



## Wilma A. Larsen

August 24, 1922 - September 8, 2014

Wilma A. Larsen, 92 of Kearney died Monday, September 8, 2014 at Mt. Carmel Home in Kearney. Funeral services will be 9:30 AM, Saturday September 13, 2014 at O'Brien Straatmann Redinger Funeral Home in Kearney. The Rev. Eric Lesher will officiate. Interment will be in the Kearney Cemetery. Visitation will be one hour prior to service time. Memorials are suggested to First Lutheran Church in Kearney or to donor's choice. On-line condolences may be shared at [osrfh.com](http://osrfh.com). O'Brien Straatmann Redinger Funeral Home of Kearney is in charge of arrangements.

Memorials are suggested to The First Lutheran Church in Kearney.

She was born August 24, 1922 in rural Bladen, Ne. to Wallace and Martha (Naggatz) Anderson. She graduated from Hastings High School at age 16 and Hastings College at age 19. She managed the office in the family business, the International Harvester dealership, in Superior, Ne. She earned her Maters Degree at Kansas State University. Taught High School in Bertrand, Exeter, Mitchell, Gibbon, and Odessa.

She was married to Robert A. Larsen on June 8, 1950 in Hastings, NE.

She joined the Kearney State Teachers College faculty in 1955. Founded the Child Development program and was it's director for 32 years, she was also the Chair of the Home Economics Department for more than 20 years. She attended Oregon State University where she completed work towards her Doctorate. When she retired in 1987, Kearney State College dedicated the Child Development lab in her honor, it remains the Wilma A. Larsen Child

Development Lab to this day. Wilma was a dedicated Wife and Mother, worked tirelessly in the interest of the family farms, her sons and Kearney State College. She was a member of The First Lutheran Church in Kearney for more than sixty years. The Veterans of Foreign Wars Auxiliary, Delta Kappa Gamma, The Buffalo County Historical Society, Rails and Trails Museum, The South Inland Cemetery Association were all dear to her heart, and she spent her retirement in their interest.

She was preceded in death by her parents and husband Robert.

Family members include sons and their wives: Tom and Julie Larsen, Theodore and Penny Larsen all of Kearney. Grandchildren , Liz and Dennis Everett of Roseville, CA; Stacy and John Kolvek of Omaha; Kirsten Larsen of Bellevue WA; Alex Larsen of Arlington, VA. ; Grace Larsen of Kearney; Sarah Larsen of Lawrence, KS; and Seth Larsen of Kearney.

She battled dementia late in life, and will be sorely missed by all.

# Tribute Wall



“ *Wilma A. Larsen*

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January 28, 2023 at 08:01 AM



“ *Wilma was my landlady for 9 years in the 1980s. She also was my friend, and that's not always the relationship between landlady and tenant. I played the organ for her sons' weddings and felt like a member of the family. Heaven is a better place due to Kearney's loss.*

*With fond memories and deepest sympathy to Ted, Tom and their families,  
Edie Farm, Farmington NM*

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**Edie Farm** - September 12, 2014 at 05:10 PM



“ *Wilma Larsen was such a great person. Our sons, Ken Jr. and Mark attended her pre-school classes. Wilma was loved by the boys and looked forward to driving from our country home to go to class. Ken and I knew both Bob and Wilma and became more acquainted through community activities.*

*Wilma contributed so much to whatever group she belonged.*

*Wilma will certainly be missed.*

*May God be with you all in the days and months ahead. Our prayers are with you.*

*Ilene Gotobed, Centennial, Co.*

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**Ilene Gotobed** - September 12, 2014 at 02:37 PM

AJ

“ Dear Ted, Tom and Families,  
Your mother had a lasting impact on UNK and on the thousands of families that have sent their children to the Child Development Center. Few people have such a legacy. My condolences on your loss.

Allan Jenkins

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**Allan Jenkins** - September 12, 2014 at 01:14 PM



“ Please accept our sincere condolences for your loss. We lived next door to Wilma for 15 years. She took great pride in our neighborhood, and her legacy at UNK means very much to us, having had our sons in the Child Development Center. She will be missed.

Sincerely,  
Chris & Suzanne Exstrom

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**Christopher Exstrom** - September 12, 2014 at 10:56 AM

VA

“ Dear Ted,Penny,Grace,Sarah and Seth  
Wilma Larsen has been a special person in  
my life at UNK and i will cherish her in my  
memory as long as i live.When i first came to  
Kearney State College in 1986 she was my  
mentor and guiding light. I was not in her Department but she  
guided me in all aspects of teaching,service and research.She was  
always enthusiastic about her work and inspired several others like  
me. I know she will be dearly missed but my valuable memories of  
her will be with me.



*My sincere condolences to all of you and the others in the family for  
this irrevocable loss.*

*Sincerely*

*vani*

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**vani** - September 11, 2014 at 11:02 AM

CJ

“ Wilma was my boss when I was a work-study student at KSC. The  
first day I worked she had me transferring dishes from storage to  
the kitchen. I dropped an entire stack of plates and broke most of  
them. She was so kind to me then and has been through out the  
years since. She was my boss, a mentor and a friend, just a  
wonderful person.

*Carleen Jurgensen  
Kearney, NE*

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**Carleen Jurgensen** - September 11, 2014 at 09:24 AM