



## Marilyn Edith Illingworth

November 13, 1927 - January 9, 2014

Marilyn Edith Illingworth, age 86 of Albia, entered into eternity with the Lord Thursday, January 9, 2014, under the care of Monroe County Hospice at Monroe County Hospital in Albia.

Marilyn was born November 13, 1927, to George and Edna (Hickenlooper) Kester in Albia. She married Merle Illingworth on June 15, 1947, at First Christian Church in Albia. To this union two children were born, Marc and Mari.

Marilyn graduated from Albia High School, class of 1945. She and Merle opened Illingworth Jewelry in August 1947, shortly after getting married and have been in business 66 years. Marilyn was a wonderful partner for Merle, taking the role of bookkeeper, ordering women's jewelry, and arranging the window display.

Marilyn was a former member of First Christian Church in Albia and Farm Bureau. She was a 50 year member of Order of the Eastern Star, current member of Trinity United Methodist Church, Albia Chamber of Commerce, and was active in PEO for many years. She also sang in the choir at church. She was a very caring and loving woman, who was greatly loved by her entire family.

Marilyn is survived by her husband of 66 years, Merle of Albia; two children, Marc Illingworth of Indianola and Mari Illingworth of East Moline, IL; three grandsons, Andy (Angela) Illingworth of Indianola, Nicholas Illingworth and Adam (Jennifer) Illingworth, both of Des Moines; three great grandchildren, Drew, Carter, and Jude Illingworth; and four step great grandchildren, Tanner, Emily, Cade and Connor Brewer.

She was preceded in death by her parents; a brother, George; and three sisters, Maude, Harriet, and Betty.

A memorial service will be 11 a.m., Monday, January 13, 2014, at Trinity United Methodist Church in Albia; with Pastor Neil Montz, Pastor David Clark, and Pastor Richard Grimes

officiating. A private family burial was held prior to services.

Visitation will be 10-11 a.m., Monday, January 13, 2014, at Trinity United Methodist Church in Albia, with Marilyn's family present.

Memorials may be made to Marilyn's family.

# Comments

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“ Condolances to Merle and Family. Marilyn was a wonderful Person, Mother, and Wife. It was my honor to have known her, however briefly.

**Bernard Judge - California City, CA - Acquaintance** - January 15, 2014 at 12:00 AM

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“ Our thoughts and prayers are with you. Our family's connection through generations of both laughter and tears will always be a strong bond. The dedication of your beautiful marriage is an inspiration for us. Our "secret engagement ring" purchase at Illingworth's Jewelry (after hours) is one of our favorite Merle & Marilyn stories. We all got caught when Kenny came knocking on your locked store door. We can still see Marilyn laughing and shooing Kenny while he tried to peek around her to see what was happening. Marilyn's contagious warm smile and laughter will be greatly missed.

**Jim & Marti Willetts - IA** - January 14, 2014 at 12:00 AM

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“ I have been thinking of you all today and I'm sorry I could not be there with you. Marilyn was a very special person in my life and she will not be forgotten. My love and prayers to you all.

**Libby Thompson - Greensboro, NC - Family** - January 14, 2014 at 12:00 AM

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“ I have known the Illingworths for over 30 years. Marc and his family were our neighbors. Marilyn was the epitome of a lady, and was so very sweet and nice to me, as was Merle. So very sorry that Merle has lost his true love and my thoughts and prayers go out to the entire family.

**Bunny Peck - Indianola, IA - Friend** - January 14, 2014 at 12:00 AM

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“ Merle, I am sorry for your loss

**Robert Brown - Albia, IA - Friend** - January 13, 2014 at 12:00 AM

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“ Merle and family,

I have always enjoyed visiting with Merle and Marilyn whenever I saw them in Albia or Ottumwa. I first met the Illingworth's back in 82 while selling lubricants. Someone told me that I needed to see this guy in Albia who had a love for cars and had a bunch of them! Merle liked "Slick -50" and we have been friends since! Of course I soon realized that Merle is so outgoing that he doesn't know a stranger!! Marilyn seemed to have her hands full with all of her family, friends, and being so active in the community, that keeping Merle in line was beyond even her capabilities!! They have been a team so long and Marilyn will be so very missed by many. I so much appreciate their marriage commitment and Christian testimony! Our prayers and thoughts are with Merle and the family.

Phil and Constance Cavanaugh family

Phil Cavanaugh - OTTUMWA, IA - friend - January 13, 2014 at 12:00 AM

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“ Merle , Mary, and Marc,

We are so sorry about your loss of Marilyn. What great memories of your family, as I grew up across the street. Marilyn was always so kind to me as was Merle. I remember all of your trips to Colorado to visit my parents. And of Merle teaching our son how to walk on the ceiling! Your concern and Christian caring, when both of my parents were ill, always meant so much. And all the stories!

May God bless you all.

Steve & Peggy Hollingshead

Steve & Peggy Hollingshead - Fort Collins, CO - Cousin - January 13, 2014 at 12:00 AM

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Phil Cavanaugh - OTTUMWA, IA - friend - January 13, 2014 at 12:00 AM



“ Mari, so very sorry for your loss. Keeping you and your family in my thoughts and prayers. Your many loving memories of your mother will gently comfort you. Love you.

**Donna Besick - Keosauqua, IA - Friend** - January 12, 2014 at 12:00 AM

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“ God bless each of you. We are out of town but our thoughts and prayers are with you.

**Chuck & Margaret Modan - Albia, IA** - January 11, 2014 at 12:00 AM

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“ We want to extend our thoughts and prayers to the family. What an example of a loving Christian marriage. Grandma Illingworth will be very much missed but will always be remembered. God Bless.

**Dr. & Mrs. Barry C. Pratt - Des Moines, IA - our daughters grandparent in law** - January 11, 2014 at 12:00 AM