



Ellen Gilchrist Carl

November 8, 1928 - June 20, 2015

Ellen Gilchrist Carl, age 86 of Albia, passed away on Saturday, June 20, 2015, at the Monroe Care Center in Albia.

Ellen was born November 8, 1928, to Elmer and Maude (Hoskins) Gilchrist in Barnes City. She married Charles Maddy on September 7, 1949. To this union, three children were born, Becky, Paul and Jeff. They later divorced and Ellen married Harlan Carl on July 31, 1975.

Ellen graduated from Rose Hill High School and obtained her R.N. degree at Iowa Methodist School of Nursing in Des Moines in 1949. She worked for Dr. Orelup in Albia for many years, retiring in 1988. She later went to work as a Physician's Assistant at Chariton Valley Medical Clinic in Centerville before retiring in 2011.

Ellen was a member of the Trinity United Methodist Church in Albia. She was a generous, intelligent, and influential woman. She was one of the founding members of Hospice of Monroe County and volunteered at the Helping Hands. She was named Xi Epsilon of Beta Sigma Phi Sorority Woman of the Year. Ellen was very active and loved being outdoors, doing things such as gardening. Most of all, Ellen enjoyed spending time with her family and friends, especially her grandchildren. She was an avid knitter and passed this along to her daughter and granddaughters.

She is survived by her children, Becky (John) Harker of Ames; Paul (Jackie) Maddy of Albia and Jeff (Gail) Maddy of Albia; nine grandchildren, Shannon, Mark, Brian, Amy, Eric, and Jesse Maddy and Matt, Brooke, and Katie Harker; and eight great-grandchildren. She is also survived by several nieces and nephews, four sisters-in-law and one brother-in-law.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Elmer and Maude; her husband, Harlan; a grandson, John Paul Maddy; five brothers, Dean, George, Don, Bob, and John Gilchrist; and four sisters, Marjorie Bussey, Frances Kennedy, Joan Dvorak, and Mary Freeman.

Memorial service will be held at 10:30 a.m., Wednesday, June 24, 2015 at the Trinity United Methodist Church in Albia, with Pastor Neil Montz officiating. Burial will follow services at the Oak View Cemetery in Albia.

Visitation will be held from 4:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m. Tuesday, June 23, 2015 at the Tharp Funeral Home in Albia, with Ellen's family present throughout.

A memorial has been established to Trinity United Methodist Church.

Tribute Wall



“ *Ellen Gilchrist Carl*

January 30, 2023 at 05:06 AM



“ *Ellen Gilchrist Carl*

January 30, 2023 at 02:53 AM



“ *After being out of the office for several weeks, I have just learned of this loss. I didn't know Ellen, but have just read the many well wishes and memories, and I feel very fortunate to have taken these few minutes to know a little about this wonderful woman. I am so very sorry for your loss, but am also reminded of how lucky you are and were, to have had such a special and accomplished woman in your lives! My thoughts are with you.*

Lila Starr - Clive, IA - colleague of Becky's - July 07, 2015 at 12:00 AM



“ *My mother Maurine Eigler Davis went to Nursing School with "Gilly". Our family went to visit and we always had lots of fun listening to Mom and "Gilly" tell their nursing stories. She was such a fun lady to be around and a great cook!!!! My sympathies to her family. God Bless Anne Krienke*

Anne Davis Krienke - Pierce, NE - daughter of Maurine & Jack Davis - June 29, 2015 at 12:00 AM

LD

“ I loved visiting the Maddy family in rural Lovilla. Jenner idolized Ellen (Gilly) and she lived up to her reputation; homemade buns, twisters and comic timing and deadpan delivery that was worthy of Vaudeville. She was a heroine of my childhood and I know how you'll miss her.
Love you all, Luanne

Luanne Krabbe - Belmond , IA - Jenner's daughter - June 26, 2015 at 12:00 AM

DC

“ So sorry for your loss

Dan and Linda Smead - Muscatine, IA - classmate - June 23, 2015 at 12:00 AM

MT

“ I went to nursing school with "Gilly". Her sense of humor in sometimes unusual situations always made her fun to be around. At our 60th reunion in 2009 we found she hadn't changed! An amazing lady.

Marge Goodson - TX - June 23, 2015 at 12:00 AM

MN

“ I told my husband, Saul, last night that whenever I was around you that I felt a genuine love and interest coming from you. I always felt wanted and loved. Sometimes when I visit family the love is "because that's what family is supposed to do kind of love." Ellen - your love was real and felt by this girl. Thank you. I love you and miss your silliness and non-fussy demeanor.

Michele Yeaton - Charlottesville, VA - great niece - June 23, 2015 at 12:00 AM

AH

“ *Becky and Family,*

I am so sorry for your incredible loss. While I never had the opportunity to meet Ellen, I've had the pleasure of working closely with Becky on many projects - where she would speak of her often. It is evident to see why through the words you used to describe Ellen... "generous, intelligent, and influential" - Becky, you don't fall far from the tree. My heartfelt condolences for your loss. My thoughts and prayers are with you during this very difficult time.

