



## Frances Ruth (deRoos) Baron

September 30, 1921 - June 7, 2019

At the age of 97 years Frances Ruth (deRoos) Baron left this world to be with her Lord and Savior, her husband, George Earl Baron and her dear parents on Friday, June 7, 2019. Frances (Fran) was born on September 30, 1921 in Overisel, MI to Rev. Frank deRoos and Ruth Matilda (Veldhuis) deRoos. Her father passed away before she was born, a sadness she carried her entire life. Fran dedicated herself to the church, education and her family. At the age of 12 she began playing the pump organ at the Overisel Reformed Church and continued playing well into her 80's. After graduating from the Overisel one room school and Holland High School, Fran went off to Western Michigan Teachers College (later named Western Michigan University) at the age of 16. On February 8th 1943 Fran married her true love, George Earl Baron, son of Henry and Gertrude (Elenbaas) Baron of Zeeland, MI. He was in the Navy and stationed in Oakland, CA, so off to California the two of them went by train. While George served our country during WWII, Fran worked for our government as a civilian. She typed government documents flawlessly and quickly - a trait she kept her whole adult life. Following WWII, Fran and George returned to Zeeland, MI where he went to work and she resumed her teaching career. Fran taught for several schools in Allegan and Ottawa counties retiring from West Ottawa Schools with 37 years of service.

Fran and George were blessed with 3 children: Jane (Baron) and David Folkert of Jamestown, Ann (Baron) Frieswyk of Holland and Frank and

Beverly (Dipp) Baron of Caledonia. They were grandparents to 7 grandchildren and 15 great grandchildren. One of Fran's proudest moments in her educational career was the day she walked across the stage to receive her Doctorate of Ministry degree from Ashland Theological Seminary, Ashland, Ohio on June 4, 2005 at the age of 83. Those left to remember her and tell the stories over hot coffee are her 3 children and their spouses, her grandchildren and great grandchildren, a niece and nephew, her church family at Beechwood Church in Holland and special friends Mr. and Mrs. Frank Beltman, Mrs. Evelyn Boonenberg, Mrs. Betty Fleser, Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Rabe, Mrs. Marilyn Norman and her friends at Readers World in Holland. Special thanks to Medilodge of Holland for their loving care in Fran's final days and to Hospice of Holland for the support given to Fran and her family. Visitation will be 5-7 p.m. Monday, June 10, 2019 at Yntema Funeral Home, 251 South State Street, Zeeland. The funeral service will be 11 a.m. Tuesday, June 11, 2019 at Beechwood Church, 895 Ottawa Beach Road, Holland. Interment at Zeeland Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, please consider donation gifts to the Howard Miller Public Library. [www.yntemaf](http://www.yntemaf)

# Tribute Wall



“ *Frances Ruth (deRoos) Baron*

August 31, 2022 at 01:26 PM



“ *"Please accept my sympathy. May the God of comfort give you hope and strength in this tough time. (Isa 40:29) My sincere condolences to the family for the loss of your loved one. May prayers strengthen you and memories comfort you, and may our Lord Jesus Christ and God our Father, who loves us, comfort your hearts and "make you firm". (2 Thessalonians 2:16, 17)"*

**A friend** - June 30, 2019 at 12:00 AM



“ *"It is marvelous to see all the people who were so impacted by Fran's time as a teacher. Several of my step children remember fondly their time with her. We however, was impacted by Fran's years since her teaching career. Fran was so active and always learning and caring about others. Her zest for living and interest in the "stories" of others was so inspirational. We enjoyed many a dinner and many Bible "studies" with her. Her insights always made us think and always challenged us to live to demonstrate the love of Christ. Our prayers go with you. Our memories will certain go with us!"*

**George** - June 24, 2019 at 12:00 AM

KD

“I'll remember 'Auntie' Fran for her love of writing, reading, and conversing richly about both of these topics. Whether by e-mail or handwritten letters, I knew each message of hers that arrived would offer wisdom, knowledge, and insights that kept us connected. To this day I love finding notes that she'd written in the margins of some of the books that we shared over the years. We are so fortunate to have made these later-in-life connections over the past years. Love you, Auntie Fran, and rejoicing for a life well-lived!”

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**Kristi Desaulniers** - June 22, 2019 at 12:00 AM

VB

“We were saddened to hear of Fran's passing. It had been a few years since last saw her but now know she is at peace.”

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**Vicki Berndt** - June 16, 2019 at 12:00 AM

SH

“Mrs. Baron was my kindergarten teacher at Beechwood School in the early 60s. The following year I was fortunate to have her again as my first grade teacher at Glerum. I'm grateful to have had such a kind and loving teacher to begin my education. My sympathies for your loss.”

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**Sandy Heerspink** - June 13, 2019 at 12:00 AM

RH

“Mrs. Baron was the best kindergarten teacher! She was mine at Glerum Elem. So sorry for your loss of this great woman. RIP Mrs. Baron!”

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**Rachel Handweg** - June 12, 2019 at 12:00 AM

CN

“I am grateful to have know Fran when she lived at Royal Park Place. Her intelligence and determination were an inspiration to me. My sympathies to her loved ones at this time of loss. Sincerely, Cindy N, Chaplain”

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**Cindy Nyhoff** - June 11, 2019 at 12:00 AM

KT

“I use to clean for Fran when she lived on Park St. and then continued when she moved to Royal Park.It was such a joy to be greeted by her smile and hug. I enjoyed hearing her many life stories. She was so full of wisdom. I feel so blessed to have known her for the few years I did. Thinking of her family during this time.”

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**Kay Tanner** - June 11, 2019 at 12:00 AM

MT

“You have my deepest sympathy, Mrs Baron was our children's favorite teacher. She was a very kind person. She was loved by many people.”

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**Mrs Dave Taylor** - June 11, 2019 at 12:00 AM

BK

“I remember my first meeting with Mrs. Baron, when I was about to start my son into school. She was at West Ottawa High School to introduce herself to the parents wanting to get acquainted with some of the teachers. She introduced herself, gave a little talk until a parent asked her what she did when the children got bored. She didn't miss a second when she exclaimed, "Oh, I don't let them get bored!". I knew immediately, that she was the teacher I wanted for MY son! Rest in Peace, Mrs. Baron, you will be missed.”

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**Betty Kolean** - June 10, 2019 at 12:00 AM

AB

“Mrs. Baron was my kindergarten teacher back in the 70s at Waukazoo Elementary. I am grateful to have my years of education begin in her classroom. She sparked a love of learning that continues to this day. May your family be comforted by the love she spread throughout her life.”

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**Ann Ter Beek Brand** - June 10, 2019 at 12:00 AM

JB

“Dear Jane and family, My thoughts and prayers are with on the loss of your dear Mother. I was so lucky back in 1968 to have your Mother for my Student teaching . I never forgot her love for the children. She gave me so many encouraging comments on my teaching skills. She gently commented on ways I might teach some different learning methods. I loved my student teaching semester with her and her class. I never forgot her as I continued teaching in seven states in various levels. She was a blessing to me. I know she was a blessing to your family as a Mom and to hundreds of children. God bless you as you rejoice in her life. Judy Van Oosterhout Bakker”

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**Judy Van Oosterout Bakker** - June 08, 2019 at 12:00 AM