



Darlene Kay Perkins

April 28, 1941 - December 18, 2015

Darlene Perkins went to be with the Lord on December 18, 2015. She was born on April 28, 1941 in Richland Center the daughter of Ralph and Helen (McNelly) Shireman. She is survived by her loving husband Bruce, her high school sweetheart, whom she married on June 13, 1959 in Viola, WI. They remained in love for 56 years. She was a loving mother, grandmother and great grandmother and was adored by each and every one of them. Darlene possessed a great love for her family and her home. She welcomed family, friends and neighbors into their home, where she always had a wonderful meal prepared. She enjoyed entertaining and expressed her love through food and her warm, welcoming, fun loving spirit. She was a fantastic homemaker, cook and baker and was known for always having something yummy baked to share with whoever happened to stop by. She always put others before herself and had a compassionate ear. These qualities served her well as an EMT and emergency room nurse in Portage, WI and as an LPN at the Beloit Family Health Associates Clinic, where she was beloved by patients and staff alike.

Darlene and her family spent their early married years in Richland Center from 1963 to 1968, moved to Portage, WI in 1968, and then to Janesville, WI in 1988. Darlene spent her time caring selflessly for her family. She was an active and avid supporter of her children's activities in school and sports and especially loved watching her sons play football, never missing a game. Her home was a lively and active spot where her children's friends and the neighborhood kids enjoyed gathering, many of whom continued to stop by over the years with families of their own.

Darlene had many talents and interests including: gardening, cooking, canning, baking, antiques and growing beautiful flower beds. She loved the Packers! She had a great love for farm life and the years she spent on the family farm, which she and Bruce purchased in 1999, and which she enjoyed sharing with her children and grandchildren. The joy of her retirement years was spending time with her grandchildren and great grandchildren. Throughout her years in Portage and later years in Janesville, WI, with Bruce, she continued to cherish her home and the comfort it brought to them, and to others. She was a woman of strong moral character which was evident by the way she treated others, lived her life and by how much others loved and admired her.

She will be deeply missed by her husband, family, friends and the many people whose lives she enriched. Now, she peacefully rests in the arms of the Lord.

Survivors include her husband, Bruce Perkins of Janesville, WI; mother, Helen Shireman of Richland Center; 4 children, Jody (Jennifer) Perkins of Plano, TX; Robyn (Gerald) Perkins of Montello, WI, Jaimie (Andrea) Perkins of Gilbert, AZ, Joshua (Jeni) Perkins of Baraboo, WI; 10 grandchildren, Abbie and Hayden Perkins both of Plano, Texas, Brandon (Lacey) Ryan of Endeavor, WI, Brock (Kristin) Ryan of Bangor, WI, Hannah (Matt) Saviano of Columbus, WI, Kaylee, Caleb, and Karli Perkins all of Scottsdale, AZ, Cole and Jaylie Perkins both of Baraboo; 4 great grandchildren, Olivia, Jackson, Xander, and Julian; a brother, Bill (Judy) Shireman of Richland Center, WI; 2 sisters, Cindy (Leo) Kraft of Solen, N.D., Kristi (Joe) Durst of Sextonville, WI; other relatives and friends.

She was preceded in death by her father, Ralph Shireman.

A Celebration of Darlene's Life will be held on Saturday, June 18, 2016 at 1:00 PM at the United Methodist Church in Viola, WI. Visitation will be held at Noon until the time of service at 1:00 PM. Should family and friends desire, memorials may be made to the Viola United Methodist Church. A Special Thank You to Clary Memorial Funeral Home for assisting the family.

