



Martha Kay Bakke

July 11, 1948 - September 02, 2021

Martha Kay Bakke, 73, of Roland, passed away on Thursday, September 2, 2021, at the Israel Hospice House in Ames.

Martha Kay Bakke was born to Andrew and Veda Bakke on July 11th, 1948. Growing up, she enjoyed farm life and working with her dad. She graduated from Roland High School in 1966. After graduating from UNI in 3½ years, which included a 2½ month German study tour in Austria, she taught high school German and coached basketball and softball. She taught at both NESCO and Lincoln Central in Gruver, Ia. A favorite teaching memory: her students once placed her Opel (she owned two at different times- 'Odin' and 'Thor'!) sideways on the steps of the school.

In 1975, Martha returned home to farm after her father's death. She credits her neighbors and friends for helping and encouraging her as she took the reins of the family farm. During the winter months Martha worked at Anderson grocery store and Syngenta. She continued to farm for 40 years, retiring in 2015. She also volunteered at Mary Greeley Hospital and served on the boards of the Story County FSA, Key Coop, and the Roland Story Foundation.

Martha's life was defined by humble and faithful devotion to God, her family and her community. Over the years she served many roles at Salem Lutheran Church, including Choir Director for 28 years, Sunday School Superintendent, Trustee, Deacon, Women's Bible Study Leader, and Mistress of Ceremonies for many occasions. Martha enjoyed making people laugh and she was always available and willing to shower love on those around her. For her family, this was often in the form of kringla, chip cookies, lefsa, and Norwegian meatballs!

Martha also enjoyed puzzles (Sudoku!), reading, traveling (Austria and Norway were highlights), and annual fishing trips to Canada and Bemidji with friends.

She was preceded in death by her parents, her brother William, her sister Mary Ann Nass, and her great nephew Francis Nass. She is survived by her sister, Marcia Snider, seven nieces, one nephew, and 20 great nieces and nephews.

Cemetery



ROLAND CEMETERY

Roland, IA

Events



MEMORIAL SERVICE

10:30 AM

Salem Lutheran Church
102 S Main St, Roland,
IA 50236



VISITATION

5:00 PM - 7:00 PM

Salem Lutheran Church
102 S Main St, Roland,
IA 50236

Tribute Wall

B

Boeke Funeral Homes



"Boeke Funeral Homes posted a video"

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Sandy Hansen

Longtime neighbors Ernest B. Egglund family have known the Bakke family dating back to Martha's parents. My memories date back to Martha's childhood days. Remember riding the school bus and school activities as well as Salem Lutheran Church where she was very involved. Her dedication to music and serving as choir director. Martha was charming, full of smiles, talents and extending a helping hand whenever called upon. She was a special person and neighbor. Peace, Love and God's Blessings, Sandy Egglund Hansen



Tribute Store

Reminding those whom you support that your thoughts are with them.



"Sunrise"

was purchased for the family of Martha Kay Bakke

[Tribute Store](#)

Show your support with flowers



Tribute Store

May you be comforted by the outpouring of love surrounding you.



"Stairway To The Heavens"

was purchased for the family of Martha Kay Bakke

[Tribute Store](#)

Show your support with flowers

L

Laila Valhammer

We got to meet Martha several times and we are so grateful for that. Her warmth and generosity I will remember for ever. And also her sense of humor. She (and the first time aunt Veda) took so good care of us when we did visit from Norway. So sorry for your loss 🙏🙏 Laila, Lars Arne, Laura og Maria



"Material_candle_white_thumbnail"
was lit in memory of Martha Kay Bakke

❤️ Light a candle

Show your support by giving a symbol of remembrance



Betty Gordon

Marcia/family, My heartfelt sympathies to each of you on the loss of your beloved sister, Martha. I played softball and basketball with Martha, Barb Risdall, Shirley Ault, Susan Twedt, & Tammy Raymond. She was a great shortstop and forward. She was dedicated to Salem Lutheran Church as choir director, filled in on the JOY TRIO, and a great farmer. We'll all miss her wonderful smile and giving heart. RIP, return if possible is another version I learned in 2020. Betty Tunesvik Gordon, Ames

L

Linda Larson

I met Marti when we were both teachers at Lincoln Central School during the '73-'74 school year. Our birthdays were one day apart, we both grew up on farms, and we just hit it off immediately! She was one of my bridesmaids when I got married, and was our vocalist also! While teaching, she was the girls basketball coach, and I was the chaperone. On our trip to the State tourney that March, she helped me pick out some of the material I used to make by wedding dress and the bridesmaid dresses—such fun we had! She was Guinevere in the musical Camelot performed at the school that year, and years later, she and I attended the musical at the Dinner Theater in Des Moines to reminisce!! So much fun we had, loved the birthday and Christmas cards we exchanged over all these years, her attending special functions of my kids. I will miss her so Ryan much!! My deepest sympathy to all of her family—of whom she was so very proud!! Linda Fisher Larson West Des Moines, Iowa



Brent and Dawn Lange

Jen, Carl and family our thoughts and prayers are with you during this difficult time.



"Lavender Fields"

was purchased for the family of Martha Kay Bakke

[Tribute Store](#)

Show your support with flowers

A tree was also planted in memory of Martha Kay Bakke.

B

Becky Burr



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Becky Burr



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Becky Burr

Mart was a teacher, coach, mentor and friend. Being a student involved with her in class and sports while at NESCO, she had our best interests at heart and for me, always had my back. Years later, a simple phone call had Mart orchestrating a weekend in Roland for the Kansas Girls Youth Choir. Lodging at the school, meals and concerts at the churches were coordinated and hopefully, she knew how very much her skills and the town's efforts for the group were appreciated. Having the opportunity to visit on Memorial Day weekend was a treat for all. The topics were quite varied ranging from school days, family, farming, neighbors and community activities. Memories abound ... Mart was one very special lady! Ed and Becky (Wheelock) Burr

W

Weldon R. Woodward

"To: The Martha Bakke family: Please accept our condolences on the loss of Mart. We will miss her. She was one of a kind, a strong and independent woman before it became popular. A conversation with her was interesting and you did not have to guess where she stood on things. From: Weldon & Gayle Woodward, parents-in-law of Kari Woodward"

D**Debra Johnson, parents Larry, Bev; grandparents Myrl, Lola Johnson**

Martha is finally at peace. Thank you for being my German teacher. Thank you for your assistance at coaching NESCO girls softball winning the Iowa State Softball Tournament. Thank you for being a good neighbor and helping Dad with the Harvest combining. May everyone sharing memories of Martha be blessed. Rest in Peace Martha Kay Bakke.



"Material_candle_gold_thumbnail"
was lit in memory of Martha Kay Bakke

❤️ [Light a candle](#)

Show your support by giving a symbol of remembrance

L**Louie Ritland**

So sorry to hear of Martha's passing. I will always remember her as a great Roland Rocket athlete, friend and special classmate.



Tribute Store
A memorial tree was planted in memory of Martha Kay Bakke.

A**A Memorial Tree was planted for Martha Kay Bakke**

We are deeply sorry for your loss ~ Boeke Funeral Homes, Inc.
