



## Idamae Ruth Gemmen

August 31, 2022

Idamae Ruth Karelse Gemmen (Ida Gemmen) went to heaven on the morning of August 31, 2022, at age 85, following a valiant three year battle against cancer.

Ida loved her Savior Jesus Christ, her family and her friends. She took joy from her flower garden, especially her lavender and hydrangea plants, morning sunlight, the lake shore, the farmers' market, Jan Mulder's music, and going "up north" in Michigan. She was inspired by beauty and color. Mom was a thoughtful, patient, kind, frugal and wise woman, who allowed the Holy Spirit to transform her life.

Ida was born in Michigan in 1936. She attended Grand Rapids Christian High School, Calvin College and the University of Michigan. She worked as a medical technologist in hematology at Butterworth Hospital, the Cleveland Clinic and later Holland Hospital. Ida also worked for several years at the Tower Clock gift store in Holland, MI. She lived on the north side of Holland for her last 52 years.

Mom was most proud of being a wife and a mother; she is survived by five children and nine grandchildren: Ingrid (and Patrick) Byker (Joshua); Eric (and Diane Kopasz) Gemmen (Olivia & Pauline); Jennifer (and Jason) Krick (Willem & Katherine); Gregory (and Bianka Rubio) and Jonathan (and Erin)

Gemmen (Caleb, Ruthann, Nathan & Lillian). Ida is also survived by her faithful sister, Esther Karelse.

Ida was a member of Faith Christian Reformed Church in Holland for over 50 years. She joyfully managed the church library for several years, reading many books in the process. She loved to study God's word with Bible Study Fellowship. Ida volunteered with Lakeshore Pregnancy Center (now Positive Options) as a peer counselor and she tutored local students with Kids' Hope for many years. Mom was also a longtime member of the Holland Garden Club.

Visitation will be at Langeland-Sterenbergh Funeral Home at 315 E. 16th Street in Holland from 2-4 p.m. and 6-8 p.m. on Friday, Sept. 9. The funeral will be held at 10 a.m. on Saturday, Sept. 10 at Faith Christian Reformed Church at 85 W. 26th St in Holland, followed by coffee and light refreshments at the church. A private graveside interment service for the immediate family will follow at Lakewood Cemetery.

Instead of flowers—since Mom isn't here to enjoy them—memorial donations can be made to Positive Options (Lakeshore Pregnancy Center) ([www.mypositiveoptions.org/](http://www.mypositiveoptions.org/)) or Faith Hospice at Trillium Woods (<https://faithhospicecare.org/donate/>) where Ida was lovingly cared for her last six weeks of life on earth. The family is very grateful to the staff there.

[www.langelandsterenbergh.com](http://www.langelandsterenbergh.com)

# Cemetery Details

## Lakewood Cemetery

Lakewood Boulevard west of 168th Ave.  
Holland, MI 49424

# Previous Events

## Visitation

SEP 9. 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM (ET)

Langeland-Sterenbergh Funeral Home  
315 E 16th St  
Holland, MI 49423  
(616) 392-2306  
info@langelandsterenberg.com  
<http://langelandsterenberg.com/>

## Visitation

SEP 9. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Langeland-Sterenbergh Funeral Home  
315 E 16th St  
Holland, MI 49423  
(616) 392-2306  
info@langelandsterenberg.com  
<http://langelandsterenberg.com/>

## Funeral

SEP **10**. 10:00 AM (ET)

Faith Christian Reformed Church  
85 W 26th St  
Holland, MI 49423-4970  
(616) 396-7934

# Tribute Wall



“ *Langeland-Sterenberg Yntema Funeral Homes created a Idamae Gemmen Funeral Service in memory of Idamae Ruth Gemmen*



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**Langeland-Sterenberg Yntema Funeral Homes** - September 10, 2022 at 01:41 PM



“ *Langeland-Sterenberg Yntema Funeral Homes created a Tribute Video in memory of Idamae Ruth Gemmen*



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**Langeland-Sterenberg Yntema Funeral Homes** - September 09, 2022 at 09:01 AM



“ *I have such wonderful memories of your mom. She had a gift of hospitality even when I was too young to really know what that meant. I loved spending time with Jen and her family back then. Prayers for all of you as you mourn her loss and celebrate her eternal life.*

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**Amy Gadison-Herring** - September 12, 2022 at 12:34 PM

UH

“ *Ida and the children were our neighbors on Lakeshore. Our children together with mostly Jon and Greg had many jumps on Max's tramp which eventually became ours. Tree houses, beach fires and just family hanging out. Ida was a warm, kind and inviting neighbor. May she Rest In Peace. The family is always welcome here. Ulli and Pat Hierlwimmer*

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**Ulf Hierlwimmer** - September 09, 2022 at 07:35 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Idamae Ruth Gemmen.*



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September 06, 2022 at 01:32 PM



“ *Enchanted Cottage was purchased for the family of Idamae Ruth Gemmen.*



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September 06, 2022 at 11:12 AM



“ *Blue Caribbean Bouquet was purchased for the family of Idamae Ruth Gemmen.*



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September 06, 2022 at 09:15 AM

DL

“ Thoughts and prayers to Jen and siblings of Ida. Chuckles and laughs are synonymous when thinking of Ida and “the Gemmen kids”! God be with you in this time of “temporary” loss! 🙏

Darryl Lokers - September 05, 2022 at 09:27 PM

MN

“ Mirjam Den Boer- Neele lit a candle in memory of Idamae Ruth Gemmen



Mirjam den Boer- Neele - September 05, 2022 at 11:36 AM

WB

“ I had the privilege of being in your mom's BSF for a few years. What a gem!!!! Her gentle spirit, filled with wisdom and love for her Lord. So firmly rooted in faith and the desire that everyone would know Jesus as their Lord and Savior. I will never forget her- she was a tremendous role model. Willa Beckman

Willa Beckman - September 04, 2022 at 08:14 AM

RS

“ Idamae was my friend all through college. She and her family were always kind to me, even inviting me to accompany them to Ann Arbor when she was studying there. I liked Idamae very much. She was friendly, beautiful, and smart, a woman to be admired. I am sorry for your loss. Hold on to all the good memories.  
Ruth E. Stubbs

Ruth E. Stubbs - September 03, 2022 at 05:42 PM