



Elizabeth L. Kness

May 28, 1929 - March 8, 2019

Elizabeth “Betty” Kness, 89, of Iowa Falls, passed away Friday, March 8, 2019 at Scenic Manor. Funeral services will be 1:00 PM Friday, March 15, 2019 at the First Christian Church in Iowa Falls. She will be laid to rest at the Union Cemetery. Visitation will be from 11:00 AM until service time on Friday at the church. Woodley Funeral Home, LLC of Iowa Falls is caring for Elizabeth and her family.

Elizabeth, known as “Betty” to everyone, was born May 28, 1929, the eldest child of four born to William McKinley and Avonelle (Bennett) Watson. Even though their home was in San Diego, California, it was important to Avonelle that “Betty Lou” be born at the Bennett home at 410 Talbott Street in Iowa Falls. The family lived in California until 1945, when they returned to Iowa Falls to live. Betty always treasured her first friends at IFHS, and the “Round Robin” letter they started after graduation (Class of 1947) was one of her favorite things.

While working at the soda fountain of National 5 - 10 and \$1, she met a handsome and fun guy named Warren Kness, who was a salesman for Borden’s Ice Cream. Their first date was the Borden’s Christmas party in 1946. They married August 20, 1950 and moved to their home on Hwy 65, south of town. That house was struck by lightning and burned to the ground in 1955, but Warren and Betty rebuilt on the same ground and lived there until

2011. Their daughter, Barbara, was born in 1953, followed by twins, Ann and Mark, in 1959.

Betty earned her teaching degree from Ellsworth College in 1949 and taught first grade at Central School. She was a born teacher! She loved her little first graders and always kept track of them through the years. In later years, she served as a substitute teacher and tutor in the Iowa Falls Schools. She also worked for Carl Hamilton at the Times Citizen, serving as “society editor” and filling in where needed. Her compassion and desire to help took many forms over the years: Christian Women’s Fellowship, Sunday School teacher, church choir, Ellsworth Hospital Guild, PTA, Mother’s Club, Union Cemetery Ladies Social Gathering (Cemetery Society), Edgewood, CWF Thrift Shop, and she was a Hospice worker for over 20 years.

Later in life (1965), she learned to drive and learned to swim. Warren insisted on two things: That she learn to drive and that he not be the one to teach her! She took numerous classes over the years, and she and Warren were able to attend several Elderhostels and Warren’s Navy reunions. She rode her first RAGBRAI with Ramona Welden’s group at age 60.

A great cook and artist, Betty was known for her delicious cinnamon rolls, and fresh homemade cookies. She made cookies for the garbage guys every Monday morning! She was a fantastic seamstress, whether it was a Halloween costume or a quilt. One of her greatest talents was her beautiful calligraphy...whether it was a birthday card or a letter (yes, she still wrote letters!) ...she had the ability to make everyone feel special!

Betty Kness is survived by her children, Barbara Nuss of Iowa Falls, Iowa, Ann Kness of Webster City, Iowa and Mark Kness of Arvada, Colorado; a grandson, William Warren Nuss (“Billy”) of Norfolk, NE and his fiancée, Karlie Kudrna; sister, Linda (Watson) Ferguson of Rochester, MN; sister-in-law, Mary

Watson of Littleton, CO and her many beloved nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her husband, Warren and her two brothers, William R. Watson and Ronald J. Watson.

Cemetery Details

Union Cemetery

Iowa Falls, IA 50126

Previous Events

Visitation

MAR 15. 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM (CT)

First Christian Church
221 Fischer Avenue
Iowa Falls, IA 50126

Service

MAR 15. 1:00 PM (CT)

First Christian Church
221 Fischer Avenue
Iowa Falls, IA 50126

Tribute Wall

PS

“ *She was so sweet at church always bringing a smile to my face , I will truly miss her*

Patti Severson-Lentsch - March 16, 2019 at 08:53 PM

PS

I'm so sorry this is belated Barb but if you need anything at all please let me know

Patti Severson-Lentsch - March 16, 2019 at 08:55 PM

DF

“ *Our deepest sympathies on the loss of your dear loved one. May the promise from God at John5:28,29 to resurrect our loved ones bring comfort to the family.*

Dawson Family - March 16, 2019 at 02:04 PM

TW

“ *The 5th and 6th Grade team at WCMS purchased the Large Basket Garden for the family of Elizabeth L. Kness.*



The 5th and 6th Grade team at WCMS - March 14, 2019 at 06:41 PM



“ Florist Choice Bouquet was purchased for the family of Elizabeth L. Kness.



March 14, 2019 at 04:20 PM



“ Betty was one of the nicest and talented ladies I have ever met. She made Christmas cards before it was the in thing to do. At the family reunion potlucks I always made sure to get a big helping of what Betty brought because you knew it would be delicious. And I have a very special book of the Kness Family History. Something she created before there was Ancestry.Com. What a wonderful gift she gave to Warren's side of the family. I will always treasure it and think of them when I open the book. May you find comfort in your memories and knowing she was loved. Vicky Kness Hansen

Vicky Kness Hansen - March 14, 2019 at 01:55 PM



“ Bill Nuss purchased the Emerald Garden Basket for the family of Elizabeth L. Kness.



Bill Nuss - March 12, 2019 at 03:39 PM

RH

“ Rodney and Sandra Hicok purchased the Emerald Garden Basket for the family of Elizabeth L. Kness.



Rodney and Sandra Hicok - March 11, 2019 at 05:27 PM

MA

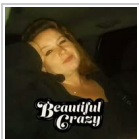
“ Betty was one of the most kind, thoughtful people I knew. Always enjoyed my birthday card from her. Barb, you will certainly miss her I sure.
My deepest sympathy,
Marlyn Cross

MarlynCross - March 10, 2019 at 01:29 PM

PM

“ Barb so sorry to hear about your Mom you and your Family are in my Prayers

Pam Mott - March 10, 2019 at 12:24 PM



“ I've only known her for the last year but I got to spend a ton of time with her. She will be so greatly missed by me but she will always live on in my heart!!!!

Angela Campbell - March 09, 2019 at 10:41 PM

JO

“ In the scrap book my mother saved for me is a thank you card from Betty in 1971. She sent a card after the football season saying how much she enjoyed watching the games that year. She was the only one who sent a card, and it was incredibly thoughtful of her.

I'm sorry for your loss, and our thoughts are with your family.

Jim Off

Jim Off - March 09, 2019 at 12:02 PM

CH

“ Betty always sent Marlyn and i birthday cards. She was so thoughtful.

Our deepest sympathy.

Marlyn & Christine Cross

ChristineCross - March 09, 2019 at 08:49 AM

LA

“ Thinking of you all at the loss of your mom. Linn Adams

Linn Adams - March 08, 2019 at 08:45 PM