



Lois Ann (Wilson) Woods

January 10, 1942 - November 3, 2021

Our “Dear Heart,” Lois Ann (Wilson) Woods, age 79, passed away at The Promise House, in Hiawatha, Iowa, on November 3, 2021, from complications due to a stroke initially suffered in March.

Born in Marshalltown, Iowa, on January 10, 1942, to loving parents Virgil and Edna (Ragan) Wilson, Lois grew up in a very humble, country house with no electricity, nor running water, located along Highway 30 and Gladstone, four miles East of Tama/Toledo. For this freckled, redhead, an upbringing lacking monetary resources and requiring daily work by all family members to “get through the day,” was nurtured by parents that taught and lived by the golden rule, “Love thy neighbor.”

Lois attended a one-room schoolhouse as the only girl among eight total students through eighth grade, and graduated from Tama High School, in 1960. A year later she moved to Cedar Rapids to attend beauty school and became a licensed beautician for 19 years at Peg’s Beauty Salon, one of Cedar Rapids’ most prestigious hair salons. After Peg’s, Lois jumped to a new career, and became a very successful salesperson for Kirby Vacuum, and Smokenders. Her desire to help people led to a position with FEMA, which took Lois to many natural disasters across the United States, but always left her with a genuine compassion and feeling of hope for all people.

During Lois’ time in beauty school two of the biggest things that shaped the remainder of her life occurred. The first, actually began in high school. While she grew up in a most loving and respectful home, church was not attended, and not much was ever mentioned of it. Lois knew God exists and devised her own plan to find Him. She selected four of her high school girlfriends, all of different Christian denominations, and Lois pretty much invited herself to spend a “Saturday overnight,” knowing they were going to attend their churches the next morning. The fourth church she attended in four weeks was the Catholic church. Very quickly, just after the initial ringing of the bells and the entrance of the priest, Lois said to herself, “Now this is a religion!” Lois attended Catechism while at beauty school, and after constantly sharing her enthusiasm after classes, her roommate

soon became a convert as well!

Her second, came at the request of another girlfriend who invited Lois to a softball game at Ellis Park to meet somebody she might like. This somebody turned out to be the love of her life, Gary Woods.

Once together, this couple became inseparable. They married on June 1, 1963, at St. Patrick Catholic Church, in Tama. Lois and Gary were blessed with two sons, Curt (Karen) of Cedar Rapids, and Douglas (Colleen) of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania; five grandchildren, Nathan (Rebecca) of Nolensville, Tennessee, Shelby (Caleb) Jamison of Cedar Rapids, Corbin of Chicago, Illinois, Michaela of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, and Connor of Buies Creek, North Carolina; and three great-grandchildren.

Irish ancestry was very important to Lois, and another part of her legacy continues today with the annual SaPaDaPaSo Parade. Lois was one of the initial members, served as President, and attended every parade until her illness made new plans.

Lois is survived by her husband, Woody; sons, Curt (Karen) and Doug (Colleen); all of her grandchildren; great-grandchildren, Adeline and Josiah (Cedar Rapids), Victoria and her new baby brother expected to arrive on Lois' 80th birthday (Nolensville); sister, Mary Rodman (Sioux Falls, South Dakota); brothers, Bolton (Donna) Wilson, (Salt Lake City, Utah), William (Kathy) Wilson, (Las Vegas, Nevada); and brothers/sisters-in-law, Mary Jane Davis (Anamosa, Iowa), Steve and Dorothy Woods (Mason City, Iowa), Sue and John Weldon (Cedar Rapids), William and Deb Woods (Mason City, Iowa) and Jean and Fred Meyer (Mt. Vernon, Iowa).

She was preceded in death by her loving parents; father and mother-in-law, Clarence and Ivanell Woods (Elkader, Iowa); brothers-in-law, Lyle Rodman and Dave Davis; and nephew, Robert (Bobby) Woods.

