



Nancy Luthans Olson

DEC 4, 1936 - SEP 16, 2025



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Nancy Luthans Olson, 88, of Clinton, Iowa died on Tuesday at MercyOne - Clinton.

Nancy was born December 4, 1936, in Clinton Iowa to Carl and Leona (Stichter) Luthans. She was educated in the Clinton schools and received her B.A. degree from the University of Iowa. At the University of Iowa, she was a member of Gamma Phi Beta Sorority, Phi Lamda Theta, Phi Beta Kappa and the Scottish Highlanders. She was a teacher at the Clinton Schools until her retirement in 1997.

Nancy was an avid reader and enjoyed swimming and spending time with her children and grandchildren. Survivors include her brother, Dr. Freddie Luthans and wife Kay, two sons, Eric Olson and wife Bonnie, Mark Olson and wife Vicki. One daughter, Beth Campbell and husband Bruce. Her 4 grandchildren, John Olson and wife Alexandria, Kyle Olson, Jillian Olson and Allison Galbraith and husband Conner.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Carl and Leone Luthans.

As per her wishes she will be cremated, and a private memorial will be held at a later date. She asks that you read a book in her memory.



Tribute Wall

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CL

Cathryn Lass posted:

Beth, Mark and Eric, I will remember your mom as friendly, smart, funny and always proud of all of you. When I think of all the past years, Nancy was there making our gatherings whole. These last many months I enjoyed visiting with her at Sarah Harding. She was candid about adapting once again to life's changes and was a positive example of what lies ahead for many of us. She always proudly updated me on what you and your kids were doing. She persistently tackled getting my number into her cell phone. Her very strong voice, hearty laughter and interest in the world will stay with me. I will miss her greatly. My condolences to each of you and your families. Your cousin Cathy Lass.

September 29 at 3:35 AM

EO

Eric Olson October 2 at 10:42 AM

Thank you so much Cathy for your kind words! She was a 'one and only' and is sorely missed.

MS

Mary Swanson posted:

Nancy had such a great laugh!

September 22 at 2:38 PM

PS

Phil Schorr posted:

Nancy was one of the nicest, smartest people in our high school class. I haven't seen her since, but I still remember her.

September 20 at 3:15 PM

JM

Jim Manion posted:

Nancy is a fond memory of mine from my time as the driver at Sarah Harding she loved to visit and was a wealth of information, she will be missed by all who knew her. Jim Manion

September 20 at 4:29 AM



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RR

Rhonda & Stacey Robertson posted:

Our deepest condolences to you all. Thank you Nancy for your loving teaching and care you showed children and leading by example are life lessons each child was blessed to be around living example of humanity. Well done . Blessings to your family, know your angel Nancy not far. Prayer's

September 19 at 5:35 AM

EO

Eric Olson October 2 at 10:45 AM

Thank you for your kind words! She was a solid rock growing up. ALWAYS there through thick and thin.

SG

Sue Weiss Green posted:

Dear Eric, Mark and Beth. My deepest sympathy to you. Your mother was a wonderful woman. She always had a warm smile and friendly greeting for me. I got to know Nancy from being in P.E.O. with her. And, I got to know Nancy better as we both shared the friendship of Jane Taylor and Judy Doughty. Treasure all your warm memories of your mother. She will live forever in your hearts. Miss Weiss - now Sue Green

September 18 at 4:37 PM

EO

Eric Olson October 2 at 10:46 AM

Thank you for your kind words!

KT

Kevin Temperly September 19 at 4:18 AM

Nancy was one of my favorite residents at Sarah Harding. She had a great sense of humor and always a smile on her face!



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Kay Luthans posted:

Nancy officially became my sister on June 9, 1963, when I married her younger brother, Freddie, but our relationship began in 1958 when I started dating Freddie. From the very beginning, he told me about this wonderful sister he had and it was very evident how proud he was of her and how much he loved her. I was skeptical that a person that great existed, but then I met her and he was right! Nancy immediately welcomed me and became a friend forever. She was there for me when I needed her to be, including letting me live with her for a summer and coming to Lincoln to help me when I needed it. Our children LOVED being at her house when we were in Clinton, and she acted as if she LOVED having them. Nancy was generous and caring to her parents, brother and sister in law, children, grandchildren, nieces and nephews, cousins and friends and everyone she ever met. Nancy Luthans Olson was a nice human being, and the world was a better place for having her in it for 88 years. We will miss her greatly, and we are grateful for the time we had with her. Love from her "favorite sister-in-law" Kay

September 18 at 1:36 PM



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DL

Dr. Fred Luthans posted:

