



Suzanne Jennifer Palmer

May 18, 1938 - August 3, 2013

Suzanne Jennifer Palmer, age 75 of Albia, died Saturday, August 3, 2013, at Mercy Medical Center in Des Moines.

Sue was born May 18, 1938, to James and Eunice (Phillips) Williams in Ottumwa. She married John Palmer June 9, 1962 in Ottumwa.

A graduate of Ottumwa High School, Sue continued her education at Central College receiving a Bachelor's Degree in History. She then completed her Master's Degree at the University of Iowa in Canadian History, and received her Doctorate from Drake University in Educational Administration. Sue taught high school social studies in Albia before becoming a consultant and administrator for AEA 15 with an emphasis in Professional Development. Prior to retirement, she completed her seminary work at University of the South School of Theology. After retirement, Sue became an Episcopalian priest and was very involved in serving Grace Episcopal in Albia and St. Andrew's Episcopal in Chariton.

Sue was a past city council member, past board member of the Monroe County Hospital and was instrumental in the planning of the current hospital. She was very active in the Monroe County Ministerial Association, serving as its leader for several years. She was a very kind and giving lady who was constantly helping people in need. Sue also enjoyed birds, reading, traveling,

and dearly loved spending time with her family and grandchildren.

Sue is survived by her husband, John of Albia; a daughter Catherine (Leon) Veldhuizen of Wausau, WI; and two grandsons, Jacob and Joshua Veldhuizen of Wisconsin.

She was preceded in death by her parents; and a sister, Barbara Leonard.

As was Sue's wish, her body has been cremated and a memorial service will be 11 a.m., Thursday, August 8, 2013, at Trinity United Methodist Church in Albia, with Bishop Scarfe officiating. Her cremated remains will be placed in the columbarium at St. John the Baptist Episcopal Church in Wausau at a later date.

Visitation will precede the service from 9-11 a.m., Thursday, August 8, 2013, at Trinity United Methodist Church.

Memorials may be made to the Bishop of Iowa's Discretionary Fund.

Tribute Wall



“ *Suzanne Jennifer Palmer*

January 30, 2023 at 05:06 AM



“ *Suzanne Jennifer Palmer*

January 30, 2023 at 02:53 AM



“ *I will miss Aunt Susie and Mom celebrating St. Davids Day every year with cards.*

James Leonard - Pageland, SC - Nephew - December 19, 2013 at 12:00 AM



“ *Late, but just learned of this sad loss. Rev. Sue was one of the dearest, sweetest people I had come across in Iowa since moving here. Always a joy to see and talk with. She is sorely missed.*

Lynn Karavitis - November 04, 2013 at 12:00 AM



“ *She was a wonderful lady. We were welcomed into the neighborhood with baked goods, toys and Lion King sheets (which my kids still use). She will be greatly missed.*

Dayle, Heather,Hailey,Mackenzie and Ty Moeller - Albia, IA - neighbor - September 02, 2013 at 12:00 AM

SF

“ So sorry for your loss. Suzanne was one of my very first friends. Our back yards were adjacent, and many times my mother had to come to get me to give Suzanne a break. She was 3 years older than I, and my idol. When we played school, she was the teacher. When we played hospital, she was the doctor. And always she was the warm, kind, loving person I see her adult friends describe. (and her older sister, Barbara, was our babysitter) So often I have thought of her over the years with love and appreciation. Not at all surprised she too ended up an ordained minister. (I entered seminary when I was 50, and was ordained as a Presbyterian pastor). I thank God for the life and love of Suzanne Williams Palmer, and pray for comfort and shalom for you, her family. Blessings, Serena

Serena (Coate) Sullivan - Tacoma, WA - friend - August 29, 2013 at 12:00 AM

MI

“ Sue's family:
I am so sorry for your loss - and the loss of Sue to the people of God in the Episcopal Diocese of Iowa. What a kind, caring, and gentle soul she was - always positive and genuinely warm and concerned for those she encountered. She was a wonderful servant of God -who lived Christ's love into the relationships of her life. She is missed. Blessings to all of her family and friends.

Sincerely,
Martha Lang, Deacon
Trinity - Muscatine

Martha Lang - Muscatine, IA - Deacon in the Epis. Dioc. of IA - August 27, 2013 at 12:00 AM

AS

“ Memories of my former Teacher abound with laughter and now Tears of the passing of one of my favorite Teachers from way Back. What an great treat to have been one of her Students at Albia Community High School.

To John and Cathy I send my wishes to you and Thoughts and Prayers are there also. May God Speed and Bless her Soul. May her Journey continue.

Andy Simmons - Fulton, IL - Past Student - August 12, 2013 at 12:00 AM

JF

“ What a smile! What warmth and calm! I've known Sue since middle school (where she was immune to the usual adolescent pettiness). Sue was the same person every day.....unhurried, kind, gentle and strong. When Sue talked to you, she had a gift of listening with understanding and acceptance. That was true when we were both 14 years old and when we were graduating from high school and years later when we were colleagues. Just knowing Sue was a blessing that cannot be overstated. She made the world a safer place, and her influence is everywhere even now.

Jean Parsons - Grayslake, IL - friend - August 10, 2013 at 12:00 AM

SF

“ she will be miss

sherrymcmullin - desoto, MO - friend - August 10, 2013 at 12:00 AM

TI

“ I regret that I did not have a chance to know Sue personally since being retired. I am impressed with he many memories and recollections of other clergy and her many contributions locally. I regret being unable to to attend her service this day.