Previous Events

Visitation

JUN 18. 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM (CT)

Viola United Methodist Church
225 N. Washington
Viola, WI

Celebration of Life

JUN 18. 1:00 PM (CT)

Viola United Methodist Church
225 N. Washington
Viola, WI

Tribute Wall

SB

“ *Such a lovely woman I had the honour to know. Through all my antics as girlfriend to Darlene's son Jody, she always remained a nonjudgmental and caring individual. Clear memories of her wonderful food and kind conversation remain with me today. May you rest in peace Darlene. Much love and peace forever.*
Sarah Babb

sarah babb - March 04, 2022 at 03:12 PM

LM

“ *Aunt Darlene -gone almost a month, still hard to believe. Loved and missed by all of us. Always a smile on her face.... Always warm and welcoming. Wonderful chats at the Perkins family reunions. missing her. our condolences to the family.*
Jim and Laura Morrison<http://storage.lifetributes.com/Candles/new/candle-10.png>



Laura Morrison - January 17, 2016 at 02:34 PM

DV

“ *Dear Perkins Family,*
I am so sorry to hear of Dar's passing. She was at times like an aunt to me as my mom and I would spend so much time visiting with you all in Portage. I am sure that if there is a heaven my mom (Joyce) has greeted her dearest friend with a surreptitious coffee cup-full of their favorite "Smirnoff coffee" and they are reminiscing about their two little fat boys. Thank-you for all of my memories. Dar will be missed. My condolences to all of you.

Dave Violette

Dave Violette - January 08, 2016 at 09:43 AM

RD

Thank you for the kind words. They are visiting right now!

Robyn

Robyn, Daughter - January 10, 2016 at 06:59 PM

LM

“ To the Perkins family:

Sending our sympathy. Sorry to hear of your mother's passing. We have fond memories of your family and Darlene at many wrestling matches. We will keep you in our prayers.

- Jack and Lorna McMahon

Lorna McMahon - January 05, 2016 at 03:15 PM

BM

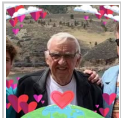
“ Dear Bruce & Family,

My sincere sympathy on the loss of Darlene. What a nice lady she was and I know she'll be very much missed by all of you!

I remember with pleasure the many visits we had at my folks' house, Nate & Eleanor Miller, back in the Portage days. They always thought so much of both of you and enjoyed your company so much. Those were good times and good memories.

Bonnie Miller Manning

Bonnie Manning - January 05, 2016 at 09:22 AM



Miller's were some of our favorite memories

Bruce Perkins - January 19, 2016 at 12:22 PM

RE

“ I did not have the privilege to know Darlene to a great extent, but I have been privy to many stories about her throughout the years, and they have all been great. You see, I bought "The Perkins House" from them In 1988. Shortly after I moved in, young Josh paid me a visit. As we walked around the yard and house, he pointed out where mom always kept cookies. I had to 'fess up, I don't bake. I was also glad to see Darlene and Bruce attend my first block party along with their grandson, who lived across the street with his family. As we walked around the yard, I think Darlene was fine with how I was taking care of the home she had loved and lived in for many years. Rest in Peace, Rosie Endres Portage

rosie endres - January 05, 2016 at 08:08 AM

MF

“ Dear Bruce, so sorry to hear the sad news. You and the family are in our hearts and prayers. I will always remember feeding the football team and traveling all over to watch them. Marilyn and Dick Ferguson

marilyn ferguson - January 04, 2016 at 04:56 PM

Lori Schotten

“ So sorry for your loss...I remember Darlene when Cheryl Gohlke and I would visit. She had a beautiful soul. May your memories bring you comfort.



Lori Schotten - January 04, 2016 at 04:36 PM

KI

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Kari Illsley - December 25, 2015 at 08:09 AM

KR

“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



Kristi - December 24, 2015 at 09:24 AM

MR

“ Mary & Mike Rydberg lit a candle in memory of Darlene Kay Perkins



Mary & Mike Rydberg - December 23, 2015 at 08:33 PM

LR

“ *Lacey Ryan lit a candle in memory of Darlene Kay Perkins*



Lacey Ryan - December 23, 2015 at 04:14 PM

LR

Grandma, I miss you so much. I wish you could be here for Christmas. I will see you in my dreams and in heaven. I love you. from grandson Jackson James Ryan

Lacey Ryan - December 23, 2015 at 04:17 PM

LR

“ *2 files added to the album New Album Name*



Lacey Ryan - December 23, 2015 at 04:10 PM

CJ

“ *Charles Janssen lit a candle in memory of Darlene Kay Perkins*



Charles Janssen - December 22, 2015 at 06:26 PM

CJ

Bruce you and Darlene are like family. Been through some very good times. Darlene will be truley missed.

