



Merle D. Schramm

October 10, 1930 –
March 28, 2022



Audrey M. Schramm

April 4, 1932 -
April 17, 2022

Memorial Service and Celebration of Lives

Wednesday, May 4, 2022

6:30 p.m.

Hosted by the Arthur Evangelical Free Church

Merle Dean Schramm, 91, of Arthur, Iowa passed away on March 28, 2022 after a battle with Covid.

Merle was born in 1930 to George and Lillian (Spahn) Schramm. After graduating from Ida Grove Public Schools where he excelled in sports, he went on to graduate from the Iowa State Teacher's College in Cedar Falls, IA. Merle then received his Masters' degree from the University of Colorado.

After graduation, he landed his first job teaching, kicking off a long teaching career in High School Science and Math. Merle taught in Royal, Spencer and Onawa, Iowa, Greeley and Boulder, Colorado, and at the Southeast Community College in Milford, Nebraska. He also worked at the Colorado Health Department and the Rocky Flats Plant. Merle shared his passion for learning and touched many lives with his generous and kind spirit. Merle could build and repair anything and helped appreciative family and friends with many projects. He was active with the Gideons.

In High School, he met the love of his life, Audrey Rasmussen, and they wed in 1950, going on to have 5 children. Susan (Dave) Schemel, Thomas Schramm, Sharon (Mike) Plante, Beth (Jim) Stutzman and Christian Schramm. Faith and Family were priorities in Merle's life.

After retiring, Merle and Audrey, moved to Arthur, Iowa and enjoyed restoring their vintage home, gardening and volunteering for many church activities at The Arthur Evangelical Free Church. Merle was famous for his pancakes, homemade rolls and pies.

Merle is preceded in death by his parents, his sister (Ruth Bolles), his brothers (Robert and Roger), brother-in-law (Kenneth Suda), son-in-law (Steve Tipton), daughter-in-law (Angela Schramm), grandsons (Luke and Daniel). Merle is survived by his wife (Audrey), his sister (Jo Ann Suda), his children (Susan, Thomas, Sharon, Beth and Christian), his grandchildren (Anna Clements, Jack Tipton, Michael Stutzman and Suzanne Swanson, Ashton and Talon Schramm) and his four great grandchildren (Joshua Rausch, Jennifer and William Clements, Micah Swanson, Brooks Tipton).

A private celebration of life will be held by the family.

In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation to the Gideons.

Audrey Marie (Rasmussen) Schramm, 90, of Arthur, Iowa, passed away on Easter Sunday, April 17, 2022, at the Morningside Care Center of Ida Grove, Iowa. Audrey had back surgery and never fully recovered.

Audrey Marie (Rasmussen) Schramm was born in Kenosha, Wisconsin, on April 4, 1932, to Martin and Bertha (Scott) Rasmussen. She had one sister, Marguerite "Jeane" (Rasmussen) Johnson. The family moved to Ida Grove, Iowa, in 1948. Audrey attended Ida Grove High School where she met the love of her life, Merle Schramm. They were married in 1950, going on to have five children: Susan (Dave) Schemel, Thomas Schramm, Sharon (Mike) Plante, Beth (Jim) Stutzman, and Christian Schramm.

Merle was a high school teacher and the family moved to many wonderful places such as Cedar Falls, Royal, Spencer and Onawa, Iowa. They then moved to Greeley and Boulder, Colorado. Finally, to Milford, Nebraska, as Merle taught at Southeast Community College for 12 years before retiring. In 1992 they moved to Arthur, Iowa and bought a vintage home built in 1913. Audrey loved their large garden, flowers, and fruit trees. She loved gardening and canned tomatoes and applesauce that lasted them all winter. Audrey also decorated cakes for all occasions.

All aspects of her faith were important to Audrey. She loved teaching Sunday School, helping with church events, and attending services. She was active in the Gideons and jail ministries. She loved children of all ages.

Audrey was an exceptional mother. She raised five children with dignity and grace. Audrey instilled a sense of wonder and joy in her children. She was loved by all who knew her.

Audrey's husband, Merle Schramm, preceded her in death by three weeks. They were partners in life for 71 years. Also preceding her in death were her parents Martin and Bertha Rasmussen; her sister Jeane (Rasmussen) Johnson; brother-in-law Rev. Herb Johnson; and nephew Jim Johnson; son-in-law Steve Tipton; daughter-in-law Angela Schramm; grandsons Luke and Daniel Schramm.

She is survived by her children Susan, Thomas, Sharon, Beth, and Christian; her grandchildren Anna Clements, Jack Tipton, Michael Stutzman, Suzanne Swanson, Ashton Schramm, and Talon Schramm; and five great grandchildren Jennifer and William Clements, Joshua Rausch, Micah Swanson, and Brooks Tipton.