Rosary is offered at 3:30 p.m. with visitation from 4:00 to 7:00 p.m. on Friday, November 5, with a vigil service at 6:30 p.m. at Murdoch-Linwood Funeral Home & Cremation Service, Cedar Rapids. Funeral Mass is 10 a.m. Saturday, November 6, at St. Patrick's Catholic Church, Cedar Rapids, with Fr. Bahl presiding. Burial will follow at Linwood Cemetery, Cedar Rapids. All are welcome to attend and celebrate Lois' beautiful life!

The family would like to thank Abbey Whalen and her caring, loving caregivers of The Promise House for taking wonderful care of Lois during her entire stay, especially in her final days.

Lois had a joyful, vibrant, and positive spirit, traits all whom she encountered would quickly come to love about her. Her clothing and jewelry had a style all her own. A perfect day for Lois was eating every meal out, especially when the day would start at Mikhael's Restaurant. She loved to sing and dance, and she went by her own special rhythm. And nobody could wear a bandana like her.

We love you, Dear Heart!

Some day when we meet up yonder

We'll stroll hand in hand again

In a land that knows no partin'

Blue eyes cryin' in the rain.....

-- Willie Nelson

Cemetery

Linwood Cemetery-Cedar Rapids

520 Wilson Avenue SW
Cedar Rapids, IA, 52404

Events

NOV	Rosary	03:30PM - 04:00PM
5	<hr/>	
	Murdoch-Linwood Funeral Home & Cremation Service	
	520 Wilson Avenue SW, Cedar Rapids, IA, US, 52404	

NOV	Visitation	04:00PM - 07:00PM
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	Murdoch-Linwood Funeral Home & Cremation Service	
	520 Wilson Avenue SW, Cedar Rapids, IA, US, 52404	

NOV	Vigil Service	06:30PM
5	<hr/>	
	Murdoch-Linwood Funeral Home & Cremation Service	
	520 Wilson Avenue SW, Cedar Rapids, IA, US, 52404	

NOV	Funeral Mass	10:00AM
6	<hr/>	
	St. Patrick's Church-Cedar Rapids	
	120 5th Street NW, Cedar Rapids, IA, US, 52405	

Comments



“ A tribute video has been added.



Murdoch Funeral Homes & Cremation Service - November 05, 2021 at 10:16 AM



“ Woody,
Dick and I want to send our prayers and condolences for you and your family. The loss of a beautiful wife and mother. What a wonderful tribute to her.

Jan & Dick Siders

Jan Siders - November 05, 2021 at 01:48 PM



“ My condolences to the entire Woods Family. Lois was a ray of sunshine and her own free spirit. I remember her beautiful smile and zest for life. May her soul bring sunshine and beautiful memories to you in the days ahead. Michelle Hilton-Moes. (Gary Hilton's daughter)

michelle hilton-moes - November 05, 2021 at 09:37 PM



“ I'm so, so sorry for your loss and will miss her smile & friendship & St Pats. Ann A'Hearn

Ann A'Hearn - November 06, 2021 at 10:30 PM



“ Dear family, My deepest sympathy in the passing of Lois. I worked with her at Pegs Salon- back in the day. She was always delightful & a friend to all. She will be missed! It's always sad when our circle of family and friends is shorter.

Becky Burns

Becky Burns - November 06, 2021 at 07:04 AM



“ RIP Lois. A beautiful lady, inside & out.

Dianne Fank (Mary Kacere's sister) - November 05, 2021 at 07:45 PM



“ We got to know Lois thru our parish, working the fish fries and events. She was a kind and beautiful person. I had lots of great conversation with her while making sure the to-go bags were packed properly. We shared many stories and memories and in particular our love of converting to our Catholic faith. Rest in peace Lois. We'll miss you.

The Casey's Pat and Jan - November 05, 2021 at 06:51 PM



“ Her beautiful smile and laugh will be dearly missed.. She will forever be in my heart....