Charles Janssen - December 22, 2015 at 06:29 PM

MM

“ *Mike McNelly lit a candle in memory of Darlene Kay Perkins*



Mike McNelly - December 22, 2015 at 04:18 AM

SF

“ There are so many ways to define who this wonderful woman was but kind is the one that keeps going thru my brain.

Kind to me as a little girl, kind to me as a young lady and kind to me as a woman.

Aunt Darlene was already my Aunt when I was born and so I always had her in my family and in our lives

My love surrounds you all now , my family , as your morn the loss of such an amazing woman.

She lived life to it's fullest and left us all with memories.

Sandy Fry - December 21, 2015 at 07:17 PM

VH

“ Vicki Hellenbrand lit a candle in memory of Darlene Kay Perkins



Vicki Hellenbrand - December 21, 2015 at 04:38 PM

CM

“ Carole McCauley sent a virtual gift in memory of Darlene Kay Perkins



Carole McCauley - December 21, 2015 at 12:23 PM

KP

“ Kaylee Perkins lit a candle in memory of Darlene Kay Perkins



Kaylee Perkins - December 21, 2015 at 12:04 PM

AP

“ *Andrea, Kaylee, Caleb And Karli Perkins lit a candle in memory of Darlene Kay Perkins*



Andrea, Kaylee, Caleb and Karli Perkins - December 21, 2015 at 12:03 PM



“ *7 files added to the album Memories Album*



Clary Memorial Funeral Home - December 21, 2015 at 09:49 AM

RP

“ *I will never forget Bruce and Dar visiting us at 7 mile cheese factory - great memories - so sorry for this great family*

Rich Perkins - December 21, 2015 at 09:22 AM

CM

“ *Cathy Parpart Moody lit a candle in memory of Darlene Kay Perkins*



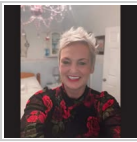
Cathy Parpart Moody - December 21, 2015 at 09:08 AM

DJ

“ *Dar was a wonderful lady. Loving to everyone. We wild miss her dearly.
Denis & Connie Janssen*



Dennis Janssen - December 21, 2015 at 06:22 AM



“ We love you. I miss you so much.



Robyn Bradley - December 21, 2015 at 12:23 AM



“ Steve & Lana Murphy lit a candle in memory of Darlene Kay Perkins



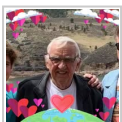
Steve & Lana Murphy - December 21, 2015 at 12:00 AM



“ When it came time to bring Julian home from the hospital almost a year ago, we had to stop at nana's and papa's house first. ❤️



Hannah Rose - December 20, 2015 at 11:48 PM



Nana loved her grandchildren

Bruce Perkins - January 19, 2016 at 02:27 PM



“ Jaimie Perkins lit a candle in memory of Darlene Kay Perkins



Jaimie Perkins - December 20, 2015 at 11:37 PM

JR

“ *Julie Rose lit a candle in memory of Darlene Kay Perkins*



Julie Rose - December 20, 2015 at 09:48 PM

JP

“ *1 file added to the tribute wall*



Jen Perkins - December 20, 2015 at 08:50 PM



Best of buddies

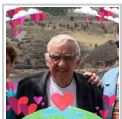
Bruce Perkins - January 19, 2016 at 02:26 PM

JP

“ *1 file added to the tribute wall*



Jen Perkins - December 20, 2015 at 08:47 PM



There is NaNa 's Cole'

Bruce Perkins - January 19, 2016 at 02:29 PM

JP

“ *Horse and colt show 2015*



Jen Perkins - December 20, 2015 at 08:44 PM

JP

“ Halloween 2015



Jen Perkins - December 20, 2015 at 08:42 PM

JP

“ Jen Perkins lit a candle in memory of Darlene Kay Perkins



Jen Perkins - December 20, 2015 at 08:41 PM

KI

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Kari Illsley - December 20, 2015 at 08:22 PM

