



## Esther Elizabeth Carlson

June 11, 1928 - September 28, 2020

Esther Elizabeth (Lange) Carlson, 92, passed away on September 28th, 2020 at Hickory Point Christian Village in Forsyth.

Esther was born on Kelley Island, Ohio, the oldest daughter of William J. Lange and Hazel (Dining) Lange. She married Harry Lee Carlson on March 24, 1951 in Sandusky, Ohio. Esther attended school on Kelley Island and graduated from Clyde High School and Millikin University. Esther taught school in Ohio and Decatur for District 61 until she retired in 1983. She was a member of First United Methodist Church and active in several church groups: the Covenant Class, Church Quilters, and Women's Circle. Esther enjoyed traveling, playing cards, square dancing, wintering in Texas & Florida and spending time with family and friends.

Survivors include her son, Rev. Scott (Patricia) Carlson of Indianapolis and daughter, Jan (Robert) Carlson-Williams of San Jose; five grandchildren: Elizabeth (Doug) John, Laura (Eric) Rouse, Kirsten (Zach) Uttich, Paul Carlson, Timothy Carlson; four great-grandchildren; sisters Ruth Bandeen and Lois Bachman, sister-in-law Jean Lange and several cousins, nieces and nephews.

Esther was preceded in death by her husband, Harry, in 2017 and her brother, William.

A memorial service will be held online on Saturday, October 10, 2020 at 11:00 AM at <http://www.decaturfirstumc.org> Memorials may be made to First United Methodist Church, 201 W North St, Decatur, IL 62522.

The family wishes to extend thanks to Dr. Khan; the staff at Primrose Retirement Community; the Haven House, Skilled Care and Administrative staff at Hickory Point Christian Village.

The family has entrusted Graceland/Fairlawn Funeral Home, 2091 N. Oakland Ave, Decatur, IL with Esther's funeral arrangements. Please view her obituary and share her memori

es and condolences at <http://www.gracelandfairlawn.com>

# Events

---

**OCT** **Memorial Service** 11:00AM

**10**

Online

IL, US

# Comments

---



“ My memories of my Aunt Esther include her love for Uncle Harry, her family and her faith. I don't believe there is a better legacy.  
I send my love to Scott, Jan, Ruth, Lois and their families, Sue Gunst

**sue gunst** - October 04, 2020 at 01:10 PM

---



“ Esther was a resident at the nursing home I worked at, and we all loved her dearly. She kept us on our toes, and we loved her for it, she will be missed, as well as her wonderful family that I will continue to pray for.

**Toni GRAY** - October 01, 2020 at 12:50 PM



“ thank you, Toni. Mom loved your humor and attitude--she certainly missed you and your window visits! jan

**jan Carlson-Williams** - October 01, 2020 at 03:28 PM

---



“ Toni GRAY lit a candle in memory of Esther Elizabeth Carlson



**Toni GRAY** - October 01, 2020 at 11:58 AM



“ peace...

**jan Carlson-Williams** - October 01, 2020 at 03:29 PM

---



“ I lived up the street from the Carlson's since I was 3, now 54, had Mrs. for English at Johns Hill, and Mr. as a principal at South Shores. Both wonderful people that I am lucky to have known and shaped by. Mrs. will remembered and cherished forever! At least they are now reunited for eternity! My condolences to the family and God Bless.

**Alan Dobrinick** - September 30, 2020 at 05:36 PM



“ thank you, Alan. Isabella was quite a place to grow up!

**jan Carlson-Williams** - October 01, 2020 at 03:29 PM

---



“ Dear Ester was a faithful member of First United Methodist and was a very sweet lady. Always cheerful and remembered people - their names and faces. Always a pleasure to stop and visit with her while she was able to be at church. Age changes so much in our lives, and it is sad, sad to lose our friends and family. My sympathy to you and your family. Betty Roper

**Betty Roper** - September 30, 2020 at 09:17 AM



“ thank you for your kind words.

**jan Carlson-Williams** - October 01, 2020 at 03:30 PM

---



“ I had the honor of caring for Esther over the years. We developed a great relationship and always enjoyed her delightful smile . She was a wonderful lady. She is now with her beloved Harry . My sincere condolences.

**Ellen Zindel** - September 30, 2020 at 09:07 AM



“ thank you, Ellen. Mom so trusted you and your care towards her and dad.

**jan Carlson-Williams** - October 01, 2020 at 03:31 PM

---



“ In this difficult time, Esther and Harry's family can feel proud of their heritage and connection to such wonderful people, as they laid the foundation for who you all are today. Their contributions to the community, the church and their respective professions are immeasurable - - evident through the countless lives positively impacted by their values and unselfish acts of kindness. It has been my privilege to have known them initially through the church for many years, and reconnecting again later when they lived in the same retirement neighborhood as my mother, and eventually at Primrose as well. Esther's thoughtfulness toward Mom will never be forgotten. To Jan and Scott and your respective families, you are in my thoughts and prayers - - and take comfort in knowing you will see your folks again someday.

Kathi L. McClugage

**Kathi L. McClugage** - September 30, 2020 at 08:55 AM



“ Thank you, Kathi, for your kind words and thoughts.

**jan Carlson-Williams** - October 01, 2020 at 03:32 PM

---



“ Remember her from South Shores Elementary. Mrs. Carlson was a great teacher. I still remember her fondly and I'm 64. Praying for your family.  
Nancy Hicks (Johnson)

**Nancy Hicks** - September 29, 2020 at 08:31 PM



“ Thank you for your memory of mom; she was a great teacher to many

**jan Carlson-Williams** - October 01, 2020 at 03:33 PM

---



“ Esther and Harry (it's hard to think of one without the other) were such beautiful spirits, who blessed everyone who knew them.  
May the family be comforted by many warm memories, upheld by the prayers of numerous friends, and - above all - strengthened by the faith and hope that Esther and Harry exemplified and taught through the years.  
Miley and Janet Palmer

**Miley Palmer** - September 29, 2020 at 03:46 PM



“ they did travel as a pair! Thank you for your gracious words and prayers.

**jan Carlson-Williams** - October 01, 2020 at 03:35 PM



“ To the family of Esther, we send our deepest condolences on the loss of your loved one. As fellow members of First Methodist church, we grew to love her as family over the years. May all your special memories give you peace during this difficult time.  
Linda and Ralf Henkel

**Linda Henkel** - September 28, 2020 at 06:02 PM



“ Thank you. My folks loved the church.

**Jan Carlson-Williams** - October 01, 2020 at 03:36 PM



“ Jan, Bob, Scott and families,

So sorry to hear of your mom's passing. Your father also. They were both great people - one of the best people on Isabella! Sending prayers to you and your family.

Tari (Sterling) Peterson

**Tari** - October 13, 2020 at 05:29 PM



“ I remember Esther with such fond memories of my years teaching with her at Johns Hill. We both taught English and it was my first teaching job after college. I know that if Esther and Louise Cline had not taken me under their wings, I would probably not have lasted for one full year. Esther probably felt like she was teaching 7th and 8th graders as well as me. She listened, mentored, advised, and made me laugh many, many times. She was a treasure. We formed a friendship that lasted many years and I am saddened that I did not see her as often as I would have liked in recent years. She and Harry were such a team of kind, caring, compassionate people. I can only rejoice that she and Harry are not together again as they would want. Scott, Jan, and families, you are in my thoughts and prayers.

**Cindy Christiansen** - October 19, 2020 at 11:02 PM