family. We hold her near and dear to our hearts.

Tom and Jovanka Westbrook



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**Tom and Jovanka Westbrook** - August 27, 2025 at 02:29 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Jenny V. Darland.



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August 27, 2025 at 01:59 PM

SD

“ So glad I got to know Jenny. We met at sewing group at church and kept in touch over the years. Sandy Denning

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**Sandy Denning** - August 27, 2025 at 11:33 AM

SK

“ Jenny had a peaceful, beautiful spirit. I valued our time with her at Bible study at Trinity years ago. She loved her family. Peace and comfort to each of you. Sue Kimball



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**Susan Kimball** - August 27, 2025 at 10:42 AM