



H. Esther Dietzman

August 8, 1931 - April 11, 2020

Helen “Esther” Dietzman, age 88, passed away peacefully in her sleep on Saturday, April 11, 2020 at Pine Valley Community Village near Richland Center. She was born on August 8, 1931 in North Clayton to Homer and Ida (Goplin) McDermott. She graduated from Richland Center High School in 1947 and earned her teaching degree from Richland County Teachers College at the age of 18. She married William “Garth” Dietzman on August 23, 1950. Together they raised five children and each of them still believe they are her favorite. She was a lifelong member of the Church of the Nazarene and had a strong and faithful relationship with God.

At age twelve, Esther spent time caring for her paternal grandparents in their home while attending school in Richland Center. After school and marrying Garth, she taught for two years at Lower Camp Creek School in Viola and at Hustlers Ridge. A favorite story is that one cold day while preparing the one room school for class, she accidentally locked herself out of the school. She had to crawl back in through the coal chute. With her dress dirty from the coal dust, she continued her preparations. She again had to go outside, and in her haste, she locked herself out again! We can only imagine what the students thought when they first saw her that day. Esther and Garth lived in several locations before settling on their Century Dairy Farm in Akan Township near Five Points in 1960. She was a consummate homemaker and partner on the farm. She would help with the milking and crops in the fields and then cook

huge meals for the family. She was known for her homemade noodles, fresh vegetables from her extensive garden, cakes, pies and cookies. Later in their farming career, when the milking was done, the family would sit out by the large pine trees in the yard, eat ice cream and “watch the trees grow”. Esther and Garth enjoyed traveling and spending time in the mountains. She was the first woman accepted in the hunting camp due to her wonderful cooking and humor. After Garth’s passing in 1984, she spent time caring for the elderly in their homes, renovating houses, and traveling to Costa Rica on a mission trip to help build a school. She enjoyed spending time with her family and traveled with them throughout the United States and Canada.

She will be remembered for her quick wit and wisdom. The day before her passing, her daughter asked Esther how she felt. She responded by saying, “I normally feel with my fingers.” Her many talents included cooking, cleaning, tatting, gardening, playing the piano and organ, ceramics and airing out the house every morning – no matter the temperature. She loved travel, fixing anything, planting flower gardens that were enjoyed by everyone who passed by, and bringing joy to other’s lives. She was a wonderful wife, mother, sister, grandmother and great grandmother and friend to all. With Garth, she gave her children the roots of responsibility and the wings of independence. Together, Esther and Garth taught their children to be avid learners, to work hard, travel often and enjoy life.

She is survived by her children, Loreen (Gary) Kalish of Viroqua, WI, Gordon (Debra) Dietzman of Roseville, MN, Beverly (Daniel) Peters of Albany, WI, Brenda (Tess) Dietzman of Wichita, KS, son-in-law, David (Galina) Jacob of Lone Rock, siblings, Alfred (Kay) McDermott, Gladys Beier, and Luella Bell, grandchildren: Ryan Pierce, Heather (Jason) Faber, Michelle (Brad) Saffell, and Dan Jacob, nine great grandchildren: Hayden, Isaac, Isabella, Evan, Jacob, Aaron, Lillia, Olivia, and Joshua along with many nieces, nephews and lifelong friends including Elaine Mortimer.

She was preceded in death by her daughter, Dorothy "Louise" (Dietzman) Jacob, her husband William "Garth" Dietzman, and a brother, Everett McDermott, sisters, Belva Jones, Ruth Gander, and Letha Holverson.

A small service will be held for immediate family, with a public memorial service to be announced later.

A special thank you to Our House Senior Living and Pine Valley Community Village for the love and care they gave her.

Memorials may be made to the Church of the Nazarene in Richland Center.

Cemetery Details

Willow Valley Cemetery

County Trunk BA
Richland Center,, WI 53581

Events

Details are pending.

Tribute Wall

KA

“ John & I are so sorry for your loss. We have many fond memories of visiting with Esther in church and at church functions. She was a wonderful lady that will be dearly missed by many. You are in our prayers. Kim & John Annear

Kim R Annear - April 17, 2020 at 09:33 PM

JU

“ I remember mom (Mildred) having an irregular closet that needed some sorting and organizing and Esther helped her with that. My folks both thought a lot of Esther, as did I, as well as your whole family. You all had a special lady for a mother. Your family is in my thoughts and prayers. Janice Unbehaun

Janice M Unbehaun - April 17, 2020 at 04:38 PM

PC

“ Aunt Esther was such a genuine person. I absolutely loved her smile and sense of humor. One of my dearest memories was when she told me the story of when Garth asked her to marry him. Her reply was, "you want to marry me?!!" She said she didn't think he would want to marry her after she told him the family history but he laughed and said yes he wanted to marry her. She laughed so hard telling that story. I also loved the early years visiting the family on the farm. She will be dearly remembered by all who knew and loved her.

patricia (mcdermott) cushing - April 17, 2020 at 12:55 PM

 Linda Markin

“ *Linda Markin sent a virtual gift in memory of H. Esther Dietzman*



Linda Markin - April 16, 2020 at 11:05 PM

 Linda Markin

My ex- husband & I went to church with the Dietzman family. Esther was a very lovely lady. My condolences to the family.

