

2025 Spring Retreat Memorials

Let's begin by singing **Psalm 73C**, a Psalm providing needed comfort throughout life.

It is our privilege to share memories of six ladies many of us knew and loved.

Carol Hindman – Minneola, Kansas

Carol Hindman was born September 12, 1928 and went to her eternal home at age 95, May 6, 2024. She was a faithful wife to Reed for almost 73 years until his passing in 2023. She is survived by her 5 children, their spouses and 16 grandchildren. She was great-grandma to 21 with 2 more on the way. She loved her family and was a Godly example to each of them.

Carol was born in Sterling, Kansas, the youngest of Metheny and Isabelle Edgar's nine children, Margaret, Ralph, Donald, Jean, Alice, Howard, Alvin and Mary. It was a tight knit and loving family who were faithful and devoted members of the Reformed Presbyterian Church of Sterling. Their faith in God would sustain them as the eldest son, Ralph, died in a farm accident at the age of 17 when Carol was 2, and younger son Alvin drowned at a church picnic in Sterling Lake at the age of 14, five years later. Unlike her mother, Carol was able to live her entire life without losing any of her children.

The faith in God that sustained her through tragedies early in her life became the foundation for her entire life. Her trust in Jesus Christ as her Lord and Savior would direct her steps and all of her decisions, great and small for the remainder of her life. It was just that pivotal to her life.

Carol graduated from Sterling College in 1950 majoring in Home Economics. One of her college highlights was being selected Homecoming Queen. But the major highlight was meeting a young man from Ohio, who was living in Minneola. Reed first noticed Carol when she was giving a speech on total abstinence (from alcohol) at a church young people's meeting. Her children believe they also received the same speech, some multiple times. After catching Reed's attention he would describe it this way "I chased and chased until she finally caught me." They were married on August 29, 1950 just before Reed was drafted into the Army and deployed to Germany. Carol stayed in Sterling working for Dr. Betty Kilpatrick.

When Reed returned from his service in 1952, they settled in Minneola, Kansas. Their faith and frugal lifestyle sustained them when their first wheat crop was completely lost in a hailstorm. Carol was a typical Kansas farm wife, driving equipment, helping with livestock, running for parts, keeping the books, helping with repairs, and serving as safety patrol while her farmer did something dangerously stupid in order to fix a problem with the resources on hand. All of this in addition to all the domestic duties of

birthing children, caring for them, feeding everyone, making and mending clothes, cleaning house, mowing the yard and all other duties the farmer saw as necessary.

Carol was a member of the Reformed Presbyterian Church and involved as a deaconess, Sunday school teacher and Womens' Missionary Society, where she touched many lives. Carol served in Presbyterian officer positions from 1976-1980. She was program chairman in 1978 then served as President in 1979 and 1980. She was a faithful prayer warrior for her family and friends. Her involvement in the community over many years included Farmerettes, Garden Club, 4-H leader, and dependable spectator at many school events.

Carol was a sweet, kind-hearted woman who her children do not remember ever raising her voice. Even when they deserved it. She had a dry sense of humor and was quick to laugh. She had a knack for comforting and was always ready with a hug. While she preferred to be in the garden, she was a very good cook and her family never went hungry.

Carol held to the faith expressed by Job, "For I know that my Redeemer lives, and at the last he will stand upon the earth." At one time when a family member was going through a challenging time, Carol claimed the scripture found in Psalm 56:8 "You have taken account of my miseries; Put my tears in Your bottle. Are they not in Your book?"

Jane Stubbendick – Clarinda, Iowa

Jane was 83 when she passed away on July 16, 2024, at Clarinda. Born on December 3, 1940, on the family farm in rural Clarinda, Jane was the cherished first daughter of William L. and Martha Mae (McKibbon) Morrow.

Growing up near Clarinda, she attended the local country school before continuing her education at Clarinda High School. She attended college in Pennsylvania for a year before returning to Iowa where she met and married Paul in 1961. Together, they were blessed with four children. Though their paths diverged later, Jane's dedication to her family remained steadfast.

Jane's life journey took her to various towns across Iowa, Kansas, and Nebraska before she settled back in Iowa, where she spent her remaining years. In 1978, she found love again with Ralph Stubbendick, whom she married.

Professionally, Jane attained her nursing degree as an LPN and dedicated herself to providing compassionate care in home health services. She also contributed her skills to the soil testing department at the University of Nebraska before returning to her passion for home healthcare.

Upon retiring, Jane and Ralph embarked on numerous adventures in their motorhome as part of the Royal Rovers club. They cherished their time spent exploring the beauty of

the United States. Their shared faith was central to their lives, as they attended Bible studies and found solace in scripture. More than once I remember seeing their motorhome as Jane attended Presbyterian with her mother Martha Morrow and sister Bessie.

Jane had a green thumb and found joy in tending to her garden, nurturing plants and flowers with care. An avid birdwatcher, she found peace in observing nature's beauty. Her resilience and independence were qualities admired by those who knew her.

Jane is survived by her loving children. She leaves behind a legacy to her grandchildren and great-grandchildren, and many others.

Jane will be remembered for her unwavering strength, compassionate spirit, and devotion to her family and community.

Esther Marion Parnell – Topeka, Kansas

Esther Parnell was born in Kansas, on June 19, 1935, to Harold Kerr and Florence Margaret (Milligan) Curry. The family soon moved to a farm near Winchester, KS, where Esther grew up. She went on to graduate from Winchester High School in 1952 and then from the Stormont Vail School of Nursing in 1956.

While studying in Topeka, she met and fell in love with her future husband, Darrell Parnell, who was attending Washburn University. They were married on August 10, 1956, and celebrated 65 years of marriage before Darrell passed in 2022.