This was my prayer for Sue this morning: "Almighty God, our Father in heaven, before whom live all who die in the Lord: Receive our sister Sue into the courts of your heavenly dwelling place. Let her heart and soul now ring out in joy to you, O Lord, the living God, and the God of those who live. This we ask through Christ our Lord. Amen.:

Thomas Hulme+

The Rev. Thomas Hulme - Iowa City, IA - priest in the Diocese of Iowa - August 08, 2013 at 12:00 AM

MF

“ John, Cathy and family.

All of you are in our thoughts and prayers.

I wanted you to know you are in our hearts. I have promised to help a friend get to her surgery on Thursday. Chuck will come to share with you.

Such a wonderful lady that we admired so much. Bless you.

Margaret Mordan - Albia, IA - friend - August 07, 2013 at 12:00 AM

RP

“ We are praying for Suzanne and John and all members of the family at St. Anne's Episcopal Church in Ankeny. It was a great pleasure of mine and others to know Suzanne as a priest in these past 12 years I have been in the Diocese of Iowa and her love and compassion for all. We have been blessed to know her and plan to see her again.
Rev. Bob Kem and St. Anne's Family

Romans 8:39 "There is nothing in all of creation that will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord."

Rev. Robert A Kem - Ankeny, IA - friend and priest - August 07, 2013 at 12:00 AM

TI

“ Though the moments speaking to you were very short, they left an impression. It was by chance that I was in Chariton today and saw the paper. My thoughts are with those who surrounded you on a regular basis and your family.

You were a ray of hope within Chariton to those of us who needed a little help along the way. For that, I will forever be grateful.

Teresa Jones - Monroe, IA - August 07, 2013 at 12:00 AM

MF

“ Dear John and Cathy & family, We were sadden to hear of the passing of Sue. She was always so happy, friendly and willing to take the time to visit . You would never know she had any problems or health issues, as always smiling. She will we missed by so many and we hope all your memories will help you thru this difficult time. May the peace of the Lord be with you all.

Marilyn and Steve Larson - Albia, IA - friends - August 07, 2013 at 12:00 AM

DF

“ Dear Cathy, Leon, Joshua, Jacob and family,

My heartfelt love and sympathy to you at this time. I keep you in my prayers and thoughts. May you feel the love of God surrounding you.

blessings and love, dottie

dottie rathjen - Marathon, WI - Friend of the family - August 07, 2013 at 12:00 AM

BG

“ *As I light a candle in her memory, I realize that Aunt Susie was a shining light in her own right. She was full of knowledge, interesting information, contagious laughter, and the most loving Christian heart! As she rejoins my grandma in heaven, I anticipate a reunion full of ornery fun and laughter! She lived fully and will now face her loving savior for a well-deserved "vacation!". Aunt Susie, you will be heartily missed!!*

Love and prayers to you, Uncle John and Cathy and your whole crew.

Beth (Rooker) Ornduff - Carlisle, IA - Great-niece - August 07, 2013 at 12:00 AM

KF

“ Dear John, Cathy, and Family,

I was so sad to hear of your loss.

Sue was a mentor to me - always willing to listen and to offer sound advice. I can still see and hear her walking the aisles of our classroom singing the "Iowa Fight Song" to the students.

She was a kind, gentle soul -- with a sense of humor. She was the human being we all should strive to be.

May her memory always bring you comfort.

Kay Quinn - Green Valley, AZ - friend - August 07, 2013 at 12:00 AM

SF

“ Dear John, Catherine and family,

My heart was deeply sadden this morning when I saw Sue's obituary in the paper. Richard and I send our deepest sympathy.

She was truly an outstanding lady and she leaves a remarkable legacy. I always had nothing but great admiration for her. She will be missed by so many. May God comfort you and bless you.

Richard and Sonja Larsen

Sonja and Richard Larsen - Ottumwa, IA - Friend - August 07, 2013 at 12:00 AM

GP

“ John, Cathy, Leon, Jacob and Joshua: My thoughts and prayers are with you as you mourn the loss of such a lovely and vibrant soul. SueP was the kindest person I've known. The memory of her causes me to smile, as I know she now sits with Christ. She strengthened my faith as she led services and ministered to my daughters and me. I will miss her.

Gretchen Jenkins Douglas - Marshalltown, IA - friend and parishoner - August 06, 2013 at 12:00 AM

FF

“ Dear Cathy, Leon, Joshua and Jacob, and family,

We were so saddened to hear of your loss. We are so sorry. We hope you gain comfort, knowing we are keeping you in our thoughts and prayers during this most difficult time.

May you always know God's unending love.

Love,

The Fowle Family

Fowle Family - Wausau , WI - friend - August 06, 2013 at 12:00 AM

TF

“ Sue was a friend and priest of the finest order. She will always be remembered for her kind ways and advice. "...give it up for lent and never take it back..."

Tom & Kathryn - Cranberry Twp, PA - Friend - August 06, 2013 at 12:00 AM

GF

“ Sue was not just a friend. She was a person whom I feel enhanced our lives. She was a gift. Someone I could talk with, laugh with and cry with. She had a heart the size of the world and would gladly give the shirt off her back to absolutely anyone in need. I will love and miss Sue so very much.

gina - eddyville, IA - friend - August 06, 2013 at 12:00 AM

KS

“ Share a memory. Wow! Where to start. No, I don't have a specific memory, I have years of unconditional love and unfailing support, kindness and gentleness. Whatever I have achieved in my life, Sue Palmer can take some of the credit. Her willingness just to "be there" was often more than enough to persuade me to keep trying whenever something seemed too hard. She has always held a special place in my heart and always will.

Kathleen (Brown) Jordan - Saint Louis, MO - former student - August 05, 2013 at 12:00 AM