



Helen Elizabeth Ritland

September 14, 1921 - May 06, 2020

Helen Elizabeth Ritland passed away on May 6, 2020 at The Households of Bethany in Story City. Helen was born on September 14, 1921 to Carl and Tillie (Birkeland) Jacobson in Roland. She graduated from Roland High School in 1939. On March 25, 1944 she married Earl Ritland, also of Roland. Together they raised three children on their farm south of Roland.

In addition to being a homemaker Helen worked for several years as the cook for the Roland Kiwanis Club. Later she took on a full-time job as a baker at Iowa State University, where she worked until her retirement. At ISU she really enjoyed working with and serving the college students who were but a few years younger than her kids.

Helen was a lifelong member of the Bergen Lutheran Church having been baptized and confirmed in the church. She was an active participant in Ladies Aid for many years and as such was always ready and willing to assist in any way she could.

She enjoyed baking, cooking, helping out at Bergen, and spending time with her children and grandchildren. After retirement she and Earl enjoyed traveling to a wide variety of destinations, including California, Europe, Central America and the Caribbean.

Helen was preceded in death by her husband Earl, brothers Amos Jacobson and Carroll Jacobson, sisters Ella Thompson and Florence Christian, and sons-in-law Lyle Moeller and Tom Ossenbeck. She is survived by her daughter Nancy Moeller of Boone, sons David Ritland of Edina, Minnesota and Roger Ritland of San Francisco, California, grandsons Matthew (Johnna) Moeller of Ellsworth, Brian Moeller of Boone, and Nathan Moeller of Boone, and granddaughter Sara Moeller of Boone. Following a graveside service conducted by Lay Minister John Sheahan of Bergen Lutheran Church, Helen will be interred in the Roland Cemetery, next to the former Jacobson farm where she was born and raised.

Tribute Wall

K

Kay Jacobson Stanley

Nancy, Roger, and David, I'm so sorry for the loss of your mom. I remember the fun times we had playing together at the family gatherings.... special memories. I remember it seemed like your mom was always smiling. She was a special lady. You are blessed to have had her for so many years. You are all in my thoughts and prayers. 🙏🙏🙏. Kay Jacobson Stanley

M

Maggie & Steve Westvold

My husband Steve and I rented south of Roland 1970-72 on Earl Howard's acreage. Toopie was such a welcoming neighbor, brought us milk & bread during the blizzard January '71. And your dad & bro's helped my husband shivel our drive. Heartfelt condolences to all who loved her. God bless. 🙏



Betty Gordon

Helen's family, I always remember your mom with that beautiful smile attending our sports events and at Bergen church for funerals I attended. My heartfelt sympathies to each of you on the loss of your beloved mom. RIP HELEN.

T

Tim Christian

