



Evelyn Owen

March 10, 1920 - March 13, 2018

Evelyn Cleo (Larson) Owen, age 98, died March 13, 2018 at Delaware Court Care Center, Delaware, Ohio. A charter member of the Greatest Generation, Evelyn and twin sister Beatrice were born in Stephen (Marshall County) Minnesota, the daughters of Ludovic Larson and Gunda Moe. The oldest of six children, which included two sets of twins, they were, by all accounts, mischievous. Life was not that easy during Minnesota winters where 40 below zero is common. Through the great Depression, the family farm provided most of the food. An orange for Christmas was a real treat. After graduating from Thief River High School Evelyn received her teacher training at Bemidji State College. Her first assignment was a one-room schoolhouse in Marshall County teaching first through eighth grades. Evelyn would arrive early to light the wood burning stove to heat the classroom. Of course, she cut the wood too. She would use the stove to cook lunchtime soup for the children. When World War II came, Evelyn joined the Lutheran Social Services and moved to Dayton, Ohio. She assisted in the Overlook Homes neighborhood where homes were constructed for workers at Wright Patterson Air Force Base. She walked door to door to visit families, usually wearing paper shoes because of rationing to conserve resources for the war effort. She met her husband William, a WWII veteran, and they would be married 57 years with three children. Both Evelyn and twin Beatrice were blessed with sets of twins. After the war, Evelyn resumed her teaching career in Dayton in the Mad River local school district near Springfield and earned her Bachelor's Degree from

Wittenberg University. Evelyn wanted to help students with special needs, and she became a pioneer in teaching what came to be known as “special education.” Educators from around Ohio would visit Evelyn’s classroom to observe her techniques (magic) in educating her students, some with serious behavioral problems. In the early 1960's Evelyn taught in the Huber Heights (Wayne Twp.) School District north of Dayton. She retired after 30 years of teaching, but was elected to the Board of Education the following year. During her career at Wayne, Evelyn's writings in the areas of special education and the institutional discrimination of women ignited change in the recognition of women in the teaching workforce. This is evidenced by the many students and co-workers who paid tribute to Evelyn on her 90th birthday. Evelyn was predeceased by her parents, Ludovic and Gunda, husband William, as well as her sisters Beatrice Boyum and Dorothy Cornelius, brothers, Lowell, Orville and Donny Larson, daughter Mary Beth and son-in-law Leopoldo Lovelace. She is survived by her daughters Faith Harper (Tom) and Sonja Lovelace, son William (Carol O’Brien), 4 grandchildren and 4 great grandchildren. Arrangements by RUTHERFORD-CORBIN FUNERAL HOME, 515 High St. Worthington, Ohio. The family will greet visitors from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 pm Saturday, March 17 with service to follow. Interment Monday at Glen Haven Memorial Gardens, New Carlisle, Ohio. In lieu of flowers, the family requests that contributions be made to Voicecorp Reading Services for the sight impaired, 2955 W Broad St, Columbus, OH 43204.

Cemetery Details

Glen Haven Memorial Park

8200 W. National Rd
New Carlisle, OH 45344

Previous Events

Calling Hours

MAR 17. 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM (ET)

Rutherford-Corbin Funeral Home
515 High Street
Worthington, OH 43085
(614) 885-4006
info@rutherfordfuneralhome.com
<https://www.rutherfordfuneralhomes.com/>

Service

MAR 17. 1:00 PM (ET)

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Tribute Wall



“ Evelyn Owen

January 28, 2023 at 10:24 AM



“ When I was small you made me feel big. You sewed my first costume when I was in kindergarten, making me a princess. We wore our Bicentennial dresses you also sewed in parades. You gave me paper to write my stories, You kept files of all my writings, as if I were a famous author. You were my teacher and read to us. You held chess tournaments in your classroom. We watched Little House on the Prairie together. You taught myself and my children how to bake. We spent hours in the kitchen together, making lefse, pies and fattigman. You made me feel like a champion in all I did. I love you so very much Grandma, you were my hero.



Love your granddaughter,
Lisa (Parizo) Hickman

Lisa M Hickman - April 04, 2018 at 08:01 PM



Thank you, Lisa, for bringing back all those wonderful memories.

Faith Harper - April 09, 2018 at 11:55 PM



“ Thank you to all the relatives and friends who have reached out to us. God bless you all and the memories of our mother.

Faith Harper - April 03, 2018 at 04:29 PM



“ *Sapphire Skies Bouquet was purchased for the family of Evelyn Owen.*



March 16, 2018 at 02:28 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Evelyn Owen.*



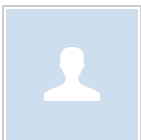
March 16, 2018 at 11:28 AM



“ *Blessed be Evelyn's memory purchased the Sweet Tenderness for the family of Evelyn Owen.*



Blessed be Evelyn's memory - March 16, 2018 at 03:52 AM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Evelyn Owen.*



March 15, 2018 at 10:14 PM

HU

“ God Bless and Thank YOU, Evelyn for your contribution to the war effort during WWII. And Semper Fi.



Herb Guyer-Sharfenaker USMC - March 15, 2018 at 11:14 AM

DC

“ David And Phyl Cornelius lit a candle in memory of Evelyn Owen



David and Phyl Cornelius - March 14, 2018 at 10:28 PM

DC

So sorry for the family's loss. She will be missed by so many!

David and Phyl Cornelius - March 14, 2018 at 10:29 PM

W&

Sorry for loss loss. My heart goes out to your family. She was my teacher when I was a kid. She will be truly missed.

William Edward Butler "eddie' &'billy' - March 20, 2018 at 12:45 PM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Evelyn Owen.*



March 14, 2018 at 07:16 PM



“ *Sorry for your loss.*

Mrs. Owen will be greatly missed by all especially her grandchildren, Lisa and Todd and great grandchildren, Ethan and Kylie.

Evelyn was such a great part of all their lives.

My memories of Mrs. Owen are of a peaceful and kind woman always willing to show her kindness.

Per the families request we will be making a donation to your preferred organization.

Our thoughts and prayers are with your family.

Ron and Judi Parizo

Ronald Parizo - March 14, 2018 at 03:11 PM