



Phyllis Louise Rekemeyer

July 20, 1940 - July 7, 2024

Phyllis Louise Rekemeyer, age 83, of Albia, IA, passed away on Sunday, July 7, 2024, at the Monroe County Hospital in Albia, surrounded by her loved ones, under the care of Care Initiatives Hospice.

Phyllis was born in Cherokee, IA, to Joseph Ray and Marie (Anderson) Smith. She grew up attending school and graduated from Cherokee High School. Phyllis then attended Iowa State University in Ames, where she obtained her Bachelor's Degree in Home Economics. On May 27, 1962, she was united in marriage to Ross Rekemeyer at St. Paul's United Methodist Church in Cherokee and to this union, 3 children were born, Daniel, DeAnn, and Michael. Phyllis and Ross were blessed with 62 years of marriage prior to her passing.

Phyllis taught Jr. High Home Economics at the Roland-Story Community School District before moving to Albia where she worked in food service for the school district for 10 years. She then went back to teaching Home Economics in Chariton before retiring in 2001.

Phyllis served as co-chair and longtime member of the Monroe County Cattleman's Association. She was very generous with her time and very active with 4-H as a leader for many years as well as judging at county fairs. She loved serving as the Monroe County Hawk-eye for Our Iowa Magazine. Phyllis

was extremely creative and had an eye for designing and remodeling homes. She was a great seamstress who enjoyed sewing and quilting and loved making baby quilts as gifts for others. She also enjoyed being outdoors, gardening, and fishing. Above all else, her true joy in life was spending time with her family and friends, especially her grandchildren.

Phyllis is survived by her husband, Dr. Ross Rekemeyer; two children, Daniel (Natalie) Rekemeyer and DeAnn (Shawn) McAninch; five grandchildren, RaeAnna, William (Jacinta), Jordan, Connor and Erin; four siblings, Joseph Smith, Wanda Moller, Lowell Smith, Hallie Dessel; and two sisters-in-law, Anne Smith and Susie Hillman.

Phyllis is preceded in death by her son, Michael; her parents, Joseph Ray and Marie Smith, and a brother, Bill.

Visitation will be held from 2:00 p.m.-4:00 p.m. on Saturday, July 20, 2024, at the Tharp Funeral Home in Albia, with Phyllis's family present throughout to greet family and friends.

A memorial service will be held at 4:00 p.m. on Saturday, July 20, 2024, at the Tharp Funeral Home in Albia with Pastor John Sowers officiating. A private family burial will be held at a later date.

A memorial has been established to St. Jude's Children's Hospital.

Phyllis's family would like to offer special thanks to all of the nurses and staff at the Monroe County Hospital and Care Initiatives Hospice for their kindness and excellent care of Phyllis.

Condolences and memories to the family may be left online at www.tharpfh.com.

Previous Events

Visitation

JUL 20. 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM (CT)

Tharp Funeral Home
116 Benton Ave.
Albia, IA 52531
(641) 932-3129
<https://www.tharpfh.com/>

Memorial Service

JUL 20. 4:00 PM (CT)

Tharp Funeral Home
116 Benton Ave.
Albia, IA 52531
(641) 932-3129
<https://www.tharpfh.com/>

Tribute Wall



“ I know phillis rykamer for all my life she and her family we all hang together me and my brother would ride over bike down to her house we would pet the dog as I grew up I as adult help down at there house when I could love talking to them the where the veterans in albia so they hand many nlageble information about different things I will miss her and her wisdom she was like a mother to me



Jermeý Rowe - August 29, 2024 at 08:50 AM

VS

“ I met Phyllis when she and Ross moved to New Liberty to start his career as a vet. She was so full of life and so much fun! She was also very talented - a wonderful seamstress and gardener. As the years went on we both had young families and even after she and Ross moved away we used to visit each other often. Just recently she liked many of my posts on Facebook. I will miss seeing her name on there. Wish I could have visited with her in person but I have wonderful memories of a great gal.

Valerie Schmidt - July 20, 2024 at 10:54 AM

TF

“ Tom, Shellie and family purchased the Sweetest Sunrise Bouquet for the family of Phyllis Louise Rekemeyer.



Tom, Shellie and family - July 19, 2024 at 11:31 AM

AL

“ Anderson family, Lealand, John & Lorie purchased the Arrive in Style for the family of Phyllis Louise Rekemeyer.



Anderson family, Lealand, John & Lorie - July 19, 2024 at 11:27 AM

AJ

“ Phyllis was a role model for me as we shared our 4-H days together in the Afton League of the Four Leaf Clover. Then we rode to school together either in the big yellow school bus that her father, Ray, drove or in our car pool to band practice two or more days a week. Then I enrolled at Iowa State two years behind her, also graduating with a home EC degree. She was a great role model. I only wish we had stayed in touch. Blessing to all of her family. Alice Carlson Johnson

Alice Carlson Johnson - July 17, 2024 at 05:52 PM

RM

“ Rie & Mike McGovern purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of Phyllis Louise Rekemeyer.



Rie & Mike McGovern - July 15, 2024 at 11:35 PM

AB

“ Anne, Alissa, Weston, and Beckett purchased the *Fairest of All* for the family of Phyllis Louise Rekemeyer.



Anne, Alissa, Weston, and Beckett - July 15, 2024 at 01:42 PM

SS

“ Phyllis and I participated in the Miss Cherokee beauty contest in 1959, Phyllis won Miss Cherokee and I was the runner-up. Of course this was before marriage and children. Another fond memory was at our grandson Williams's high school graduation party. Phyllis and I were in the kitchen and we just started giggling like we were children, wish I could remember what made us laugh, but I know we couldn't stop.

Sandra Webb Shepherd - July 11, 2024 at 12:16 PM

MH

Our condolences to Ross and family. Don and Mary Hou

Mary Hoy - July 17, 2024 at 05:11 PM

LF

“ Les & Jackie Godwin & Family purchased the *Countryside Basket Blooms* for the family of Phyllis Louise Rekemeyer.



Les & Jackie Godwin & Family - July 09, 2024 at 02:28 PM



“ *Les & Jackie Godwin & Family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Phyllis Louise Rekemeyer.*

Les & Jackie Godwin & Family - July 09, 2024 at 02:28 PM



“ *Medium Dish Garden was purchased for the family of Phyllis Louise Rekemeyer.*



July 09, 2024 at 11:54 AM