



## Joyce Ann Ertelt

January 11, 1954 - March 27, 2015

Joyce Ann (Clauson) Ertelt died peacefully at her home on March 27, 2015 in her home surrounded by family.

“At some point the cancer may decide it wants to take over my body and destroy it in the process. However, my soul is not done with it yet, so the cancer will have to share. And for that I am grateful.” Joyce Ertelt, 2012 No Lumps, Thank you.

Joyce was diagnosed with stage IV Inflammatory Breast Cancer in April 2007. She faced her cancer experience with courage and wisdom and inspired so many of us. A friend wrote to her saying, “Bless you for doing and inspiring others to keep doing things even though your body may have told you to slow down. You have been a symbol to show us all that it can be done.”

Joyce was a garden and vineyard enthusiast. She loved the outdoors, animals and warm fires. Joyce married Mark Ertelt on June 1, 1974 and have two daughters, Emily and Melissa. She was a vibrant and beloved member of communities in Kathryn, ND and in the Twin Cities of MN.

Joyce requested her body be donated to the University of Minnesota for research. A Celebration of Life will be held at a later date and will be a chance to celebrate and honor Joyce’s life and accomplishments.

Joyce is preceded in death by her grandparents, father Elmer, sister MarJean, brother’s Myron, Donny and Kenneth. She is survived by her husband Mark, daughter’s Emily Ertelt, Melissa (Aaron) Schmidt, beloved grandsons Aiden, Maxwell, and Blake Schmidt, Mother Myrtis, Sister Janette (Harlan) Hanson,

and many nieces and nephews.

In her own words she said, "Today's cancer survivors are receiving the benefits of yesterday's research. I hope my cancer journey will be of value to someone in the future. My cancer journey is still in progress and will be until the day I die." Joyce received exceptional care from her oncologists, Dr. Sherman at Frauentshuh Cancer Center in Minnesota and Dr. Snow at Sanford Roger Maris Cancer Center in Fargo. We were blessed to have two exceptional hospice agencies – North Memorial Hospice and Hospice of the Red River Valley – supporting her and family through her final three months. Joyce has requested memorials be made in her honor to the Kathryn Booster Club to support the annual holiday dinner show, a legacy she leaves to a place she loved dearly.

Arrangements have been entrusted to the Oliver-Nathan Funeral Chapel, Valley City, ND. An online guestbook for Joyce is available at [www.oliver-nathanchapel.com](http://www.oliver-nathanchapel.com)

# Tribute Wall

MS

“Joyce's Celebration of Life will be held Saturday April 18th from 1-5pm at Rustic Oaks (12155 3rd Street S, Moorhead, MN 56560). Contact Melissa (schm1367@gmail.com) if you have questions.

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**Melissa Schmidt** - April 08, 2015 at 05:57 AM

SH

“Our deepest sympathy to Myrtis, Mark and family, Janette, Harlan and family, Sharon (Ken) and family and Butch (Marjean) Cunningham and family. You are all in our thoughts and prayers.

*Rudy and Sheryl Hanson*

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**Sheryl Hanson** - March 31, 2015 at 08:50 PM

JL

“Jean Lenox lit a candle in memory of Joyce Ann Ertelt



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**Jean Lenox** - March 30, 2015 at 10:25 AM

DC

“Dear Mark & Family. I've been thinking about all of you, so sorry to hear about Joyce. My heart and prayers are with all of you. Love Delores Cline.

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**Delores Cline** - March 29, 2015 at 08:11 PM

LH

“ Dear Mark, Emily, Melissa, and all of Joyce's family,  
My heartfelt sympathy is sent to each of you. I read of Joyce's death  
in our Mpls. paper this morning and send prayers for God's comfort  
at this very sad time.

*I remember Joyce's beautiful spirit when we all were at Holy Cross  
Lutheran in Excelsior, MN -and when I taught you piano for four  
years, dear Melissa. How dear to read of her courageous spirit  
fighting cancer but what grief for you that she has passed from this  
world.*

*An anthem my choirs have sung says, "Our lives are but a single  
breath, we flower and we fade, but all our lives are in God's hands  
so we return in love what Love has made..." Your dear Joyce is in  
God's loving care.*

*Blessings and love to you, dear Mark, Emily, Melissa and family -  
Joyce's mom and sister -all her beloved family and friends. Lydia  
Holsten*

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**Lydia Holsten** - March 29, 2015 at 05:27 PM

KA

“ Our deepest sympathies to Joyce’s family.  
We have many fond memories of Joyce and  
her family.

The first is from 1983 when Joyce, her father  
Elmer and her sister MarJean came to  
Sweden.

The second time was in 1994 when I, My sons Tobias and Magnus  
and my parents Arne and Margit visited our relatives in US and  
Canada. We had a lovely time together and the family Ertelt showed  
us such a good hospitality.

The third time was when we met in Toronto 1999. We did not have  
time to go to Minneapolis so Joyce, Elmer, Myron and Janette came  
to see us in Toronto.

The fourth time was in 2006 when I, my wife Helena and my cousin  
Bengt-Erik and Margitha came to meet Joyce and her family in  
Excelsior. We remember Joyce as a very proud grandmother to her  
first grandchild.

You were a wonderful second cousin always happy and ready for  
fun. You will be remembered deep in our hearts.

Kurt & Helena Andersson, Sweden



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Kurt Andersson - March 29, 2015 at 03:50 PM


SR

“ Sharon Rue-Spiekermeier lit a candle in  
memory of Joyce Ann Ertelt



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Sharon Rue-Spiekermeier - March 29, 2015 at 03:13 PM


  
Jennifer  
Dahl

“ *Jennifer Dahl lit a candle in memory of Joyce  
Ann Ertelt*



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**Jennifer Dahl** - March 29, 2015 at 12:56 PM

  
Laurel  
Barrett

“ *My memories of Joyce are fun, dear and oh so good. I grew up with  
Joyce at Kathryn, ND. The years had separated us but the link was  
still there. She will always be remembered with good memories. I  
always like to think that I brought her and Mark together! Joyce you  
are loved and will be missed by many.*

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**Laurel Barrett** - March 28, 2015 at 07:29 PM

CP

“ I admire Joyce's attitude with her cancer battle. She didn't allow it to stop her from doing things she enjoyed. Like spending time with the family and her 3 Grandsons, Aiden, Maxwell and Blake. They will miss her greatly. They loved to spend time with Grandma Joyce and Grandpa Mark on the farm for at least one week every summer. They loved playing with the dogs and cats and riding the farm toys with Grandpa Mark.

We spend many holidays with Joyce and Marks at Aaron and Melissa's we enjoyed them and had fun watching the Grandchildren play with them and asking Grandma to read them their favorite book just one more time. I will truly miss her smiley face and genuine love for her family.

May God comfort all of you during this very difficult time.

May he wrap his loving arms around you and let you feel his presence.

Sincere Sympathy,

Carol & David Peterson

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Carol Peterson - March 28, 2015 at 05:59 PM