



Laurel Bonnema

October 9, 1943 - March 22, 2022

Laurel Bonnema, age 78 of Zeeland passed away Tuesday, March 22, 2022.

Laurel was born on October 9, 1943, in Zeeland to Arthur and Theresa (Groeneveld) Arendsen. Laurel attended Townline School and Holland Christian School. She graduated from Calvin College with a degree in education. Laurel proceeded to teach at Christian schools in California and Michigan. Her longest teaching position was with Borculo Christian School where she taught first grade for 34 years. Laurels passion was teaching children how to read and how to live with Jesus in their hearts.

Laurel married Dave on August 27, 1968. They spent time in California and after Dave's service to our country, in the Vietnam War, they returned to Zeeland. They were blessed with two children—Dirk and Dawn. Laurel has been a long-time member of First Christian Reformed Church of Zeeland. She was active in church—singing in choir, active in school circle, teaching Sunday school, helping with coffee break and assisting with youth groups. Laurel developed many lifelong friendships at First CRC. After retirement she volunteered at Zeeland Community Hospital and spent time with her grandchildren. Whom she loved dearly.

She is survived by her husband of 54 years, David. Their children and grandchildren: D. Dirk (Stacy) Bonnema M.D. (Elisabeth, Annalise, and Emersyn) and Dawn (Joel) Dral (Colin, and Joey); her brother Alden (Marilyn) Arendsen; her sisters-in-law: Gayle (Jim) Wiers, and Kathy (Jim) Terpstra.

Visitation will be 5-8 pm Friday, March 25, 2022, at Yntema Funeral Home,

251 South State Street, Zeeland. The funeral service will be 11 am Saturday, March 26, 2022, at First Christian Reformed Church, 15 South Church Street, Zeeland. Interment will be in Zeeland Cemetery. Memorial contributions may be given to Unity Christian High School or Western Michigan Christian High School. www.yntemafh.com

Previous Events

Visitation

MAR **25**. 5:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Yntema Funeral Home
251 S State St
Zeeland , MI 49464
(616) 772-2173
info@yntemafh.com
<http://langelandsterenberg.com/>

Funeral Service

MAR **26**. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (ET)

First Christian Reformed Church
15 South Church St.
Zeeland, MI 49464

Tribute Wall



“ *Langeland-Sterenberg Yntema Funeral Homes created a Tribute Video in memory of Laurel Bonnema*



Langeland-Sterenberg Yntema Funeral Homes - March 22, 2022 at 04:39 PM

MH

loved the video.. you can see in her eyes the love for her grands! something to treasure forever!

marcia hoeksema - March 26, 2022 at 09:13 AM



“ *Laurel Bonnema*

August 31, 2022 at 01:26 PM



“ *Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Laurel Bonnema.*



March 24, 2022 at 06:43 PM

AM

“ So sorry to learn of Laurel's passing; Dave, my thoughts and prayers are with you and your family. ~Andy Marsh

Andy Marsh - March 24, 2022 at 02:41 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum* was purchased for the family of Laurel Bonnema.



March 24, 2022 at 10:05 AM



“ *Sweetest Sunrise Bouquet* was purchased for the family of Laurel Bonnema.



March 24, 2022 at 07:57 AM

JS

“ I had the privilege of teaching with Laurel at Borculo Christian. While I was technically not part of BCS (I worked for Zeeland Public Schools as a Shared Time instructor.) Laurel made me feel welcome at the school. Her sense of humor and love of teaching was evident.

I always enjoyed our Wesley vs Calvin dialogues. Our talks were always enlightening and helped me know how to fit into the school community.

I read the comment from Pat Holmes about her work as Chair of the Absentee Counting Board. I think Laurel would be very encouraging to me in my new position as Chair of the Ottawa County Board of Canvassers. I will try to carry on her dedication to keeping our elections fair and honest. I will miss not seeing her name on the poll books.

Jim Searls - March 23, 2022 at 10:05 PM

PH

“ Laurel was a dedicated election worker for many years for the City of Zeeland, serving as the Chair of our Absentee Counting Board. We appreciate her years of service and she will definitely be missed.

Pam Holmes - March 23, 2022 at 03:03 PM

LB

“ Love, Mike and Shanel Bucher purchased the Beautiful Dreams for the family of Laurel Bonnema.



Love, Mike and Shanel Bucher - March 23, 2022 at 01:03 PM

FF

“ From your Medtronic Family purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Laurel Bonnema.



From your Medtronic Family - March 23, 2022 at 10:47 AM

WT

“ WSC Echo Team purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Laurel Bonnema.



WSC Echo Team - March 23, 2022 at 10:41 AM

BD

“ Our deep sympathy to you, Dave and Family. So sorry to lose this dear neighbor. Always have enjoyed chats with Laurel. We regret being out-of-town for her service. May you be filled with comfort and peace from our heavenly Father.

Bob and Bertha Drew - March 23, 2022 at 10:34 AM



“ Tender Tribute was purchased for the family of Laurel Bonnema.



March 23, 2022 at 09:10 AM

AA

“ *Alden & Marilyn Arendsen purchased the Fairest of All for the family of Laurel Bonnema.*



Alden & Marilyn Arendsen - March 23, 2022 at 08:58 AM

SE

“ *I was privileged to teach with Laurel at BCS as new, young teacher. She took me under her wing and we became good friends. One year she and Dave invited my husband and me to stay with them in FL during Spring Break and were beyond generous, treating us to many meals and dinners out. They said, ‘God had been good to us. We are happy to do this. Someday you will be in the position to bless others.’ I’ve never forgotten their generosity or those words and try to practice them when I can. Thinking of the family as they mourn her earthly passing but rejoice that she is with her Savior.*

Sari Emmert - March 23, 2022 at 07:18 AM

PM

“ *Prayers & thoughts to Dave and family for the loss of Laura. God Bless*

Pearl (Arendsen) Minnema

Pearl Minnema - March 22, 2022 at 09:36 PM

TF

“ Dave and Laurel had a commitment to downtown Zeeland and I have many happy memories of waiting on them (together and separately) at the Highlander, where they would buy clothes for Dave. They were always kind and nice. I am sorry to hear of her passing. May she rest in peace and rise in glory.

Thomas M Folkert - March 22, 2022 at 07:42 PM

DL

“ Mrs. Bonnema was one of the the first people to instill the love of reading in me (1st grade @ BCS). I have many fond memories of her classroom and her teaching. Years later, when I was in college, I worked at the local grocery store and she would come in weekly. Without fail, she'd stop to chat, ask what I was reading, and inevitably tell someone nearby that SHE taught me to read. She was so proud of all of her students. My sympathies to your family.

Danee Overway Lucas - March 22, 2022 at 07:09 PM



“ Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Laurel Bonnema.



March 22, 2022 at 05:58 PM



“ Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Laurel Bonnema.



March 22, 2022 at 05:55 PM

MT

“ *Very sorry for your loss!! I got to know Laurel at Younkers Dept Store. Laurel was a very good customer of mine and a good customer at Younkers!!!*

My sympathy to the family!!!

Marcia TenBroeke

Marcia TenBroeke - March 22, 2022 at 03:28 PM