



## Ruby E. Westman

March 8, 1934 - April 4, 2015

Ruby E. Westman, 81  
Kearney resident

Ruby E. Westman, 81, of Kearney, formerly of Hastings, died Saturday, April 04, 2015 at her home. Funeral Service will be 10:30 a.m. Wednesday, April 15, 2015 at Zion Lutheran Church with the Rev. James DeLoach officiating. Interment will follow at St. Paul's Lutheran Cemetery in rural Glenvil, NE.

Memorials are suggested to Zion Lutheran Church or donor's choice.

Condolences may be shared online at [www.osrfh.com](http://www.osrfh.com). O'Brien Straatmann Redinger Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

Ruby was born March 8, 1934 in Denver, Colorado to Anton and Helen Marie (Jersild) Kirkegaard. She lived on a farm in Aurora, CO. until she was 15 and her family moved to Oklahoma and then to Siloam Springs, Arkansas where she graduated from High School. She married Wilmer C. Westman on May 31, 1953, while he was in the USAF. She worked at various jobs while her husband went to the University of North Dakota, and then to Luther Seminary at St. Paul, MN. Following his graduation and ordination as a Pastor of the Am. Lutheran Church, they became missionaries and served in Bogota, Colombia, South America. She graduated from the Spanish Language Institute in San Jose, Costa Rica in 1965.

They returned to the United States in 1969, and served two churches in Crystal Lake, IA and two churches in Butterfield, MN. In 1975, they moved to

Hastings, Nebraska where Pastor Bill served as Dir. Of Spiritual Ministries at the Good Samaritan Village and Ruby served as the Activity Director at Villa Grace Good Samaritan Village for 18 years.

She attended two sessions of Leadership School at Michigan State University in 1974 and 1976, and a rural Training Lab in Minnesota in 1975. While living in Minnesota she served as a Stewardship Secretary on the conference level of The American Lutheran Church Women 1972 – 1976. She was a member of the National Association of Act. Professionals and was a certified Act Director NCCAP. She served as a member of Human Services Advisory Committee at Central Community College in Hastings, NE. Ruby also served on the Library Board of Blue Hill, NE.

Her husband passed away November 14, 2000 in Hastings, NE. Five years later she moved to Kearney, NE. She was a member of First Lutheran Church where she was a past president of the Women of the ELCA. Ruby later would become a member at Zion Lutheran Church.

Left to cherish her memory are her daughters, Patti (Marty) Feldman of Hastings and Rachel (Jeff) Strong of Kearney; son, Mark (Barb) Westman of Lincoln; 6 grandchildren and 5 great grandchildren; sister, Ruth Svinth of Petaluma, CA; and brother, Rev. Walter Kirkegaard of Great Falls, MN. She was preceded in death by her parents; husband; three sisters; three brothers, and her grandson.

# Previous Events

## Memorial Service

APR **15**. 10:30 AM (CT)

Zion Lutheran Church  
2421 Avenue C  
Kearney, NE

# Tribute Wall



“ *Ruby E. Westman*

January 28, 2023 at 08:01 AM



“ *I didn't know Ruby but Pastor Bill spoke of her often. Pastor Bill baptized me when I was 15 years old. Changed my life forever. I'm 36 now and I had wondered about them so I tried to look them up. I found that Pastor Bill past away in 2000 and his wife Ruby last year. I have fond memories of Bill and I hope your families are doing well. Thank you.... Sincerely Josh Alloway*



josh alloway - March 14, 2016 at 04:30 PM



“ *We pray it is a comfort for you to know she is in the arms of her loving Savior and had a happy reunion with Pastor Bill. She was a great lady and it was a pleasure to know her and have her as our pastor's wife and friend while she and Pastor Bill were at Blue Hill.*

*Keith and Joan Classen*

Joan Classen - April 17, 2015 at 03:30 PM



“ *As one of Ruby's resident mates at Northridge I was shocked to hear of her death. She had a quick smile and was a real friend. She'll be missed. John Bancroft*

John Bancroft - April 13, 2015 at 06:23 PM

RS

*Thank you John she enjoyed Northridge. You made her day too! she taught me how to smile. Rachel Strong*

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**rachel strong** - April 16, 2015 at 09:57 PM