



Mary Lou Sedrel

November 30, 1929 - June 9, 2023

Mary Lou Sedrel, 93, of Oskaloosa passed away Friday, June 9, 2023, at the Bishop Drumm Care Center in Johnston, Iowa.

Mary Lou Sedrel, daughter of James "Alex" Alexander and Verla Margaret (Stout) Gable, was born November 30, 1929, at her parents' rural home NW of Rose Hill. At age 11, the family moved to Fredericka, Iowa, where the Butler-Bremer Telephone Company employed her mother; by age 12, Mary Lou was assisting her mom by taking calls at the switchboard, which was located in their home. While living there, she was active as a cheerleader and part of the school newspaper staff. The family moved back to Rose Hill after a few years, and she was able to graduate from Rose Hill High School in 1947. She then attended the Harney Institute of Business in Omaha. After graduation, she returned to Oskaloosa, began her 31-year career with Northwestern Bell, and initially worked as an operator. Mary Lou married Bruce H. Sedrel on May 28, 1950, at Central United Methodist Church in Oskaloosa. They soon moved to Cedar Rapids, and Bell again employed Mary Lou in the business office. After five years in Cedar Rapids, they returned to Oskaloosa, where she also worked in the business office at Bell. From 1983 to 1988, Mary Lou worked as a Bell representative in Des Moines. During this time, the company was merged with AT&T. After her retirement in 1988; Mary Lou began her 25-year career in the William Penn College business office. She retired in 2017 at age 88. Mary Lou was a long-time member of the Central United Methodist

Church, a former 50-year member of the Pythian Sisters, a member of the Telephone Pioneers Club, and a past President of the PTA at Wester School. She loved attending her children's sporting events and Wm. Penn basketball and baseball games.

Her family includes her children: Linda (Michael) Witte of Des Moines, Nancy (Michael) Harrison of Illinois, and Timothy (Kathy) Sedrel of Grimes; nine grandchildren: Ben Witte, Jamie Witte, Zachary Witte, Andrew Harrison, Kelsey Harrison, Tim Harrison, Corey Sedrel, Alex Sedrel, and Madison Sedrel; and ten great-grandchildren: Brooks, Olivia, Harrison, Allison, Kathryn, Emma, Elizabeth, Megan, Leah, and Harlan.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded by her husband, Bruce, on June 15, 1994, and a son, Randal, on March 30, 2019.

Memorial services will be held at 10:30 a.m., Saturday, June 17, 2023, at Central United Methodist Church in Oskaloosa, with Rev. Chad Lierman officiating. Burial will be in Forest Cemetery. The family will greet visitors from 9:30 to service time on Saturday. Memorials can be made to the Mahaska County YMCA for the Bruce Sedrel Day Camp at Lake Keomah. Langkamp Funeral Chapel & Crematory is entrusted with Mary Lou's final arrangements.

Cemetery Details

Forest Cemetery

934 North 9th ST
Oskaloosa, IA 52577
secretary@forestcemetery.com
<http://www.forestcemetery.org/>

Previous Events

Family and Friends

JUN 17. 9:30 AM - 10:30 AM (CT)

Central United Methodist Church
201 North Market ST
Oskaloosa, IA 52577

Memorial Service

JUN 17. 10:30 AM (CT)

Central United Methodist Church Kent Chapel
201 North Market ST
Oskaloosa, IA 52577

Tribute Wall

CC

“*Mary Lou was the sweetest person I have ever known. She was kind, understanding, and full of compassion. She had a laugh like no other.*

She was smart, and raised a family of caring adults. I was best friends of her son Randy during grade school and enjoyed countless overnights at her house. She was truly a phenomenal person with outstanding characteristics of love, charisma, and beauty!

charley Campbell - October 28, 2023 at 07:38 PM



“*Mary Lou Sedrel*

October 05, 2023 at 11:57 PM

BG

“*Nancy and family,
I am so sorry to hear of the passing of your mother. I had only met her a couple of times and she was so nice to visit with.
May God be with you during this sad time in your life and may her memories be a blessing. You and your family will be in my prayers.
With me deepest condolences.*

Bob Green - July 18, 2023 at 12:44 AM

TG

“*Fond memories of Mary Lou and the Sedrel family, sorry for your loss!*

Terry Gillespie - June 17, 2023 at 07:17 PM



“ *Serene Reflections Bouquet was purchased for the family of Mary Lou Sedrel.*



June 14, 2023 at 06:28 PM



“ *Mary Lou was one of the first people I met as a new student at WPU. She was always so kind and caring. Such a wonderful lady. I know she will be missed by many.*

Jeremy Van Wyk - June 14, 2023 at 12:29 PM



“ *A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Mary Lou Sedrel.*

June 12, 2023 at 10:30 AM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Mary Lou Sedrel.*



June 12, 2023 at 10:30 AM

BA

“ I met Mary Lou through her sis, Virginia..she subbed in our card group and then joined us after her retirement and Virginia's passing. She was so fun to be with and her laugh and giggle were heartwarming. She loved her family dearly and I know you will miss her so much. My sympathy to all of you. She was so loved!!



