



## Patricia Jane Whitmer

July 14, 1929 - August 19, 2018

Patricia Whitmer, 89, of Eldora, passed away Sunday, August 19, 2018 at Valley View in Eldora, under the care of Care Initiatives Hospice. Memorial services will be 11:30 am Friday, August 24, 2018 at the First Congregational United Church of Christ in Eldora. Inurnment will be at the Eastlawn Memory Gardens. Visitation will be from 10:30 am until service time on Friday at the church. Woodley Funeral Home, LLC of Iowa Falls is caring for Pat and her family.

Patricia Jane Carmichael was born on July 14, 1929 to John and Elsie (Sheplee) Carmichael on a farm outside of Clarion, Iowa. She graduated from Clarion High School in 1947. She then attended Iowa State Teacher's College in Cedar Falls, Iowa graduating in 1949. Patricia married Delmer Whitmer on April 2, 1950 in Hubbard, Iowa.

In February of 1969, Pat started what would be a twenty six year career as the Lifestyle Page Editor at the Herald Index newspaper in Eldora. She was a long time member of the Iowa Press Women and was the 1987 Women of Achievement Award winner, the highest individual honor given by the state press organization.

Music was a constant through Pat's life as she was in band and choir in high school. She continued to use her talents in many groups in Eldora including a local music club, the Cecilians, of which she was a member for 35 years; barbershop quartets and her beloved church choir at First Congregational. She was the choir director for many years and an active member of the church for 53 years. She also loved the Eldora Community Theater and had many roles over the years, and thoroughly enjoyed playing "Widow Paroo" in The Music Man in 2008.

Pat was an active community volunteer involved with Girl Scouts, Kiwanis, Rainbow for Girls and Eastern Star. She was awarded the Lifetime Volunteer Award from Valley View Specialty Care in 2013.

Pat enjoyed playing bridge and was in the same bridge club for 50 years. She loved

playing Scrabble and doing crossword puzzles, but what she enjoyed most was visiting with her friends and family, sharing stories with lots of laughter, and probably having an occasional dark chocolate!

Pat Whitmer is survived by her daughters, Sue (Jim) VanDeCastele of Bettendorf, Iowa and Jane (Dave) Mills of McKinney, Texas; five grandchildren: Jimmy, Crystal, Evan, Colin and Kyle; three great-grandchildren: TJ, Sam, and Molly; her sister-in-law, Gwen (Whitmer) Stephen; a niece, Rosemary Harris and nephews, Don Weld and John Weld. She was preceded in death by her parents; her husband, Delmer; a sister, Berniece Weld and several brothers and sisters in-law.

Those planning an expression of sympathy may wish to consider memorials to: First Congregational United Church of Christ, 1209 12th Street, Eldora, IA, 50627.

# Cemetery

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**Eastlawn Memorial Gardens**

Eldora, IA, 50627

# Events

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**AUG 24 Visitation 10:30AM - 11:30AM**

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First Congregational United Church of Christ  
1209 12th Street, Eldora, IA, US, 50627

**AUG 24 Service 11:30AM**

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First Congregational United Church of Christ  
1209 12th Street, Eldora, IA, US, 50627

# Comments

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“ Pat was a great inspiration and motivator to this young high school newspaper writer and editor back in the mid to late 1980s. People still today comment on my writing ability. She also was one of many who modeled what commitment to community and individuals is suppose to be. RIP

Jason Follett - August 22, 2018 at 05:20 PM

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“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Patricia Jane Whitmer.



August 21, 2018 at 07:06 PM

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“ Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Patricia Jane Whitmer.



August 21, 2018 at 05:31 PM

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“ It was an honor and a blessing to get to know Pat and care for her. Rest in peace Pat. To her family may God give you peace during this difficult time. God Bless Karen

Karen - August 21, 2018 at 11:08 AM

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“ Jane, your dear mother and I used to meet at Pine Lake and walk every morning at 5:30 talking about school activities etc. Oh how I enjoyed her. I especially enjoyed talking to her on the phone the past years. Those we love don't go away, they walk beside us everyday, unseen, unheard, but always near, still loved, still missed and very dear. You and your family are in my thoughts and prayers.

With Love

Vicki Halvorsen

**Vicki Halvorsen** - August 20, 2018 at 08:44 AM