KR

“ Dar was always there when I needed her. When I had Jeremy, Dar and Bruce were at the hospital in the middle of the night. She came and stayed with me after I came home to help out. They came and watched Jeremy in football and track. We always had great times shopping, going out to eat, renting a cabin up North and of course Thanksgiving. I have a lot of good memories.. I'll never forget you.
Your sister Kristi

Kristi - December 20, 2015 at 08:17 PM

JP

We will miss you but you will not be forgotten.

Jennifer Perkins - December 21, 2015 at 08:57 PM

BK

“ *Brittney Kraft lit a candle in memory of Darlene Kay Perkins*



Brittney Kraft - December 20, 2015 at 07:17 PM

JF

“ *Jeff And Brenda Gocht & Family lit a candle in memory of Darlene Kay Perkins*



Jeff and Brenda Gocht & family - December 20, 2015 at 05:08 PM

GG

“ *Georgia Goodyear lit a candle in memory of Darlene Kay Perkins*



Georgia Goodyear - December 20, 2015 at 04:23 PM

CK

“ *Cindy Kraft lit a candle in memory of Darlene Kay Perkins*



Cindy Kraft - December 20, 2015 at 04:10 PM

CK

“ *My sister Dar was always there for me when I needed support throughout my life, Bruce and Dar helped me out many times. Leo said he was glad we went back home for Thanksgiving this year to see our family. I will miss and think of her everyday. Rest in peace. Cindy Kraft*

Cindy Kraft - December 20, 2015 at 04:09 PM

JP

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Josh Perkins - December 20, 2015 at 03:54 PM



“ I am so sorry for your loss of Darlene .. Wife, Mother, Grandmother, Great Grandmother, Daughter, Sister and Friend ! There will be so many missing her, so savor the memories and feel the Blessings of the time you had with her <3 You will see her again !

Jackie Muller - December 20, 2015 at 02:08 PM



“ 1 file added to the album Darlene



Clary Memorial Funeral Home - December 19, 2015 at 10:57 PM

KI

“ Kari Illsley lit a candle in memory of Darlene Kay Perkins



Kari Illsley - December 19, 2015 at 08:12 PM

BK

“ 2 files added to the tribute wall



Brittney Kraft - December 19, 2015 at 08:03 PM

RY

“ Rita YoungGulsrud lit a candle in memory of Darlene Kay Perkins



Rita YoungGulsrud - December 19, 2015 at 07:47 PM

KI

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Kari Illsley - December 19, 2015 at 07:40 PM

KI

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Kari Illsley - December 19, 2015 at 07:17 PM

KI

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Kari Illsley - December 19, 2015 at 07:16 PM

KI

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Kari Illsley - December 19, 2015 at 07:14 PM

KD

“ 1 file added to the album *New Album Name*



Kristi Durst - December 19, 2015 at 07:12 PM

KD

“ 1 file added to the album *New Album Name*



Kristi Durst - December 19, 2015 at 07:07 PM

DW

“ *To Darlene's Family,*

Sending our deepest sympathy to you all at this sad time. May you cherish all the wonderful memories that have been made thru out the years. It is comforting to know she is free of pain and you will have another angel to watch over all of you.

Deb and Al Walling

Deb and Al Walling - December 19, 2015 at 07:05 PM

KD

“ *Kristi Durst lit a candle in memory of Darlene Kay Perkins*



Kristi Durst - December 19, 2015 at 07:00 PM

KD

“ 1 file added to the album *New Album Name*



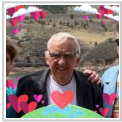
Kristi Durst - December 19, 2015 at 06:50 PM

KD

“ 1 file added to the album *New Album Name*



Kristi Durst - December 19, 2015 at 06:47 PM



The way we were.

Bruce Perkins - December 21, 2015 at 12:25 AM