Becke Arnold - June 10, 2023 at 05:39 PM

VA

Our sympathy is extended to all of the family. I met Mary Lou 10 years ago when we moved to Oskaloosa. We became acquainted at church, Sunday School, Bible studies, circle meetings, and the Farmer's Market. She always was kind and had an encouraging word to say. An avid reader and lifelong adult learner, I enjoyed her insightful comments. She shared her love with family and everyone she met. We will miss her but know she is in heaven. God bless you.

Vickie Arkema - June 11, 2023 at 10:25 AM

LS

“ I'm so sorry for your loss. Parents were friends and I went to Webster School and Osky schools with Linda She was a very special kind lady!

Lynhon Hough Stout - June 10, 2023 at 11:44 AM

GF

Loved to visit with Mary Lou and see her sweet smile. She had her dad's (Alex) personality and was a great Rose Hill ambassador sharing fun times.

Gordon and Faye Foster - June 10, 2023 at 12:23 PM

AM

Mary Lou and I were best friends when she lived in Frederika, Iowa. We even dressed like twins and had many happy times. After her family moved, I lost track of her, until travelling to Oskaloosa in the late 90's, where we visited for the last time.

Arlene Rewoldt Moeller - January 13, 2024 at 05:12 PM

BA

“ My thoughts are with your family Linda. Your Mother was a friendly person that always had a smile and a kind word. May your memories give you comfort.

Beverly Atchison - June 10, 2023 at 11:26 AM



“ Medium Dish Garden was purchased for the family of Mary Lou Sedrel.



June 10, 2023 at 11:01 AM

SW

*“ Spent time at Sedrel house when Nancy an I went to Webster school. Mary Lou never forgot a face. Always enjoyed chatting when I would run into her.
So sorry to hear of her passing.*

Sherry Werner - June 10, 2023 at 10:42 AM

JS

“ My thoughts and prayers are with the Sedrel family.

Jon Stout - June 10, 2023 at 09:29 AM



“ Peggy Swick Dykstra lit a candle in memory of Mary Lou Sedrel



Peggy Swick Dykstra - June 10, 2023 at 08:45 AM



“ What a dear, dear friend of our family. I will never forget her telling me that when I got married, she would dance down the aisle. I held her to that and when the Pastor introduced us after our vows, I turned, smiled and said, "Ok Mary Lou, you said you would dance down the aisle!" With hesitancy, she laughed, stood up and down the aisle she came. What a joy she was and great friend to our family. That smile and that laugh I will never forget. You, Bruce, Mom and Dad were forever friends, now forever together in heaven until we all meet again. Prayers of peace and comfort to Linda, Nancy, Tim and family. She was a special, special woman who loved you all so.

Peggy Swick Dykstra - June 10, 2023 at 08:43 AM



“ When I think of Mary Lou, kind, caring, smiling and friendly come to my mind. We were neighbors when my family moved to Oskaloosa and I remember Mary Lou as being a really nice mom! Through the years, she always was fun to talk to and was such a good listener. Love, hugs and prayers, Tim, Nancy, and Linda. You were all blessed to have her as your own.



Rhonda Callison - June 10, 2023 at 08:22 AM

PS

“ Paul L Swick lit a candle in memory of Mary Lou Sedrel



Paul L Swick - June 10, 2023 at 06:47 AM

JL

“ Mary Lou was such a very special lady who touched many lives with her sweet and caring ways! I feel so very blessed to have been one of those people! Thoughts and prayers are with Mary Lou's family in their loss! 🙏🙏



Judy & Larry Lewis - June 09, 2023 at 10:33 PM

MA

“ Nancy, Linda, Tim,
I remember spending time at your house, oh what fun we had ! Your Mom and Dad were Saints to put up with all of us !
Mary Lou, Rest In Peace, you are once again with Bruce !
My thoughts and prayers are with you all !!

Mary Edwards Anderson

Mary Anderson - June 09, 2023 at 08:30 PM

DF

“ Mary Lou was our neighbor for many years ,we grew to love her so much ,what a kind gentle lady she was she will be miss by all GOD BLESS

dan and karen flick - June 09, 2023 at 08:02 PM

CW

“ *Linda, Nancy, and Tim,
So sorry to hear about your mom’s passing. I
remember how fun she was to be around.
May God wrap His arms around you during
this difficult time and in the days ahead.*
Connie Wymore Wright



Connie Wright - June 09, 2023 at 06:11 PM

KA

“ *My love and prayers to Mary Lou's family.*
Kathy Larsen

Kathy - June 09, 2023 at 05:07 PM