Linda Markin - April 16, 2020 at 11:09 PM

LG

“ *Esther seemed to have this genuine, humble, joyful smile - a smile that would also permeated through her voice. Mom spoke highly of Esther and I enjoyed those few times we all got together at the farm. She was special.*

louis gander - April 16, 2020 at 06:35 PM

LM

“ *The Dietzman farm is where we could milk cows, take the milk to Aunt Esther, & have delicious coleslaw from the freshest milk ever. The family table served many friends and family over the years, & I now recite blessings to all the family, as we did at that precious table. God bless our memories, in Yeshua, Linda McDermott*

Linda McDermott - April 16, 2020 at 04:38 PM

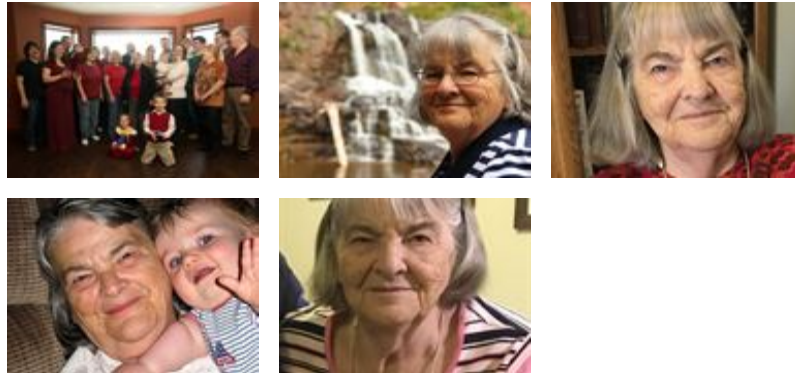
BG

“ *50 years ago last December, I proposed to Carol in the living room of their house...(the Goplin homestead near Boaz). So Garth and Esther were the first to know.*

Bob Gander - April 16, 2020 at 04:23 PM



“ 145 files added to the album LifeTributes



Clary Memorial Funeral Home - April 16, 2020 at 12:47 PM

CS

“ Dear Loreen & Family,
Sending warm sympathy in the recent loss of
your Dear Mother. It is never easy to say
good by regardless of their age. It sure
sounds like she was a busy & energetic
person in the good things in life of helping others.



Warmly,
Charleen Studnicka

Charleen M Studnicka - April 16, 2020 at 11:17 AM

VW

“ My thoughts are with the family of Helen Esther Dietzman especially
Loreen and Gary Kalish and the Jason Faber family

Virginia Wiedenfeld - April 16, 2020 at 12:47 AM

BH

“ It is so hard to part with our Mother's so want to offer my sympathy to your whole family. One of my biggest memories is the August. 1950, the day of your parents marriage was my first time playing for a wedding and I will always remember that and your whole family will always be a part of my memories. God bless and comfort you all! Sincerely, Beth Hilleshiem

Beth Hilleshiem - April 15, 2020 at 12:55 PM

BG

Wow! What a legacy of service through the years. The talent demonstrated at my mother's funeral could never be duplicated. Ruth Gander was supremely honored that day.

Bob Gander - April 16, 2020 at 04:34 PM

PB

“ We were very sorry to hear of your Mom's passing. We remember after we were first married over 50 years ago when we would make our trips to see Ken's grandparents, we would stop at your farm, as we would always say, "we saved the best for last". Your mom and dad were so welcoming to us. I remember going out to your barn, being a farm girl myself, and seeing the cattle. We remember your mom and dad stopping by our house in Cheyenne in the fall of 1973 when Ken was in the Air Force. It was so nice to see family and very thoughtful of them. You are in our thoughts and prayers.

Ken & Peggy Bell

Peggy Bell - April 15, 2020 at 12:41 PM

MG

“ *My condolences to Esther's family. I enjoyed the photos, especially from the Akan Central years. I used to see Louise sometimes when she was doing wedding photography and saw Loreen within the last couple of years, probably in Viroqua. I haven't seen the rest since high school and that was 48 years ago! God bless you all.*
--Michael Gorman

Msgr. Gorman - April 14, 2020 at 11:47 AM