Patti Herman - November 05, 2021 at 06:30 PM



“ Dear Gary, Curt, Doug and Family:

So saddened by the sudden passing of Lois. Carol and I send our deepest sympathies. Our thoughts and prayers are with you during this sad time. We will truly miss her. She was one of the most positive people I have ever known. It seemed she always had a big smile on her face and a great warmth about her. I am left with fond memories of post-game parties in right field at Ellis Park, after game pizza and beer at George David's Flamingo, Frank's Lounge and most often, Ted Mahoney's Happytime. Rest in peace, Lois

Because of health issues, I won't be there to say good-bye to Lois in person.

Eddie and Carol Williams

Carol Williams - November 05, 2021 at 06:11 PM



“ Woody, Curt, and Doug,

You have our sympathy. So sorry for your loss. She was one of a kind for sure and a Blessing to all that knew her. Just like God planned it! Love, Peace, and God Bless you and your families.

Brian & Tammy McNeal

brian mcneal - November 05, 2021 at 04:14 PM



“ So much energy, creativity, talent and the ability to see the humorous of a situation! Lots of great memories from our early 20s. The apt. on 10th, dances, weddings, sessions at Pegs, and so much more. Gary and family, you have our sincere sympathy for your loss of this wonderful person in your life. Jo Bodeker

Jo Bodeker - November 05, 2021 at 03:41 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Lois Ann (Wilson) Woods.



November 05, 2021 at 03:12 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Lois Ann (Wilson) Woods.



November 05, 2021 at 10:34 AM



“ 58 files added to the album LifeTributes



Murdoch Funeral Homes & Cremation Service - November 05, 2021 at 10:03 AM



“ Sad to see your mom passed, but what a life. Alot of great memories as young men, and alot of ba ha's that kept her and Woody up late. You boys obviously kept her busy with the grandkids, kept track of the baseball with Corbin, that had to be so exciting for her. Remember the great stuff, there was alot!! Mike & Michelle Hilton

Mike Hilton - November 04, 2021 at 09:13 PM



“ I knew Lois only from the Mass at St Pats, or the fish fries etc, but I always enjoyed our little visits and what a beautiful person she was, she will be missed by all!

LaDonna - November 04, 2021 at 09:04 PM



“ Curt and Family: We have so many fun beautiful memories of your mom watching you at baseball games. She was so proud of you but was always a team mom. Prayers with you as her memories keep you strong and fabulous like she is. Lyle and Denise Smith

denise smith - November 04, 2021 at 02:19 PM



“ What a shock it was to see this. She was a very special fun loving caring person. One of a kind for sure. I have not spent any time with her in the last years but did in our early years. Prayers for the family.

betty krahling - November 04, 2021 at 01:56 PM



“ Love Everlasting Bouquet was purchased for the family of Lois Ann (Wilson) Woods.



November 04, 2021 at 11:42 AM



“ Hi, This is Barrie Ernst, so many memories of Lois and Woody coming to our Collins softball games at Ellis Park. Sorry that I am out of town and will miss the service. My best to Woody and the boys, a lot of great memories of our days at Ellis, and to Lois's sister MaryAlice Rodman who was my fourth grade teacher! What a great and positive friend!

Barrie Ernst

Barrie Ernst - November 04, 2021 at 11:16 AM



“ Lois was a ray of sunshine wherever she was. She will be remembered with a smile. Blessings from Percy and Jim Caviness

Percy Caviness - November 04, 2021 at 10:43 AM



“ Woody, so sorry to hear about Lois. Best wishes my friend.
Kevin Torner

Kevin Torner - November 04, 2021 at 10:02 AM



“ My dad, Jimmy Duggan, and Lois were grand friends. She was always, ALWAYS, a joy to be around! She danced the Irish jig at my dad's 70th birthday... . I loved her Irish style, Irish humor, and Irish charm. God bless the Woods family.
Sincerely, Kathleen Duggan Bullock



Kathleen Duggan Bullock - November 03, 2021 at 09:50 PM



“ I was blessed to be a part of lois' life at the Promise house. She will always hold a dear part of my heart.Paula Kinkin



Paula kinkin - November 03, 2021 at 07:48 PM



“ Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Lois Ann (Wilson) Woods.



November 03, 2021 at 07:44 PM