



Reah Maurine Spencer

February 23, 1921 - December 6, 2013

Reah Maurine Spencer, 92, of Kearney, formerly of Gibbon, died Friday, December 6, 2013, at St. Luke's Good Samaritan Villiage in Kearney, NE. Funeral services will be 10:30 A.M., Thursday, December 12, 2013 at O'Brien Straatmann Redinger Funeral Home in Gibbon with the Rev. James Endecott, Rev. Barb Spangler and Rev. Cathy Cole officiating. Visitation will be held one hour prior to the service at the funeral home. Interment will be at Riverside Cemetery near Gibbon. Memorials are suggested to Gibbon Faith United Church, Gibbon Fire Dept and Sons of the American Legion (SAL)-Gibbon. O'Brien Straatmann Redinger Funeral Home is in charge arrangements. Reah was born February 23, 1921 at the family farmstead SW of Gibbon, NE to George Chandos and Mabel Chloe (Chapman) Shambaugh. On November 27, 1945 she married Robert Wayne Spencer at her parent's home SW of Gibbon, NE. Robert died March 8, 1998. She received her education at Gibbon Public School graduating valedictorian in 1938. In 1942, she completed her degree from Kearney State Teachers College, Kearney, NE teaching English & Commercial in the Alma, Gibbon and Shelton schools. She was employed at Cornhusker Army Ammunition Plant, Grand Island, NE during WWII. She and her husband lived their first married years at the Spencer" Honeymoon House" NW of Gibbon later purchasing the Chapman farm south of Gibbon. In 2012 Reah moved to St. Lukes in Kearney, NE after living the majority of her life in the Gibbon community. Her memberships included: Gibbon Faith United Church, GGG Club (charter

member), Pioneer Club and District #5 Club. Reah enjoyed 4-H leadership, playing piano, crafts, gardening, flower arranging, photography, scrapbooking, history and genealogy. Her cake decorating and holiday confectionaries were enjoyed for celebrations by family and friends as well as others.

Survivors include her daughter, Muriel Lindsay of Danville, CA; grandsons, Ryan (Jennifer) Lindsay of Danville, CA and Matt Lindsay of Santa Cruz, CA; great-grandchildren, Jack and Kate Lindsay of Danville, CA; step-grandchildren, Larry (Connie) Rachow of Shelton, NE, Lynette Malone of Kearney, NE and Lonnie (Charlotte) Rachow of Shelton, NE; 9 step-great-grandchildren; 3 step-great-great-grandchildren; nieces, nephews, and cousins.

In addition to her husband, Robert, she was preceded in death by her son, Roland and his wife, Darlene; step-grandson, Lyle Rachow.

Cemetery Details

Riverside Cemetery

45400 85th Road
Gibbon, NE

Tribute Wall



“ O'Brien Straatmann Redinger Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Reah Maurine Spencer



O'Brien Straatmann Redinger Funeral Homes and Cremations - December 06, 2013 at 12:00 AM



“ *Reah Maurine Spencer*

January 28, 2023 at 08:01 AM



“ *Reah Moments: (read at the funeral)*

- 1. Sharing prized plant cuttings with famiy and friends; passing along for multiple generations*
- 2. Shopping any hour of the day; any day of the week; unable to pass a SALE!*
- 3. Returning from California Honeymoon with a military trunk full of Americana crystal in lieu of essentials.*

Joyce Endecott - January 14, 2014 at 03:21 PM

JL

“*Reah Maurine Spencer was born February 23, 1921 at the family farmstead SW of Gibbon, NE to George Chandos and Mabel Chlor (Chapman) Shambaugh. She shared stories of living in the garage during the construction of a new home on the farm in 1926. The garage still housed vehicles until recent years.*

She was not enrolled in a rural school but did visit on one occasion and expressed her boredom and thankfulness for not having to attend. Her parents expressed excellence in education of which Reah achieved with the advancement past second grade and graduating valedictorian of Gibbon High School, Class of 1938. While in school she participated in glee club and played violin in the GHS orchestra. A note of interest being of the 29 years each between Reah, her mother, and her daughters graduations from Gibbon High School.

After receiving her degree (Commercial, English, Home Economics) in 1942 from Kearney State Teachers College, Kearney, NE, she taught in the Alma, Gibbon and Shelton Public Schools. She had the opportunity to visit with a few of her past students delightfully discussing the typing and business short-hand classes. Proper penmanship & sentence structure were always of importance.

Briefly during WWII, she was employed at the Cornhusker Army Ammunition Plant at Grand Island, NE.

November 2, 1945 (her father's 60th birthday) Reah and her childhood sweetheart, Robert W. Spencer were married at her parent's home SW of Gibbon. Robert had recently returned from serving in the ARmy Air Corp in Bari, Italy. Reah was VERY thankful that Bob's treasured squirrel monkey remained in Florida.

They lived in the "Honeymoon House" built in 1907 by George and Mary Spencer. This small bungalow home north of Gibbon became the first home to many a newlywed in the Gibbon area. Robert farmed with his father until 1948 when they moved south of town to

the Ben Chapman farm. In 1960, they purchased the farm constructijg a new home in 1965.

Reah joined the Gibbon Methodist Church in 1929 and played piano for Suunday school. She and Robert were very active in the church and enjoyed singing in the choir. She joined District #5 Club (1946), Pioneer Extension Club (1946) (oldest Buffalo county extension club organized in 1909) and was one of the charter members of the GGG Club (1957). She was also active as a 4-H leader in Buffalo County.

She enjoyed music, crafts, gardening, flower arranging, photography, scrapbooking, history and genealogy. WAS-SAW 9Wilkins, Applegate, Spencer) family gatherings (especially the Halloween parties) were highly anticipated. Reah's cake decorating and holiday confectionaries were enjoyed for celebrations by many family and friends as well as others.

Reah looked forward to the visits by friends and family members. Her nieces, Joyce Endecott and Valerie Spencer, shared an interest in stories and pictures of family history. With her love of music and violin, Reah thoroughly enjoyed the talented David Spencer family. Through her extended volunteer services, Tami Carlson-Scamehorn, became a dear friend for Reah and her family.

MEMORIES OF REAH MAURINE:

- 1. Sharing prized plant cuttings with family and friends; passing along for multiple generations.*
- 2. Shopping any hour of the day any day of the week; unable to pass a SALE!*
- 3. Returning from California Honeymoon with a military trunk full of Americana crystal in lieu of essentials.*

4. *Traveling to Grand Island Woolworth store so Muriel can buy her vinyl 45 record from the Mezzanine.*

5. *Discovering the unexpected taste of Cherry Vodka*

6. *Eating her meticulously-placed marsh mellow sweet potatoes.*

7. *Setting a picture perfect dinner table; with formal place setting etiquette made special for the occasion.*

8. *Acting on lessons learned from Reah of place setting etiquette; daughter serving hot dogs on the Americana crystal plates.*

9. *Writing and sending Christmas cards.*

10 *Mailing special occasion packages (e.g. Gold Fish)*

Joyce Endecott for Muriel Lindsay - December 28, 2013 at 03:56 PM