



Madlyn Van Praag

NOV 14, 1929 - FEB 2, 2021



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Madlyn Van Praag

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Madlyn Marie Eades Van Praag was born on November 14, 1929, in Oakley, Illinois, and she died on February 2, 2021, in Decatur, Illinois, at age 91. Her parents were Benjamin Harrison and Minnie Laura Whitney Eades. Madlyn was the youngest daughter and sixth child of a family that would eventually include seven children. Madlyn was preceded in death by all of her siblings: Harry Herbert, Mildred Minerva, Raymond Richard, Anna Alvera, Ethel Eleanor, and Jack Joseph. Farm life was a challenge during the Depression years, but there were also many joys found in simple things.

Madlyn graduated from Cerro Gordo High School in 1946, and she maintained those precious friendships throughout her life. She worked at Carson Pirie Scott, at Lord and Taylor in Chicago, and at Chadband's Jewelry in Decatur.

Madlyn married Sol Van Praag, Jr., on August 18, 1946. They had three children: Robert Allen Van Praag, Sally Wyne (C. Edward Wyne), and Kathryn Van Praag. Robert died shortly after his birth in 1948, and Sol passed away unexpectedly in 1981. Madlyn's daughters both survive her. Madlyn leaves a rich family legacy with 10 grandchildren, 60 great-grandchildren, and 8 great-great grandchildren.

Due to Covid restrictions, the family will hold a private graveside service on February 12, at Fairlawn Cemetery. There, Madlyn will be laid to rest next to her beloved husband Sol and son Robert.

The family has entrusted Graceland/Fairlawn Funeral Home, Decatur with Madlyn's arrangements. Please view her obituary, and share memories and condolences at www.gracelandfairlawn.com



Tribute Wall

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Justin Stare lit a candle in honor of Madlyn.



February 5 at 3:43 PM



Carolyn Fansler February 8 at 8:35 AM

Hi Justin, we would love to hear from you & keep in contact. We fondly remember our visits with you in Peoria.



Randy Janes posted:

Sally, So sorry to hear of your loss.

February 5 at 1:21 PM



Anonymous sent an Arrive in Style to the Van Praag family.



February 5 at 12:47 PM



Maralyn Eads Heckman (Herb's Daughter) posted:

This is a story Aunt Madlyn told me within the last few months. I wanted to share it with her family. We were blessed to have Aunt Madlyn in our lives. - One of her nieces, . Rex was the family dog when Herb still lived on the farm with his parents and siblings. He had found Rex out in the field when he was just a pup. Someone had apparently dumped him because they could not take care of him. Everyone in the family was fond of Rex but they always knew he was Herb's dog. Ethel especially doted on Rex and often could be seen out in the yard petting him and talking softly to him. Rex was known to be both sensitive and smart. While Aunt Madlyn and Sol were dating, the long lane was sometimes too muddy to drive a car up to the house. When they arrived home one night, Sol parked his car on the side of the road by the mailbox at the end of the lane. He walked Madlyn more than half-way up the lane before returning to his parked car. It was pitch-black dark and Madlyn was somewhat frightened when she felt someone walking closely behind her. She turned and realized it was Rex. He had come down the lane to escort her back to the house. He did not leave her side until they reached the porch. Then he turned and trotted back to the barn where he slept with the work horses. Aunt Madlyn was grateful that Rex was aware and attentive. He was there to protected her when she needed him.

February 5 at 8:03 AM



Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Madlyn by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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