



Joyce Plewes

November 19, 1918 - May 5, 2015

Joyce (Wicht) Plewes was born on November 19, 1918, in Minneapolis, Mn. When she was 4 years old her family moved to the Grand Rapids area. Following her High school graduation Joyce attended Davenport College, while there, she met the love of her life Lloyd Plewes of Zeeland. When they married in 1940, they moved to Zeeland, Mi. where they raised their 5 children and were very active in the Community. Joyce, was a member of Second Reformed Church since 1940, and served for many years as the Church Secretary. She worked for the Ottawa County Extension Service and also worked many years at Hope College in the Geology Dept. where she retired after 26 years. She loved working with the Hope students and hosted many of them in her home, especially those from foreign countries, for holidays and weekends when the school closed and they could not travel home. Her home was always open to friends and family, as she loved to cook and share great conversations around her dining table. Joyce was known for her quick wit, a kind and caring love for her family and friends, a wonderful mind that was always searching for new ideas through reading books, writing poems, and playing in a bridge group several times per week. Lloyd and Joyce shared a love for dancing to Big Band music, for the many who cleared the floor to watch them dance together, all would agree that they had mastered that art! She was a gracious hostess in her home and a faithful supporter in each of her children and grandchildren's lives. She was a Boy Scout Troop leader, a member of the Zeeland Women's Literary Club, Zeeland Historical Society,

Zeeland Hospital Guild, and many book clubs. In her later years, with declining eye sight, she loved to daily listen to her books on tape. Joyce was preceded in death by her husband, Lloyd in 1994, parents, Fred and Rose Wicht, her 2 brothers, Fred and Robert, Mother in law, Della Kate Plewes, Son in law, Aubrey F. Mills, Grandson, Scott A. Plewes and Great Grandson, Zachary A. Kraai. She is survived by her 5 children: Thomas and Elizabeth Plewes of Annandale, Va., Rosemary and Tom Bloemsma of Sedona, Az. and Pentwater, Mi., Sally and Bill Gruppen of Zeeland, Alexander Plewes of Grand Rapids, and Lloyd and Gretchen Plewes of Byron Center. Grandchildren: Jeffery and Veronica Plewes, Virginia; Melissa and Carlos Lopez, Virginia; Marguerite Mills Zayas and Louis Zayas , New Jersey, Kathryn Mills and Andrew Dziadosz, Montana; Jodi and Kirk Kraai, Bill and Cindy Gruppen, Toby and Michelle Gruppen, Mike and Jenny Gruppen, Zeeland, Amber and Ted Frisbie, Colorado, Kristen and Andrew Nelson, Rockford, Jenna Plewes, Grandville, Joshua Plewes, Detroit. Great Grandchildren: Matthew Lopez, Josh Lopez, Andrew Zayas, Logan Zayas, Kylea and Jim Green, Jonathan Kraai, Madison Kraai and her fiancé Josh Blanton, Breanna Gruppen, Bryce Gruppen, Britta Gruppen, Brynzee Gruppen, Montana Lloyd, Coleton Lloyd, Gavin Lloyd, Luke Gruppen, Ella Gruppen, Alyssa Gruppen, Abigail Gruppen, Mason Frisbie, Bella Frisbie, Pierson Nelson. Great-Great Grandson- Deklen Green; sister, Joanne Bisbee of Jackson, sister-in-law, Cindy Wicht of Jackson, Mi., and several nieces and nephews. A Celebration of Life service will be held at 11:30 a.m. on Wednesday, May 20, 2015 at Second Reformed Church, 225 East Central Ave, Zeeland with her grandson the Rev Tobin Gruppen and her niece Rev Diane Mugg officiating. Visitation with the Plewes Family will be from 10-11:15 a.m. prior to the service at the church. Her burial will be in the Zeeland Cemetery. Memorials may be made in her name to The Association for the Blind; Second Reformed Church or the Faith Hospice Center of Trillium Woods, in Byron Center. www.yntemafh.com

Tribute Wall



“ *Joyce Plewes*

August 31, 2022 at 01:26 PM



“ *"Mrs. P was the glue that held everything together in the Geology Department. She made personal friends of all of us from the start. I think of her often and will continue to do so in the future.
Nate Fuller '71 (1st class of Geology graduates)"*

