



Evelyn Smallegan

March 11, 1929 - October 19, 2013

March 3, 1929 - October 19, 2013 Evelyn June Van Dam Smallegan, age 84, of Holland, loving mother, grandmother, great-grandmother, teacher and friend, passed peacefully on Saturday, October 19, 2013 at Hospice House of Holland. She was born March 11, 1929 to the late Gerrit and Alice Van Dam, and raised in Forest Grove, Michigan. Evelyn later resided in the Zeeland/Holland area. As a proud graduate of Hope College in 1950, she later continued to be active with Hope Village Square, HASP, and was awarded the Hope College Outstanding Alumni award in May 1982. After college, she married John Smallegan, remaining best friends and partners in life and love until his passing in December 2008. She taught at Zeeland High School for approximately 30 years teaching English and Alternative Education, a program she started. In addition to teaching, Evie guided and mentored many struggling young adults to pursue a higher education and achieve success she knew they could achieve. There was always an open door and room at the table when it was needed. She had a passion for giving of herself to others, especially Second Reformed Church of Zeeland. She loved music, but demonstrated her special gifts by giving book reviews and leading the church book club, which was as rewarding spiritually as it was socially. Originating the Bethany Home Christmas program was also one of her favorites, and bound family and friends together each holiday season. Together with John, Evelyn supported many local church activities and organizations. They were well-known and loved by all who knew them. The family believes the double

rainbow seen at the time of her passing is God's way of showing the two are together again forever.

Evelyn is survived by her children Barbara Huizenga and her fiancé Bill Kerchhaine of Muskegon, Edward Smallegan of Hamilton and his wife Cheryl, Jack Smallegan of Florissant, MO and his wife Lisa, Donald Smallegan of Holland and his wife Dolores, and Elizabeth Ebihara of Raleigh, NC and her husband Jeff. A son Daniel is deceased. Also surviving are 11 grandchildren and numerous great-grandchildren. A private service will be held at Yntema Funeral Home with Pastor Karsten Voskuil officiating. In lieu of flowers, donations may be sent in her honor to Camp Geneva 3995 Lakeshore Drive North, Holland, MI 49424. www.yntemafh.com

Tribute Wall



“ *Evelyn Smallegan*

August 31, 2022 at 01:26 PM



“ *"I am the blessed recipient of the Howard Miller clock that Evelyn received for her dedication to the Hope College alumni group. Each chime is the reminder of the love I received for so long❤️❤️"*

Kitty Kole - October 19, 2019 at 12:00 AM



“ *"Four years have gone by and memories continue to mount for the woman who has meant so much to me and how blessed that God sent her to me"*

Katherine Kole - October 18, 2017 at 12:00 AM



“ *"Still think of her often. Beautiful lady within and without!"*

Sharon - October 22, 2015 at 12:00 AM



“ *"Two long years since this marvelous woman left to join her husband in her heavenly home. Not a day goes by without a thought or memory of her."*

Katherine - October 18, 2015 at 12:00 AM

KK

“ *"This summer in Michigan was not the same as Evelyn was not there. There is not a day that I don't think of her and all the love and support she gave me and others"*

Katherine Kole - October 18, 2014 at 12:00 AM

KK

“ *"Beloved teacher. Prayers to the family and friends ! From Robert Dale Komejan."*

Kaylyn Komejan - November 27, 2013 at 12:00 AM

KA

“ *"I was one of those lucky gals who Evie took into her heart when I was at Zeeland High School and a member of the Girls League for Service at Second Reformed Church. I was loved and emotionally supported by God's distinguished angel from the day my Mother, Una Kole, died until Evie was called home on October 19, 2013. That is over 55 years! I can not imagine my life all those years without her but she remains in my heart forever."*

Katherine - November 18, 2013 at 12:00 AM

WH

“ *"great teacher/loved going to the OLD SCHOOL HOUSE when they owned it"*

William Hofman - October 28, 2013 at 12:00 AM

VJ

“My sincere sympathies to Evie's family. We all grew up together at Second Church and in Zeeland schools..she and John were icons in the church and the community but more importantly they were both there for so many of us in so many ways and whenever needed..you could share everything with them. I still have the book they gave all of us when we made confession of faith and joined Second Church, called "Absolute Surrender". That was what they believed God expected of them and they gave of themselves and their gifts accordingly. We are all blessed for having had them in our lives...nothing more to add but "well done good and faithful servants" and "to God be the glory." Love, always..."

Vicki De Jonge - October 23, 2013 at 12:00 AM

LL

“Evie was my high school English teacher and also went to the same church as I did. She was in a "class of her own" in education. She had high expectations and wanted only the best you could produce. She did all of that with kindness. While I was her student I received a call from her on a Saturday afternoon. She wanted me to come to her house and repair the paper I had worked on. She said that I could do a better job. So off I went and fixed my paper. She graded others papers while I reworked my theme. "Now isn't that much better?" she said. I was dismissed with a smile of encouragement and learned that it was better to do it right the first time. I really enjoyed Evie during the last 12 years or so, as retirement afforded me more time to visit. She will be missed by many people. She always was doing for others, helping people who needed a nudge, sending flowers to people who didn't feel well. But if you asked her how she was, she was always fine. She was an extraordinary outstanding woman who promoted other women in their endeavors. I will miss her and I will miss her good advice and kindness and thoughtfulness to me. Leslie Lampen, Friend, Holland, Michigan"

Leslie Lampen - October 23, 2013 at 12:00 AM

SM

“Dear Cousins, My sincere condolences to you on the passing of your dear Mother. I am with you in thought today of the times she was so helpful to me personally. I cherish those moments!! Her spirit will remain in my heart! Sharon”

Sharon Mistele - October 23, 2013 at 12:00 AM

DM

“Very fond memories of Evie and John from high school years and friendship with Elizabeth. They supported us as missionaries through the years and the small interactions we had were sweet and always wise. Condolences and prayers to the family.”

David and Linda McCleery - October 22, 2013 at 12:00 AM