Nancy was my awesome big sister. I always looked up to her for advice on everything. I was so proud of her many accomplishments when we were youngsters growing up in Clinton, where she was a champion swimmer, lifeguard and straight A student. My pride for her continued through her years at the University of Iowa, where she majored in chemistry and education and earned Phi Beta Kappa honors, being a great teacher in Burlington and Clinton, and as an ideal parent to her three wonderful children and then four grandchildren, and, finally, being like a true sister to my wife, Kay, and special Aunt to our four children and 8 grandchildren. She will be greatly missed, but her life's journey will leave a legacy with her loved ones, friends and students. Dr. Fred Luthans, Distinguished Professor, Emeritus, U. of Nebraska; Inaugural Hall of Honor Clinton H.S.: Distinguished Alum Award U. of Iowa; President Academy of Management; Top 1% Citations of all Researchers

September 18 at 11:42 AM

EO

Eric Olson October 2 at 10:50 AM

Thank you everyone for your kind words! Mom was our rock. We could count on her for coming through for any problem(s) we stumbled over along lifes journey. She was the best!

BL

Brett Luthans October 2 at 10:33 AM

It was always so exciting when we got to go see the Olson's in Clinton and we were always greeted with the positive energy of my favorite Aunt Nancy. Her smile, laughter and quick wit lit up every room I shared with her. My Dad was always bragging about his big sister my whole life - how smart, kind, loyal, and hard working she was. She was an amazing sister to him and a best friend of my Mom. I know she was also a great mom, grandma, teacher, and of course, aunt and great aunt. For a life lived well-read and full of rich stories, may her journey now continue in the eternal library. Aunt Nancy will be deeply missed. Brett Carl Luthans

KH

Kent Hamdorf September 27 at 4:20 AM

My heartfelt condolences to the family of Nancy and especially to my cousin Freddy. Nancy was my cousin and my memory of her was one of she was always full of energy and laughter. I remember one time when her father Carl, cousin Freddy, and she went on a trip to the Bad Lands in a Nash with seats that you lay back and sleep in. My imagination lead me to believe that is how they the 3 of them took the trip. Another memory I had which I sure most people are not aware of was her physical strength. She would put me in a head lock and make me say uncle. Also, I remember when she was part of the Scottish Bag pipes at the U. of Iowa how we would gather around the TV when the group would march at a parade. Not sure how many Nancy's we found, just sure we knew one of them was Nance. As the family gathered at Restrelis for pizza enjoy the story's of Nancy because this is where her legacy will be made. Rest in Peace Nancy and the family make loving memories for the future of Nancy.

NH

Nancy Weih Hoskins September 23 at 5:28 PM

My mother said I first met Nancy when we were both two. We were friends in grade school Junior High, High School. At the University of Iowa our dorm rooms were only a few door



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DL

away on the same floor. We ate most of our meal together we often studied for tests together! We were both in the Highlanders and roomed together on our trip to Europe. Our parents were always friends. Even though I live in Sioux Falls, we talked on the phone often. I had planned to see her on Wednesday afternoon and called her Tuesday evening to tell her I was in Iowa City and would see her the next day. She did not answer the phone. She loved her family and many friends! I loved hearing about her life and comparing book we were reading! She was a wonderful friend to all who knew her.

CF

Connie Fuglsang September 21 at 3:43 PM

Nancy and I shared a room at Jefferson School for five years when I taught there right out of college. She was a wonderful mentor and friend and helped me considerably when I first began my teaching career. My sympathy for her family, whom she dearly loved. Rest in peace, Nancy.

JB

Joan Borota September 19 at 8:56 AM

Nancy has left a big hole, in our Sarah Harding family. Her quiet manner and frequent smile, made her welcoming to all. I often found her, reading in the lounge, but eager to visit, for awhile. I think she read more library book, than anyone here, often getting 6 read in a month!! She was looking forward to celebrating her birthday in Florida ! My sympathy to all her family. Joan Borota

AM

Ann Murphy September 19 at 4:22 AM

Nancy was a wonderful neighbor here at Bel Air Condominiums. She was very welcoming to my husband and I when we moved in. I have many fond and funny memories of her. Rest in Peace, Nancy.

TC

Thelma Campbell September 18 at 1:55 PM

I didn't know Nancy as well as I'd like because of the many miles that separated us. However, in our brief time together it was easy to know what a wonderful and kind person she was with a heart full of love for everyone. She passed that loving and welcoming personality on to her three beautiful children. I have many fond memories of our brief time together and of our long telephone conversations. What a sad loss for all of us who had the privilege to know her. Sending love and hugs to her family. Thelma Campbell

KN

Kristin Luthans Noble September 18 at 12:24 PM

Aunt Nancy was very special to me. We shared a bond of being the oldest big sister, as well as having a love for teaching reading to elementary school students. When our family would come to Clinton for a visit, I was the lucky cousin who got to spend my days and nights at the Olson's house. I will cherish the memories of hanging out with Beth and the whole family! With love and fond memories, Kristin Luthans Noble



Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Nancy by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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