



Jean M. Carlson

October 23, 1918 - May 18, 2016

Jean Mary (nee Hess) Carlson, 97 years, 6 months and 26 days, of Arbor Vitae, died on May 18, 2016 at Seasons of Life Hospice House in Woodruff. She was born on October 23, 1918 in Chicago, IL, the daughter of Charles Joseph Hess, Sr. and Lily (nee Folczyk) Hess. Jean attended Proviso High School in Maywood, IL. She had met the man of her dreams, Vernon John Carlson, and on June 30, 1954 they were married in Melrose Park, IL. Jean worked for several years as an elevator attendant at Marshall Fields in Chicago. In 1956, Vern and Jean moved to northern Wisconsin and purchased the Arrowhead Inn in Arbor Vitae. It was a fully operating resort with cabins and a full bar. Jean worked at the Arrowhead Inn, until 1973 when it sold. Along with working at the Arrowhead Inn, Jean also cleaned 7 cabins and was busy raising her daughter, Barbi. After that she worked at Bosacki's for 14 years and 2 years at the Diamond Inn as well as Jim Peck's, Dan's Gay 90's, Lula's and Monical's Pizza. Jean was also a familiar face at the voting polls, where she volunteered for many years. She enjoyed making her famous 8 pound carrot cakes, crossword puzzles, games shows, going out for a Friday night fish fry and was an avid Packer fan. At the young age of 93 years old, Jean ended up retiring. Her last place of employment was Monical's Pizza, which used to be the Arrowhead Inn; ironically her working career began and ended in the very same spot of the Northwoods. Jean surrendered her driver's license at age 95 and to say she was not happy about it would be an understatement! In two words, Jean was selfless and hardworking. She

worked hard at everything she did and devoted her entire life to helping others anyway she possibly could. Jean was a classy woman who always wanted to look her best and she did! She always put her husband, Vern, and daughter, Barbi, first- she would have done anything for them. Jean was loved by many and will be dearly missed by all whom had the pleasure of knowing her. Jean is preceded in death by her parents; husband, Vernon Carlson; brothers, Charlie, Stanley and Eddie Hess; beloved sister-in-laws Norma, Ann and Fern; brother-in-laws, Duane and Arnie and grand dogs, Princess, Lucas and Lucky dog. She is survived by her loving daughter and best friend, Barbi Jean Carlson; niece-in-law, Suzi James and her daughter, Melanie (James) Cockrum; step daughter, Pia (Ray) Cresswell and their children Joshua, Johanna and Matthew and step great grandchildren. Visitation will be held from 10:00 – 11:30 AM on Saturday, June 4, 2016 at Calvary Lutheran Church in Minocqua, followed by a Memorial Service at 11:30 AM.

Previous Events

Visitation

JUN 4. 10:00 AM - 11:30 AM (CT)

Calvary Lutheran Church
8632 Hwy 51
Minocqua, WI 54548

Memorial Service

JUN 4. 11:30 AM (CT)

Calvary Lutheran Church
8632 Hwy 51
Minocqua, WI 54548

Tribute Wall

KS

“ Every summer my mother and I would travel up to Ashland to visit my grandfather and great grandmother. Often times we would stop in Minocqua and visit with Uncle Vernon, Auntie Jean and Barbi. I remember Auntie Jean always being so kind and welcoming. She had such a sweet disposition and really valued family. Sometimes we would visit her at work and get ice cream- she always had an incredible work ethic and this is something I always admired. She will definitely be missed by many.

Krista Shorey - June 04, 2016 at 08:58 AM

KM

I'm so sorry for your loss Jean lived next door to My ex father-in-law and we would travel to Florida a couple times a year as soon as we got there I was headed to Jean and Carl's house made Don Meier mad but she and I were great buds we would shop all day and she would talk about them grand boys of hers mrs.fishy couldn't have loved them anymore I had been calling her for years and she wasn't answering I was worried about her because of the hurricane I will probably never go back to Florida I hope God helps you find peace in this hard time there's a bunch of messages on her answering machine from me

Kay Meier - September 13, 2025 at 08:03 PM

DP

“ Long, long time ago our family went to visit Uncle Vernon, Aunt Jean and Barb. Me and Diane were in junior high and Larry was 8 yrs. old. Us kids stayed in our pop-up camper for a few days (in the yard) while Mom and Dad went to Ashland. Auntie Jean was so generous to take us on! She was a pioneer of a woman. Hard working and she had a sense of humor too. I remember when she came out to greet us upon our arrival she said with big eyes " my but you've got a healthy bunch Fern!!! We love you Aunt Jean

donna pearl - June 04, 2016 at 03:56 AM



“ *Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Jean M. Carlson.*



May 30, 2016 at 10:13 AM



“ *Our family has many good memories of Auntie Jean. She and Uncle Vernon made such a good pair. There were many good times shared in summer and winter.*

The Arrowhead Inn was a fun place to be. We stayed with Auntie Jean and Uncle Vernon while enjoying the snow trails in winter, or the beautiful lakes in summer.

Every year my daughter Krista and I would stop and see her on the way up to Ashland, WI where my grandmother lived. She was very kind and sometimes we would stay with her for an evening.

I remember her as being very hard-working and always so pleasant. I will have nothing but fond memories of her.

Kathy Holm - May 30, 2016 at 09:42 AM



“ *Barbi, your Mom was a wonderful woman who brought joy to every one she met. She will be greatly missed but will live on in the hearts of many. God bless you in this tough time.*

Lynn Timmons Starck - May 27, 2016 at 08:56 AM

TW

“ Hi Barby sorry about mom one great lady

The Wips - May 25, 2016 at 09:44 AM

CD

“ Thank you Barbi, for bringing your sweet mom into my circle. She was so kind and generous with us so much of the time, that this very large circle of your friends will miss her terribly...

My strongest wishes are with you to help you travel through this painful journey of heart break and hollowness. There are no shortcuts, I know, I looked for them. Although we've been through sad, and hurt before, we still look for some short cut to make it hurt less and the only answer is TIME. Good thing there are spaces in between when a laugh sneaks out and a bit of relief can be experienced.

*My sincerest condolences,
Charlene*



Charlene DeWald - May 20, 2016 at 09:19 PM

BW

“ Bobbi Walker lit a candle in memory of Jean M. Carlson



Bobbi Walker - May 20, 2016 at 08:57 PM

AH

“ Ann Habram sent a virtual gift in memory of Jean M. Carlson



Ann Habram - May 20, 2016 at 08:42 PM

MC

“ Love ya Barbie~ love & prayers to you.. So happy I got to meet your mom..a beautiful woman.. She will be with you always ~



melanie james cockrum - May 20, 2016 at 08:14 PM

DJ

“ Love you Barbie💕💕 I'm so glad I got to meet your mom.. She will always be with you~ love, hugs & prayers🙏



Diana James - May 20, 2016 at 08:07 PM

SH

“ Sue Hedstrom lit a candle in memory of Jean M. Carlson



Sue Hedstrom - May 20, 2016 at 06:18 PM

VB

“ So sorry for your loss Barb, Jean was a warm and good person. .God Bless you Jean.



vonnie Braun - May 18, 2016 at 09:07 PM

DR

“ So sorry to hear of your Moms passing Barbie. You are in our prayers. Diana and Bill Rose.



Diana and Bill Rose - May 18, 2016 at 08:04 PM

AS

“ Jean, Your Smile and Soft touch are already being missed. I will always remember your face when you were eating your soup and the smile when I would bring you a pie. Rest in Peace you are in Gods Hands now. Love Angie

Angela C Schuh - May 18, 2016 at 01:51 PM