



## Winifred Kooiker

December 10, 1919 - March 19, 2020

Winifred Julia (Westerhof) Kooiker of Holland passed away on Thursday, March 19, 2020 at Resthaven Maplewoods Cottages of Holland. She was born December 10, 1919 to John and Winnie (Beintema) Westerhof in Holland. She was preceded in death by her husband of 70 years, Dr. Howard Kooiker on May 4, 2014, and siblings Wilma Veenboer, Engbertus Westerhof, Henrietta Bosman, Johanna Essenberg, Anthony Westerhof, Benjamin Westerhof, and Leona Smith. Winifred was a Holland Christian High School graduate (the last remaining graduate of the class of 1937) and a graduate of Holland Business College. She worked as a secretary at Home Furnace Company in Holland before marrying Howard in 1943. During WWII, Winifred worked as a civilian secretary to a Major at Scott Field Army Hospital in Belleville, IL where Howard was stationed in the Eye Clinic as an optometrist. After the war they returned to Holland where they raised their five children. Winifred was baptized and married in 14th Street Christian Reformed Church, then became a faithful member of Third Reformed Church since 1946 where she was very involved in the Reformed Church Women ministry, serving in many capacities including president, Bible study circle chairwoman, and helping to begin the birthday cake ministry to Hope College students, which remains to this day. She also sang in the choir, taught Sunday School and served on various committees. In her younger years she was an accomplished pianist, accompanying school choirs and soloists, as well as playing for many weddings. She was a member of Holland Woman's Literary

Club, including its book and music clubs; Michigan Optometric Association Auxiliary; and the Holland-based guild that supported Wedgwood Christian Services in Grand Rapids for almost 50 years. She also volunteered at Holland Community Hospital for many years.

Both Winifred and Howard enjoyed gardening. Winifred arranged and gave away roses and many floral arrangements from their garden. She loved the outdoors and instilled the love of nature in all her children and grandchildren. In her retirement years, Winifred and Howard enjoyed traveling extensively through the United States (including Alaska and Hawaii) and Canada, enjoying the beauty of nature in all their travels. She also loved and enjoyed spending time with her grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Winifred was an avid reader of the news, magazines, and books. She was committed to never stop learning, loved maps, geography, and crossword puzzles, and enjoyed the challenge that watching Jeopardy regularly brought. She enjoyed a wonderful 100th birthday celebration last December. She is survived by her children Paul & Marilyn Kooiker of Grantsburg, WI; Brian Kooiker of Fairview, MI; Donald & Mary-Jo Kooiker, Nancy Meyer, and Sally & Calvin Versendaal, all of Holland; grandchildren Jessica Janes, Katie (Jay) Fladeboe, Callie Kooiker (Elliot Cleghorn), Cassandra Kooiker, Tony (Katie) Meyer, April (Jay) Chapdelaine, Jena (Andrew) Tucker, and Sara (Kyle) Baumann; great-grandchildren Jordan Janes, Ella Fladeboe, Thomas Fladeboe, Desiree Carroll, Jayelynn Kerr, Ares Meyer, Wyndalynn Meyer, and Jackson Tucker; many nieces and nephews. A private graveside service will be held for immediate family with the Rev. Kama Jongerius officiating. A memorial service will be held at a later date for extended family and friends. Memorial contributions may be made to Third Reformed Church Memorial Fund, 111 W. 13th Street, Holland, MI 49423. Arrangements have been entrusted to Langeland-Sterenbergh Funeral Home. Condolences may be left online at [www.langelandsterebergh.com](http://www.langelandsterebergh.com)

# Tribute Wall



“ *Winifred Kooiker*

August 31, 2022 at 01:26 PM



“ *"I loved going to Winifreds house and helping her in different tasks. She was always interested in my life and my families and would ask about them by name. She would watch the sports section to see if my sons names would appear after a swim meet or tennis match. If we were going anywhere she would get out her maps to show us where it was and help plan out our journey. She listened to all I had to say. She prayed for us care givers. She will be missed. I loved Winifred and I know she loved us. Thank you for your support and teaching us about God. You were a faithful servant. Anne Kollen Lakeshore Senior Care"*

A friend - March 29, 2020 at 12:00 AM



“ *"Dear family of Win, I express my sympathy. She was an example of gentleness happiness and intelligence. Her love of flowers and gardening I shared with her. Blessings to generations of her family who loved her and were loved by her. I will miss her, Kathy VanTubbergen"*

A friend - March 29, 2020 at 12:00 AM



“ *"Winn & Howard were good friends of my parents, Elsie & Gene Teusink who are now deceased. Winn & Elsie Bontekoe Teusink were lifelong friends through school at HCHS and through adult life. Winn was a very special lady"*

El Jeanne Teusink Seabold - March 25, 2020 at 12:00 AM

HK

“*Brian, so sorry to hear of your moma passing. I have many memories of her from when I would come over. Hope your doing well.*”

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**Herk Koning** - March 25, 2020 at 12:00 AM

LK

“*Nancy and Sally,  
I just want you to know that you and your family is in our prays with you dear loss.*”

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**Larry Koning** - March 23, 2020 at 12:00 AM

JB

“*Nancy and Sally. Steve and I are sorry to read about the passing of your mother. Jan and Steve Bailey*”

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**Jan Bailey** - March 22, 2020 at 12:00 AM

RH

“*Thinking of you all at this time. God bless each one.Love*”

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**Rozena Huizinga** - March 21, 2020 at 12:00 AM

JB

“*So sorry to hear about the death of your dear Mother. She was such a good friend of my Mother Lois Van Oosterhout. They were such wonderful Christian ladies. I loved your parents. Your Father was our Eye doctor. You all were younger than I when our families worshipped together at Third Reformed Church. My thoughts and prayers are with all of you. I can see our parents greeting each other in their heavenly home. God bless you.*”

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**Judy VanOosterhout Bakker** - March 21, 2020 at 12:00 AM