



## Donna L. Collins

August 26, 1934 - March 20, 2023

Donna Lee Kimberly Collins aged 88 of Ludington passed away peacefully with family by her side on March 20, 2023. Donna Lee was born on August 26, 1934 in Howell, MI the daughter of G. Boyden and Ruby (Spalding) Kimberly. She graduated from Howell High School with the class of 1952 and then attended Michigan State Normal College (Eastern Michigan University) where she received her BS in Elementary Education. After College she taught 2nd grade at Hartland Consolidated School.

Donna Lee met her then future husband, Bill during the summer of 1952, and were married on December 24, 1955 at Hardy Methodist Church. They started married life in Ludwigsburg, Germany where Bill served in the US Army and Donna taught at the Army Dependent School on the Army base. After being honorably discharged, they lived in Marion and Herbst, Indiana where Bill completed his College and Seminary studies. While in Indiana, Bill served as Pastor at churches in Herbst, Peru and Muncie, Indiana before moving to Ludington in 1971. Together, they enjoyed 59 years together travelling and spending winters in Ocala, Florida before Bill's death in 2015.

While in Ludington, Donna Lee was an aide for special needs children and a substitute teacher for Ludington Public Schools. She was a charter member of Chapter EU in PEO, former member of AAUW, taught Sunday School and Bible School, and always looked for way to support Bill's ministry. She liked to

do Sudoku, read, garden, bake cookies and create memory books for her grandchildren.

Along with her husband Bill, Donna Lee was preceded in death by both her parents, and her brother Charles Kimberly. She will be greatly missed by her children David Collins (Debby), Karen Bonnette (Paul), Richard Collins (Karla), and Anne Winiarski (Greg); her 12 grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

A Ceremony to celebrate Donna's life will be held at 11:00 am on Monday, March 27 at Community Church in Ludington with a visitation from 10:00-11:00 am prior to the service. Those who wish to remember Donna with a memorial donation are asked to please consider Community Church of Ludington.

# Previous Events

## Gathering of Friends & Family

MAR 27. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Community Church  
109 North Harrison Street  
Ludington, MI 49431

## Funeral Ceremony

MAR 27. 11:00 AM (ET)

Community Church  
109 North Harrison Street  
Ludington, MI 49431

# Tribute Wall

CH

“ I moved to Ludington "fresh" out of college and taught 4th grade at Franklin School. That is where I met Donna. She was an aide in the special education classroom where she loved those kids and worked so wonderfully with them. Donna took me under her wing. She knew I wasn't a "local" person and she helped me learn about Ludington, as well as helped me adjust to my first teaching job at age 22. She was a gentle woman, and so kind. She and I became more than colleagues, we became friends. I am a Christian and I soon joined the Community Church. I loved Pastor Bill and Donna. My faith grew through listening to Pastor Bill's sermons and through my friendship with Donna. As we all know, she LOVED her family and was so proud of them. She would tell me all about them. I had the pleasure of seeing Donna just a few weeks ago. Ann was in the Post Office and I asked how her mom was. Ann said, "She is in the car." I went right out and talked to Donna.....she grabbed my hand, looked at me and smiled that smile that I had seen so many times...her genuine, heartwarming smile. We talked for a minute. Thank you God for that opportunity. Thank you God for giving all of us Pastor Bill and Donna Collins. To the Collins family, that Donna was so proud of, I am sorry for your loss and may precious memories comfort you. You will carry on their faith and family values. They are in Heaven proudly looking down upon you.  
Love, Cindy Hill

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**Cindy Hill** - March 27, 2023 at 12:46 PM

JM

“ Donna was a treasured friend, and we will miss her. We had many happy lunches with Bill and Donna when they wintered in Ocala, and visits with Donna in Ludington. Russ and Janet

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**Janet Miller** - March 26, 2023 at 11:08 AM

JW

“ So sorry to hear about your mom's passing! She was such a good friend of my mom when we moved to Ludington. It was very kind of her and Bill to let me stay at their home for a little while while my dad was in the hospital. Thoughts and prayers to the family! Good to know that she is in the arms of Jesus!

Janelle Walters - March 25, 2023 at 12:41 PM

KC

“ What a kind and generous woman. She was a great friend to my mother. I know she will be greatly missed by all her family and friends. Sending prayers and hugs to you all

Kathy Cook - March 25, 2023 at 10:13 AM



“ Gracious Lavender Basket was purchased for the family of Donna L. Collins.



March 24, 2023 at 05:19 PM

TB

“ Donna was a PEO sister of mine and the epitome of a kind, thoughtful lady. She always had a smile for everyone. I missed seeing her at our meetings when her health did not allow her to join us. We talked occasionally and she was always interested in hearing about Chapter EU and what we were doing. I will miss her; but we know she is with Bill now and rejoicing with the angels.

TJaye Brand - March 23, 2023 at 04:57 PM

RL

“ *Such good times were always shared at community church and Epworth Heights. It was my privilege and honor to know her kindness, warmth and love. Hug Pastor Bill for us!* ☐ 🙏

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**Rogene Lathouwers** - March 22, 2023 at 11:08 PM

JE

“ *Perhaps the sweetest, kindest, most thoughtful person I ever had the honor to call a colleague. Donna worked tirelessly with me, as a new teacher of special needs children, at Franklin Elementary. She was a shining star for every child who walked through our classroom doors. They called her my "aide" but she was, more aptly, a GodSend!! Rest in the best and everlasting peace Donna!*

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**Jon erickson** - March 22, 2023 at 07:43 PM