



## Jeanette R. Collins

November 5, 1929 - January 6, 2022

Jeanette R. Collins, 92, of Sheffield, passed away Thursday, January 6, 2022 at the Sheffield Care Center in Sheffield, Iowa after a long life filled with love she joyfully shared with others.

She was born November 5, 1929 in Mason City, Iowa to Ralph and Ruth Geer. Ruth and Jeanette moved from Mason City to Aredale, Iowa to live with Ruth's cousin, Susie Cutler, when Jeanette was 9 years old. As a pretty 'big city' girl, Jeanette made quite a splash in rural Aredale. Among those who took notice was handsome – and sometimes mischievous – neighbor boy, Darwin Collins.

Jeanette was lovingly raised by Ruth and Susie, attended grade school in Aredale and graduated from Hansell High School in 1947. Ruth and Susie dutifully drove young Jeanette to local roller skating rinks where she became an expert skater, dazzling everyone with her graceful dancing style. Later, her children watched in awe as their Mom danced her way around the rink at Sunday school roller skating parties.

Darwin finally won Jeanette's heart, and they married on May 1, 1948. During more than 70 years of marriage, they laughed a lot, cried some, raised four children, scrimped and saved, operated a successful business together, helped others, made countless friends over coffee, wintered in Arizona, and retired back to the farm where Jeanette grew up.

Her life was filled with music. A gifted, self-taught pianist, she taught piano to others beginning in her high school days. She especially enjoyed the years teaching piano and vocal music at St. Patrick and Sacred Heart Schools in Dougherty and Rockwell. Jeanette shared her musical gift at countless church services and programs, Bible schools, weddings, funerals, sing-a-longs, and other get-togethers.

Nothing was more important to Jeanette than her deep, abiding faith in God and her family. She lit up when family came home to the farm and bustled around to provide a warm welcome and a feast of food. She was the most loving and fun Mom and Grandma a kid could have. Her grandkids have lifelong memories of time spent with Grandma making mud pies, riding the 3-wheeled bike 'Bluebell', strolling down the lane singing Zippedy Do Da, and launching snakeweed boats down the creek "all the way to China."

Jeanette is survived by daughters Patti (Gene) Persons of Ankeny, Candy (Dave) Culp of North Port, Florida, son Tim (Susan) Collins of Sheffield, eleven grandchildren, twenty-seven great-grandchildren and one great-great-grandchild – all of whom are grateful to have shared her life.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Susie Cutler, husband Darwin, and son Mike.

A joint funeral service for Jeanette and Darwin will be held at 11:00 a.m., Saturday, January 15, 2022, at West Fork United Methodist Church, rural Sheffield. Visitation will be held one hour prior to the service at the church. Burial will take place in the West Fork Cemetery at a later date. The Counsell Woodley Funeral Home of Hampton is caring for Jeanette and her family.

For those unable to attend, Darwin and Jeanette's service will be available on

ZOOM:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/3670133488?pwd=TzlvMEFNRTVPV1JodzA0MIk4>

NGIVdz09

Meeting ID: 367 013 3488

Passcode: collinsdj

# Previous Events

## Visitation

JAN 15. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

West Fork United Methodist Church  
2200 Tulip Ave  
Sheffield, IA 50475

## Service

JAN 15. 11:00 AM (CT)

West Fork United Methodist Church  
2200 Tulip Ave  
Sheffield, IA 50475

# Tribute Wall



“ Woodley Funeral Home and Crematory created a Tribute Video in memory of Jeanette R. Collins



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Woodley Funeral Home and Crematory - January 15, 2022 at 11:28 AM

MH

“ Dear Patti, Candy, and Tim,  
Jeanette was such an inspiration and encouragement to me in the early days of my walk with the Lord. Such precious memories of times of getting together for Bible studies, I think the first time I met them was at Patti and Gene's. Then all the times at Marty and Dean's at the log house. I can't help but imagine there was a wonderful reunion with Darwin and Dean. The Bible encourages us that we will see each other again. Everyone copes differently, some cry for the loss of a loved one, other smile because they know they'll see them again, I guess I do both! Jeanette always reminded me of my own mother, Jeanette had grace, gentleness, warmth and openness to all she met, and just the right words at the right time. I was blessed to have known your parents.  
With heartfelt sympathy to you all, Mary Hoye

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Mary Hoye - January 14, 2022 at 12:06 PM

JH

“ *Judy & Hal Hobbiebrunken and Mary Hoye purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Jeanette R. Collins.*



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**Judy & Hal Hobbiebrunken and Mary Hoye** - January 14, 2022  
at 11:44 AM



“ *Medium Dish Garden was purchased for the family of Jeanette R. Collins.*



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January 11, 2022 at 07:52 PM

KY

“ Patti, Candy and Tim: my most sincere condolences to you and all your families. Oh, this is such a hard one to take. I don't even know where to begin. Your mother was such a profound influence upon me and my life, especially in my love of music. I shall always remember the piano lessons I took from Jeanette after school once a week. One particular lesson I distinctly remember -- the day following the Charles City and Oelwein tornadoes in 1968. The weather was so cold, and while waiting for my MomAunt Belle to pick me up, I read the Des Moines Register with its massive headlines re the disaster the previous day.

*But returning to music, your mother always took an interest in whatever form of music I was listening to, even if it was far from what she may have been used to. She never belittled me, but was fascinated by my musical excursions. I may have always had an interest in the unorthodox musically, but Jeanette instilled in me a profound appreciation of the more traditional forms of music that has never left me to this day.*

*Lastly, even though you and I now grieve her loss, we give thanks that, as a dedicated disciple of Christ, she is now with all the saints who have preceded her. Alhamdulillah. Thanks be to God.*

*May our Stillspeaking God comfort, guide and strengthen all of us at this time...*

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**Kevin Young** - January 11, 2022 at 09:27 AM

KR

“ Dear Patti and family I too remember your mother and father. I have remover them young. When I returned to Iowa I had the pleasure of knowing them again. They were beautiful couple. So now the chapter of lives here on earth is over, they begin a new one surrounded by the love of God who is in heaven. God Bless.

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**Kay Rother** - January 10, 2022 at 09:38 AM

CH

“ So sorry to hear of Jeanette's passing. We young kids in church in Aredale always looked up to her. She was so talented and could play anything on the piano and such a beautiful voice she had when singing. She and Darwin both were dear friends of ours. They certainly will be missed and we loved them both. All their family are in our thoughts and prayers. God bless, Charolet (Stubbe) and Don Hanson So sorry we can't be with you all at this time, but we winter in Yuma, Az.

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**Charolet Stubbe Hanson** - January 09, 2022 at 07:08 PM

PU

“ Deepest sympathy to the family and loved ones of Jeanette. Sad to hear of her passing. She was a beautiful person, inside and out!

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**Paula Jo Ubben** - January 08, 2022 at 02:57 PM

GF

“ I am sadden to hear about the passing of Jeanette. We shared many hours together, and the strength and hope we gave each other will not be forgotten.forgotten. I so enjoyed being around your mom,and was sadden when she no longer knew who I was. My condolences to your family. Gladys Fanny.

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**Gladys Fanny** - January 07, 2022 at 09:29 AM