



## Darlene Barbara Andersen

October 19, 1927 - January 7, 2021

Memorials to Bethany Lutheran Church

Live stream of the funeral will be available on Tuesday at 1 PM at <https://webcasts.lifetributes.com/1112799>

Darlene B. (Denker) Andersen, daughter of Chris and Magdalene Denker was born on Oct 19, 1927 at the family farm in rural Elkhorn, NE. She attended elementary school in rural Douglas County and Elkhorn High School. After graduating from high school, she worked at Union Pacific Railroad, Rob-See-Co, and Zimmerman Feed Yard near Elkhorn. While working at the Feed Yard, she met Edward Andersen and they were married on Nov 27, 1947. Shortly after, they started operating the family dairy farm south of Valley, where they raised their family of four children: Robert, Susan, Nancy and Peggy. During this time, they both were involved in numerous community organizations. Darlene served as a local 4-H Club Leader, Ladies Home Extension Club member, and served on various committees within Bethany Lutheran Church. Darlene was actively involved in the Valley American Legion Auxiliary for many years including holding many elected positions. Darlene and Ed were both dedicated and committed to the Grange organization for 60 plus years. During this time, Darlene held various offices at both the local and state level. She was the Women's Activities Director for the Elkhorn V.E. Grange and the Nebraska State Grange for several years.

Through the Grange, Darlene has made many stuffed toys for children in need.

Darlene and Ed moved to Washington D.C. in November, 1979, when he was elected as President of the National Grange for eight years. During this time, Darlene also worked in the National Grange Office. She was involved in the development of a "National Grange Cookbook."

In 1988, they returned back to their farming roots to be near their family, building a home adjacent to the farm. Darlene worked for 17 years as bookkeeper for Woods Landing campground while Ed continued his interests in farming.

She was a gifted seamstress and made many of her daughters' dresses, including the bridesmaid dresses for their weddings. The past five years she was very active within the Bethany Lutheran Ladies quilting group and looked forward to their monthly sessions; at this time, she changed her home office into her "quilting room" where she spent many, many hours. She loved reading a good book, puzzles, gardening, and her daily lunch outings with family members.

She enjoyed her time spent with her children, grandchildren and great grandchildren. She was the cornerstone for the family.

Darlene passed away on January 7, 2021, at the age of 93. She was preceded in death by her Husband Edward, parents Christian and Magdelene, 1 brother Chet Denker, 1 sister Helen Smith, and great grandson Mason Schultz. She is survived by her children: Robert and Jackie Andersen, Susan and Terry Gilfry, Nancy and John Prestia, and Peggy and Kent Merryweather; 10 grandchildren and 16 great grandchildren; sister Marge Grabow; brother Howard Denker; brother in law Nels Andersen; and many nieces and nephews.

The family would like to say "Thank You" for your support, prayers, and friendship.

# Cemetery Details

## **Prospect Hill Cemetery of Elkhorn**

21901 W. Maple Road  
Omaha, NE 68022

# Tribute Wall



“ *Reichmuth Funeral Home created a Webcast in memory of Darlene Barbara Andersen*



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**Reichmuth Funeral Home** - January 08, 2021 at 06:17 PM



“ *Darlene Barbara Andersen*

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December 10, 2022 at 09:12 AM



“ *Our heartfelt sympathy in the passing of Darlene - Our thoughts and prayers to all the family. Blessings, Gene & Mary (Karloff) Roncka*

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**Gene & Mary Roncka** - January 21, 2021 at 01:02 AM



“ *From the Armbrust Family and specifically for Nancy, we pass on our deep respect and joy in remembering Darlenes life. The decades of walking side by side with Nancy, Darlene brought enumerable wonderful memories. God bless her family who carry her spirit on.  
For Nancy by Bill*

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**Bill Armbrust** - January 14, 2021 at 08:13 AM

PS

“ I was very grateful to be able to join with the whole Anderson family to celebrate the life of one great lady. There are so many stories and so many memories that she was involved in. I was grateful to have been involved in them. Those summers at the farm live on. We were all so lucky. -Pat Smith Studnicka

Pat Smith Studnicka - January 12, 2021 at 02:47 PM

LC

“ Lois Clover And Susan Christopher sent a virtual gift in memory of Darlene Barbara Andersen



Lois Clover and Susan Christopher - January 12, 2021 at 09:54 AM

SC

“ Susan Clover Christopher lit a candle in memory of Darlene Barbara Andersen



Susan Clover Christopher - January 12, 2021 at 09:51 AM

KC

“ Darlene was a remarkable woman in her own right. Truly, a kind, thoughtful, and organized person, who was an asset to any group or organization. The Grange organization membership held the highest respect for Darlene and Ed, and considered them to be Legends. We shall truly miss Darlene, as we have missed Ed. God Speed! Our deepest condolences to the Anderson family. Kevin and Shannon Cooksley.

Kevin T Cooksley - January 12, 2021 at 05:56 AM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Darlene Barbara Andersen.*



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January 10, 2021 at 07:26 PM



“ *A very remarkable Lady, that is my memory of her. Darlene, a 1944 graduate of Elkhorn High, she was always helpful in class reunions. She wrote of her experiences In Washington for the Grange. She was a self-assured lady with an amazing wit. Blessed to know her.*  
*Patsy Peterson Schmidt*

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**Patsy Peterson Schmidt** - January 10, 2021 at 12:58 PM



“ *Virg & Judy Gottsch & family purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Darlene Barbara Andersen.*



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**Virg & Judy Gottsch & family** - January 10, 2021 at 11:44 AM



“ *Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Darlene Barbara Andersen.*



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January 10, 2021 at 10:52 AM



“ *Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Darlene Barbara Andersen.*



January 10, 2021 at 10:15 AM



“ *Days of Sunshine Bouquet was purchased for the family of Darlene Barbara Andersen.*



January 09, 2021 at 01:05 PM



“ *The Splichals purchased the Enchanted Cottage for the family of Darlene Barbara Andersen.*



**The Splichals** - January 09, 2021 at 12:06 PM