



## Lois Deanne Klempel

May 1, 1927 - November 6, 2019

Lois Deanne Klempel, age 92, moved peacefully into the kingdom of God on Wednesday, November 6, 2019.

Born to Gerrit and Frances (Gringhuis) Schultz on May 1, 1927 in Grand Haven, Lois was a lifelong area resident, and graduated from GHHS in 1945. She married Richard Klempel on August 28, 1948 and was his devoted and loving wife for 65 years. She was an active member of Second Reformed Church where she and Rich served as Sr. High Youth Group leaders, and "Mr. & Mrs." Couples Group leaders. Lois also joyously sang soprano in the choir for many years and would get so nervous when she had to sing solo! She had a heart for Christian ministry that carried into all aspects of her life. Her faith, love of people and tenacity were an inspiration to many.

When Lois and Rich met, she was employed at Oakes Insurance Agency across Washington Street from McCellan's Five & Dime. Rich was walking to visit his aunt Lena, the owner of Riemer's Jewelry Store, when they passed each other on the street. He had just finished his shift as a GH Police patrolman and was dressed in his army uniform which was dyed dark blue because he couldn't afford to buy one yet. Lois asked her co-worker who he was as Rich also turned to take a second look.

Shortly after that, he started calling to ask her out, but she had a steady boyfriend. Rich was persistent and continued to call. Lois's mother answered one of his calls and Rich, not recognizing her voice said, "How about a date?" "Sure" she said, "What time do you want to pick me up?" Being shy, he was quite embarrassed, but persistence paid off and Lois finally told her boyfriend she was going to see Rich so he would stop pestering her. That was all it took, and the rest is history.

When they were married, Lois worked at Keller Tool until they started a family a few years later. Within ten years the family had grown to six, all within the confines of a two-bedroom duplex they had built. Though she never imagined herself as the mother of 6 children, she was dedicated to the task of raising them to be healthy, honest and responsible adults.

When the children were all in school, she worked at Jaarda's Clothing Store, and then as secretary to the director of the Ottawa Area Intermediate School District until she retired. She was an accomplished seamstress, making her own beautiful wedding trousseau out of parachute silk that Rich brought home from his WWII duty. She also sewed wardrobes

for her children, herself, Barbie & baby doll clothes, upholstery work, clothes for the grandkids, and also, embroidered many receiving blankets for them. If anything needed mending, she would willingly fix it.

Gardening and camping were two more of her passions. She would be on her hands and knees working in the garden for hours until about the age of 90. The family started camping in 1964 when Lois would bravely pack up the six kids, plus one or two friends for two-weeks while Rich was home working. The family continued to have many camping adventures together as it expanded to include marriages and grandchildren. Her last camping trip was in May of 2018.

She was preceded in death by her husband Rich, and sister Joyce Busman. She is survived by her six children: Lynda Klempel (Steve Spear) of Oregon, Gayle (Walker) Parmelee, Janna (Barry) Houghton, Deb (Russ) Rymal, Jim (Nicole) Klempel, and Scott (Kristen) Klempel, and brother-in-law John Busman, all of Grand Haven. She has been a blessing in the lives of her grandchildren: Morgan (Parmelee) Chatman, Kate (Parmelee) Huhn, Elizabeth (Parmelee) Foster, Erica (Houghton) Meyer, Travis, Andrew, and Lucas Houghton, Taylor, Elliot, and Hannah Rymal, & Kylie Klempel. She also leaves eight great-grandchildren and six nieces and nephews. Lois was an exemplary woman, wife, and mother, and will be greatly missed by her family.

The family would like to thank everyone at Grand Pines Assisted Living and Hospice for their kindness and excellent care.

The funeral for Lois will be held at 11:00 a.m. Saturday, November 16, 2019, at Second Reformed Church, 1000 Waverly, Grand Haven with Rev. Dan Eisnor officiating. Friends may meet the family 5 -7 p.m. on Friday, November 15, at The VanZantwick Chapel of Sytsema Funeral & Cremation Services, 620 Washington Ave, Grand Haven, MI and one hour prior to the service at the church. In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation to Second Reformed Church. Please visit [www.sytsemafh.com](http://www.sytsemafh.com) to sign Lois's guestbook or share a memory with the family.

# Cemetery

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**Lake Forest Cemetery**  
1304 Lake Ave.  
Grand Haven, MI, 49417

# Events

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**NOV 15 Visitation 05:00PM - 07:00PM**  
The VanZantwick Chapel  
620 Washington, Grand Haven, MI, US, 49417

**NOV 16 Visitation 10:00AM - 11:00AM**  
Second Reformed Church of Grand Haven  
1000 Waverly Ave., Grand Haven, MI, US, 49417

**NOV 16 Funeral Service 11:00AM**  
Second Reformed Church of Grand Haven  
1000 Waverly Ave., Grand Haven, MI, US, 49417

# Comments

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“ Sorry we didn't see this earlier. Our sympathy to the whole family.  
Bill and Denise Casemier

Denise Casemier - November 18 at 01:27 PM

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“ Dear Lynda and Klempel Clan,  
Our hearts are with you on the loss of Lowie, your mom. She will be greatly missed on this side of Heaven. Sending wishes for comfort and peace.  
Love and sympathy to all.  
Shirley and Rick

Shirley Arthur - November 16 at 07:31 PM

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“ So sorry for you loss. Our thoughts and many prayers are with all of you at this time. I have very fond memories of your Mom growing up-especially her trying to find Jim for me and then sending me home! God Bless  
Tim and Dawn Holland

Dawn Camp-Holland - November 14 at 06:18 PM

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“ Heartfelt Memories was purchased for the family of Lois Deanne Klempel.



November 12 at 12:41 PM

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“ I was so saddened to hear of Lois's passing. Our deepest sympathy to you all. She was such a sweet, wonderful women. I remember all the times as a family we would get together once a year for the family reunion. It was always so good to see her and Richard. They were both such wonderful people and I know you all will miss her dearly. We live in Oklahoma now so am so sorry we won't be able to come to the funeral but will keep you all in our prayer's. Love to you all!

Margaret Klemple (VanSchaik)

& Larry

margaret ann vanschaik - November 11 at 12:27 PM

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“ You have my sympathy in the passing of your mom. What a Wonderful Christian Woman she was. Big hugs to ALL of you. Linda Start Brock

Linda Brock - November 11 at 10:39 AM

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“ Sending thoughts and prayers to the family from Arizona/ We are thinking of all of you

Dave and Ruth Bush  
Tucson, Arizona

Ruth Bush - November 11 at 07:53 AM

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“ Dear Family,

What a wonderful woman your mom was and I am so happy to have known her (and your father as well). She always brought a smile with her, making me smile too. She will be missed!

You have my deepest sympathy,  
Bari Johnson

Bari Johnson - November 10 at 06:00 PM

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“ Janna and Family, Thinking of you at this time. Thanks for being a good friend to my sister. With Love, Chris and Carol Fair

Christopher D Fair - November 10 at 03:54 PM

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“ Janna and the Klemple family. I am so sorry for your loss of your mother Lois. Please accept my deepest sympathies and sincerest condolences. Your mother was a wonderful person with a kind giving soul. We still have the cake topper from our wedding that she hand-painted to make the bride and groom figures look like Heather and myself. I treasure it to this day.

**Bill Kasmauski** - November 10 at 12:24 AM