Esther's life was deeply marked by her Christian faith. She and Darrell joined the Topeka Reformed Presbyterian Church in 1962 where she remained active as a member until her health prevented her. She expressed her love of Christ in many ways, perhaps most notably in serving others. Esther worked as a Registered Nurse in various Topeka hospitals and clinics, but spent much of her married life as a homemaker, raising five children and working part-time to help pay for each to pursue higher education. And though service started with her own home and children, it extended well beyond her own household. Many will remember enjoying a meal around her table, a large scoop of ice cream shared on the sunporch, a piece of pie at a church potluck, or a warm bed and overnight hospitality. Others will remember her teaching Sunday School, helping with Vacation Bible School, participating in the Women's Missionary Society, or volunteering at the Topeka Rescue Mission. When she sat down for a moment by herself, it would often be at the kitchen table, quietly reading her Bible.

Esther was 89 when she passed away peacefully on September 26, 2024. She was preceded in death by her parents, her husband, her brothers, Dale and Clair, and her sister, Marjorie. She is survived by her five children, seventeen grandchildren, nine great-grandchildren, and two sisters.

Mary O. Fowles – Clay Center, Kansas

Mary O. Fowles, 95, of Clay Center, died Sunday, December 22, 2024 at the Clay Center Presbyterian Manor. She was born on November 10, 1929 in Clay Center, the daughter of Ray and Lavina (Finlay) Milligan. She attended the Hebron School and graduated from CCHS in 1947 and worked for Gamble's in Clay Center.

She married Cecil on August 29, 1950 and the couple farmed in Clay County. Cecil preceded her in death on October 13, 1978. Mary continued to live on the farm and worked at Pfeifley Jewelers and Central Office Service and Supply until her retirement. She moved into Clay Center in the Mid 1990's. Mary was a member of the Hebron Reformed Presbyterian Church and the Extension Homemakers Unit.

Mary is survived by her children and their spouses; 13 grandchildren; 12 great grandchildren; brothers, Harold and his wife Margaret Milligan and Norman and his wife, Gwen Milligan, both of Clay Center, and a sister-in-law in Oklahoma.

Mary was not able to attend church for many years. She moved into the Presbyterian Manor about 6 years ago and did attend chapel services especially when Pastor Hemken officiated. Services were at the funeral chapel, which ended up being full, which added richness to the singing of the Psalms, especially Psalm 23.

Deanna Roberts – Quinter, Kansas

Deanna was 82, when she went to be with the Lord on January 22, 2025. Deanna was born at home in rural Quinter, on March 5, 1942. She graduated from Quinter High School in 1960 and continued on to Fort Hays State for one year.

Deanna was united in marriage to Garry on September 30, 1961; they were married almost 58 years. Deanna was a true farmer's wife in every sense of the word. She helped Garry with livestock, driving tractors and trucks, packing silage, carrying irrigation pipe, and tending to cattle and hogs. In addition to working on the farm, she held several full-time jobs throughout her lifetime, including working at First National Bank in Quinter and the Farm Service Agency in Hoxie. Deanna was a woman of strong faith and was a lifetime member of the Reformed Presbyterian Church of Quinter. She also enjoyed gardening, canning, sewing, and making wedding cakes. But what she treasured and loved the most was raising her three children. In her later years, it was her six grandchildren, who meant the whole world to her.

Deanna was the hub that connected the many spokes of her family and kept them moving, and without her, their lives will be forever changed. Her family and friends will miss her regular phone calls just to check in and catch up, and the way she was always there when someone needed her. Over the years, she was a caretaker to many family and friends. She always managed to make everyone she came into contact with feel

loved and cared for and never missed an opportunity to share her faith. She will be deeply missed, but her legacy of love and faith will live on in every life she touched.

Deanna is survived by her children, grandchildren, and other family members.

In the front of Deanna's Bible this was written, "God has matched our soul to our circumstances. We are not in our present situation by accident. Let us glorify Him where we are. The righteousness of God is achieved by believing, not by achieving. Are you proudly going to "hell" or humbly going to "Heaven?"

Deanna was the treasurer for Quinter RPCNA for many years and an active member of Sylvia Missionary Fellowship before it was dissolved.

Julia Ann Wilson – Washington, Iowa

Julia Ann Wilson, of Columbus Junction, Iowa, passed away March 15, 2025, at age 87.

Born November 3, 1937, in Washington, Iowa, the daughter of Robert and Helen Carson, Judy attended school in Washington, graduating from Washington High School in 1956. She attended Lifeguard Training School at Great Lakes Aquatic Center and worked as a Lifeguard at the Washington Community Y and Lake Darling. She graduated from the Burlington School of Nursing. She was united in marriage to Donald Wilson on November 14, 1959, at the Little Brown Church in Nashua, Iowa.

Judy, or Rooney as she was known by family and friends, lived in Columbus Junction all of her married life. She worked as a Registered Nurse at hospitals, nursing homes and medical clinics. Judy was a substitute School Nurse for the Columbus Community School District. An active member of the Reformed Presbyterian Church in Washington, Judy was a Sunday School Teacher, Bible School Teacher, and a member of the Women's Missionary Society. When she was young, Judy was a member of the Rainbow Girls and Campfire Girls. Judy also served as a 4-H leader, and was a member of the Music Mothers and the Shellbark Neighborhood Club. Her favorite Psalms were Psalm 110 and 4B from the red Psalter. She was very active in the church - serving as chairman of our social committee for many years). She was a faithful member of WMF - she took many a turn in a leading Bible study and hosting WMF meetings.

She is survived by her husband Don; a daughter and two sons; six grandchildren and 12 great-grandchildren, plus many extended family members. She was such a joy - always had a smile and happy word to say! A very friendly, kind, helpful lady indeed!

Let's close by singing **Psalm 23B**