Nate Fuller - August 31, 2015 at 12:00 AM



“ *"Dear Plewes family,
I'm a Hope graduate (1972) and a geology major. I echo the sentiment of Kimberlee Reinking that 'Mrs. P' as we called her, single-handedly keep the department running. She was also our substitute 'Mom' and was always there to lend a listening ear and offer whatever advice or counseling we needed. Few realized the monumental effort behind the scenes (especially before computers) as she typed hundreds of pages of descriptions and directions that went into customized guidebooks for our cross-country treks (particularly the first 3-week western field trip in the summer of 1970.)
I visited with Mrs. P on several occasions when returning for Hope reunions and exchanged Christmas cards with her until just recently. She touched so many lives with her sweet and gentle nature and will be remembered by many generations for her countless kindnesses.
--Dori (Getty) DeLuca"*

Dori DeLuca - August 31, 2015 at 12:00 AM

CD

“*Sorry for your loss you and your family are in my thoughts and prayers*”

Carolyn DeBoer - May 20, 2015 at 12:00 AM

SD

“*My condolences to the entire family on the passing of your mother and grandmother. When I got to see her the few times, I could see how much love she gave and got from all of you. My prayers of comfort goes out to you; Lloyd and your family. Jenna, you were the sunshine in your grandmas life. Love to all of you.*”

Sandi Dykstra - May 19, 2015 at 12:00 AM

EH

“*Edgar and Alison Hall were saddened to hear of Joyce Plewes passing on. Ed's parents, Les and Marion Hall were close friends of Joyce and her husband Lloyd. We have many wonderful memories of the Plewes family. Ed has fond memories of Joyce and Alison met Sally and Jodi through the YMCA in Holland. We are sorry we are so far away (in Florida) and will not be able to celebrate her life with the family. Our thoughts and prayers will be with you.*”

Edgar and Alison Hall - May 12, 2015 at 12:00 AM

KK

“*When Joyce passed away, another icon of Zeeland left us. She was a brave woman who had a positive and sunshine approach to life. To all the children, grandchildren and friends I send my warmest of wishes and heartfelt sympathy as you celebrate such a rich life*”

Kitty Kole - May 12, 2015 at 12:00 AM

LL

“*"Jenna and family: If she was anything like some of her offspring I've had the pleasure of knowing over the years, she had to have been a great lady. Hugs and love to the family. Savor the happy memories. We know how much you will miss her.*
--Lee Lamberts"

Lee Lamberts - May 12, 2015 at 12:00 AM

AF

“*"Joyce was a lovely lady and my mom's friend for years. (Doris Kleinheksel) I enjoyed her company also. She was caring, sweet and giving of her time. She will be missed by many. Yours. Mary. Kay and AJ Visser"*

A friend - May 10, 2015 at 12:00 AM

AF

“*"Joyce and I were in the Lions Club play together in 1965. She was a class act who was loved by so many and will be missed. Bob Tift"*

A friend - May 09, 2015 at 12:00 AM

NM

“*"Dear Plewes family, We have just learned of your mom's death. I remember so well the fun times we had as kids with your family. Your mom was not only a good friend of my mother but also a favorite of ours. Coincidentally, our mom Esther died last Saturday, just a few days before her longtime friend Joyce. Our sympathies are with you. Because we are traveling, we will not see you. Nancy Sonneveldt Miller"*

Nancy miller - May 08, 2015 at 12:00 AM

KR

“I loved Joyce dearly as a child and have happy memories of her kindness and her smile. I know my father adored her and enjoyed having her in the Geology Dept., single-handedly keeping it running :). Love to the Plewes family!”

Kimberlee Reinking - May 07, 2015 at 12:00 AM

LP

“My deepest sympathy to your family at this time of loss. Although you don't know me, I enjoyed visiting with your loved one a number of times with Audrey Berghorst, both at Freedom Inn and at the nursing home. She was a delightful little lady. Even in her weakened state of health, she always showed her sense of humor, and was a perfect hostess - insisting on sharing her "special Chocolate candy". She will certainly be missed.
Prayers and Cares,
Lin Plaggemars
(Audrey Berghorst's Driver)”

Lin Plaggemars - May 07, 2015 at 12:00 AM