



## Joyce Ellen Olson

December 5, 1934 - November 23, 2019

On Saturday, November 23, 2019 Joyce Ellen Phillips Olson passed away peacefully in her home with family by her side at the age of 84.

Joyce was born on December 5, 1934 in Lesterville, South Dakota to Willis Raymond and Leora Alice (Rubsam) Phillips. She grew up in Sheldon, Iowa where she attended grade school before moving to, and graduating from, Swanville, Minnesota in 1953. On September 25, 1953, Joyce married Dennis Olson. They were blessed with five children: Scott, Denise, Jeff and Lyle and Dennis Jr. In about 1966, Joyce and Dennis moved their family from Minnesota to Nebraska, eventually settling in at Ginger Cove.

Joyce earned her CPA after working for an accounting firm, Alexander Grant, in Minnesota and was one of the first women CPAs in Omaha. She worked for Elmer Fox and Davidson's before eventually taking over Two Way Trucking until retirement. She then worked at Olson Motor Lines until the week before her death.

Joyce had a strong faith and was active in her church, St. Marks Lutheran Valley, and had a passion for clowning. She taught how to "clown from the heart", spreading joy and laughter to those she touched. Her travels as "Ida-No" with Life In Christ Circus and Lutheran ministries took her to hospitals and churches around the world. It was through clowning that her love for sewing

and quilting grew, a skill she first learned from her grandmother as a young girl. She was a member of Sewing for Babies and Lutheran World Relief. Joyce served as a board member for Women of ELCA Nebraska and held various office positions for Omaha CPA's, International Clowns of America, and Omaha Wild Clown-dum.

Joyce is preceded in death by her Infant Son Dennis, parents Ray and Leora, sister Shirley, husband Dennis and son-in-law Denny Stark. Joyce is survived by Scott (Robin) of Valley, Denise Stark (Les Rung) of Gretna, NE, Jeff (Sharon) of Valley and Lyle (Peggy) of Elkhorn; 14 grandchildren and 19 great grandchildren; brother Bob (Deloris) Phillips of Sioux City, IA and brother-in-law Don Jorgensen of Sioux City, IA

# Previous Events

## Family will receive friends

NOV **29**. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

Reichmuth Funeral Home - Omaha / Elkhorn  
21901 W. Maple Rd.  
P.O. Box 711  
Elkhorn, NE 68022  
402-289-2222  
services@reichmuthfuneralhomes.com  
<https://www.reichmuthfuneralhomes.com/>

## Graveside

NOV **30**. 1:00 PM (CT)

Pleasant View Cemetery  
Yutan, NE 68073

# Tribute Wall



“ *Joyce Ellen Olson*

December 10, 2022 at 09:12 AM



“ *Farewell Joyce. You have been a good family friend and neighbor.  
Robert Larsen*

**Robert Larsen** - December 05, 2019 at 05:03 PM



“ *Mom aka LC loved her clowning with Ida No. They did so much and traveled so many miles together. They brought out the best in each other.*

*Andrea Clauson King*

**Andrea King** - November 29, 2019 at 12:13 PM



“ *I worked for Joyce at Davidson's Furniture years ago, she was kind and patient.*

**shirlee tourek** - November 29, 2019 at 08:42 AM



“ *My wife Lori and I were both taught "clowning" by Ida-No. We had so much fun learning and clowning with her. Say hello to Lori for me Ida-No.*

**Eric "EO" Olsen** - November 28, 2019 at 02:49 PM

TF

“ *The Phillips Family purchased the Country Basket Blooms for the family of Joyce Ellen Olson.*



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**The Phillips Family** - November 28, 2019 at 09:58 AM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Joyce Ellen Olson.*



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November 26, 2019 at 01:31 PM

SS

“ *Enjoyed many years of fun at Granny's house on the 4th of July. Brent, Marc and Sam rode in many fun parades with the Olsons. Remember the time we , almost, made it to the parade in the old truck, which didn't cooperate. Everyone was dressed in their "parade" costumes. Many fun times with Granny and the kids. Granny would go bass fishing with me when no one else would. Sorry to miss the service, I will be out of state. Stub*

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**Stub Safford** - November 26, 2019 at 10:13 AM

DK

“ *Dave and Terrie Karas purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of Joyce Ellen Olson.*



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**Dave and Terrie Karas** - November 26, 2019 at 08:39 AM



“ *Lovely One Spathiphyllum Plant was purchased for the family of Joyce Ellen Olson.*



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November 25, 2019 at 05:03 PM



“ *Joyce gave her unique gift of joy to so many over so many years. Many do not know that she was on the board of Clowns of America International so her light was spread across the world. Love to hear her stories and her laugh. She will definitely be missed but the influence over clowns and just regular people will live on and on. Judy (Dear Heart) Quest*

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**Judy Quest** - November 25, 2019 at 02:42 PM



“ *I can hear Joyce saying "AWESOME!!" as she takes in all of God's glory! Joyce was no shrinking violet, she was full of life and generous beyond all measure. Age was irrelevant to her, she could assimilate with the very young as well as the "older kids".. No one was a stranger to her, just another one of God's kids! To say she was unique doesn't even come close, Joyce was an incredibly rare human being! I rejoice in her homecoming but I feel the huge hole she has left. Our heartfelt sympathy and love to her family. She loved each one of you unconditionally. See you on the other side, Ida No!  
Dan and Sharon Josoff*

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**Sharon Josoff** - November 25, 2019 at 11:35 AM