Ashlea Lantz

Ashlea Lantz - Des Moines , IA - Colleague of Becky Harker - June 23, 2015 at 12:00 AM

CM

“ *I was truly saddened to learn this wonderful woman had passed. I worked with Ellen at Chariton Valley Medical Center and she was a joy to be around. We were treated to her homemade peanut brittle bowls at the holiday. She had such a presence and I admired the way she dressed and the awesome shoes she wore. This spring, I had a brief visit with her and she had the most beautiful quilt on her bed. She told me Becky had made it for her. I also saw the most unique shoes sitting there and I said "Those are so you, Ellen." She just smiled.....*

To all of Ellen's family, you were blessed with one of the best.

*In sympathy,
Carol Kelley*

C Kelley - Kirksville, MO - June 23, 2015 at 12:00 AM

KI

“ Rest In Pace, Ellen. You were a wonderful, caring woman and nurse. Thank you for all the years that you helped Dr. Orelup take good care of me & my family.

Karen Dicks - Ottumwa, IA - June 22, 2015 at 12:00 AM

SI

“ To Ellen's family,
So sorry to hear of your loss. I have known Ellen for years and she has given me advice, support and encouragement over that time. She was a strong woman of faith who was never afraid to share her wisdom sprinkled with her sense of humor. A real role model.

Sue Goode - Allbia, IA - June 22, 2015 at 12:00 AM

JF

“ To Ellen's loved ones
So sorry to hear of her passing. Ellen holds a very special place in my heart and she will be greatly missed! I will treasure all the memories we have together.
RIP Ellen

Jill Hannam - des moines , IA - friend - June 22, 2015 at 12:00 AM

KF

“ In your time of sadness. My thoughts and sympathy are with both of you and the family!

I know she will be long missed, but her LEGACY will live forever.

Koki Nakagawa - Ames, IA - Friend - June 22, 2015 at 12:00 AM

TF

“ My heart goes out to you and your family at this difficult time. Your in my thoughts and prayers.

Tami Fenner - Independence, IA - friend - June 22, 2015 at 12:00 AM

:F

“ In your time of sadness. My thoughts and sympathy are with the family!

I know she will be long missed, but her LEGACY will live forever.

: Koki Nakagawa - IA - Friend - June 22, 2015 at 12:00 AM

JF

“ Thinking and praying for you and your family Becky during this difficult time.

Jessica Kreho - Des Moines, IA - Friend - June 22, 2015 at 12:00 AM

VF

“ I will always remember Ellen. I would see her at Dr. Orelup's office. I loved the name Ellen. I gave my daughter Ellen as a middle name.

So many great memories from Albia that I hold near and dear to my heart.

Ellen definitely spent the dash (years of life) doing what mattered. She was always there to assist when you didn't feel well. She always had a nice smile.

Hoping the memories will sustain Becky and her family in the days to come.

Vicki

Vicki Woodard Luptowski - Ames, IA - Becky's Albia Classmate and Frie - June 22, 2015 at 12:00 AM

LI

“ So very sorry for your loss. We were patients of Dr. Orelup and Ellen for many years. Ellen was so nice and kind.

Larry & Phyllis Whitson - Albia, IA - June 22, 2015 at 12:00 AM

DN

“ *The loss of my Aunt Ellen is even more poignant as she was the last of a generation, the final survivor of the ten children of George Elmer Gilchrist and Lucy Maude Hoskins who married December 11, 1911.*

Aunt Ellen and her siblings were a robust bunch who passed on to the following generations the virtues of perseverance, family and goodness.

So many lessons and memories including this.

One pre-Christmas season decades ago when I was feeling down I traveled to Iowa to be with my Aunt Ellen, and she taught me how to make a real gingerbread house. We cut out pieces of cardboard to make the various pieces like sides, roof and chimney. I wrote the recipe on the side of the cardboard and put it in a file. For many years that followed making "Aunt Ellen's Gingerbread House" was a favorite Christmas tradition. When my daughter was old enough I showed her how to make one too. Now she teaches her children the same, so the tradition lives on.

You are gone now Aunt Ellen, but yet in so many important ways you will always still be with us.

Thank you for the life lessons Aunt Ellen, and thank you for the memories.

With much affection.

Dennis

Dennis Bussey - Richmond, VA - nephew - June 22, 2015 at 12:00 AM

WF

“ Family of Ellen Carl,
I am so sorry to hear of the death of Dr. Carl. I worked with her at
the CVMC in Centerville. Thoughts and prayers for all of you.

Wendy Argenta - Centerville, IA - friend - June 22, 2015 at 12:00 AM

LF

“ To Ellen Family I am so sorry for your loss. Ellen will be greatly
missed. When I started working for DR. Orelup Ellen was his nurse
and I worked in the office. We became close friends and she was so
proud of her children. When I losted my son . She came to see me
and she had a book for me. Which I did read and it help me. God be
with all of you. Linda Fall Wenger

Linda Fall Wenger - West Des Moines, OH - friend - June 22, 2015 at 12:00 AM

PF

“ To all of Elllen's loved ones:

*My sincere sympathy in your loss. Since I started working with Ellen
in 1981, she has been my teacher, mentor, confidante and friend.
Because of her example as a strong, independent woman with a
Faith that guided her life, I felt compelled to follow her lead. And I
will continue to try to live up to her measuring stick.*

*RIP Ellen, until we meet again.
Love, Patty*

Patty Hannam - Albia, IA - Friend - June 21, 2015 at 12:00 AM