



Norma Eileen Love

July 4, 1923 - April 27, 2017

Norma Eileen Love, known as The Teddy Bear Lady, passed peacefully into the arms of her heavenly Father on Thursday, April 27, 2017 at Primrose Memory Care Center.

Eileen was born July 4, 1923 in Merlin, Ontario, Canada to George Henry and Alta Edith (Sheets) Sales. Her mother passed away when she was very young, so she was raised by her grandparents, until she could come to Anderson at a later age to join her father and step-mother.

She graduated from Anderson High School in 1942, and on October 31, 1942, she married the love of her life, Ward N. Love. She earned her American citizenship in 1944.

Eileen was a devoted farmer's wife helping however she could. She loved gardening, working in her flowers and keeping the farm grounds beautiful for others to see, sometimes using bears in her later years.

She retired, after 27 years, as a payroll clerk from The Indiana Reformatory of Pendleton. During her employment, she received a plaque from Governor Robert Orr as a Distinguished Hoosier and a plaque from Governor Otis Bowen as commendation for 21 years of service at Indiana Reformatory. She always said she had done her time, and could finally get out and walk away.

Besides her time with family and her love for gardening, flowers, and reading, she enjoyed volunteering. These included St. John's Health System, RSVP Love Bears, Bethany Pointe and Paramount Theatre. She also belonged to Pendleton Garden Clubs, Order of Eastern Star, where she was a Past Matron. She had also been given the honor of being Grand Representative to Australia for Indiana OES and was able to travel there with a group for this memorable trip of a lifetime.

She started a hobby of collecting bears which became her life and something to share with others. She gave programs titled, Love, Therapy and Hugs of Teddy Bears. The programs were given at nursing homes, schools, churches, or any group that needed or wanted her. She not only shared her Teddy Bears, with stories and history about them, but she was always ready to share her love, with many of her bears being given away.

She was health and welfare person for Bethel United Methodist Church for 25 years. Normally flowers were given whenever the need arose, but she asked if this could be changed to the use of bears. The change was made and it was a hit.

Eileen had her own special way about her, but she could also be spunky. She loved her family and other people and loved life to the very end.

During their 51.5 years of marriage, she and Ward raised their two children, the late, Jim Love (Carolyn) of Seattle, Washington and Tonya (Gary) Lucas of Anderson. They also raised several other children; Tamara (Don) Everett of Fairmount, the late Calvin (Jean) Bennett of Anderson, the late John Bennett, the late Bob Davis, Eddie Ellis and Willie Lawson. Grandchildren include, Jennifer, Rebecca, Troy, Trina, Tara, India, Carrie, Brent, Jeff, Steve, Donna, Tricia and numerous great-grandchildren and great-great-grandchildren.

A sincere thank you to Primrose Memory Care for all the love and care, not only for Eileen, but also her family.

Visitation will be held from 4:00pm - 8:00pm on Monday, May 1, 2017 at Loose Funeral Homes and Crematory with an Order of Eastern Star service at 6:00pm.

Services will be held Tuesday, May 2, 2017 at 11:30 at the funeral home with Rev. Bill Garver officiating.

Burial will take place at Anderson Memorial Park Cemetery.

Memorial Contributions may be made to Bethel United Methodist Church, Primrose Memory Care or charity of choice.

Cemetery Details

Memorial Park Cemetery

6805 Dr. Martin Luther King Blvd.
Anderson, IN 46013

Previous Events

Visitation

MAY 1. 4:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Loose Funeral Homes & Crematory
200 W 53rd St
Anderson, IN 46013
(765) 649-5255
info@loosecares.com

Service

MAY 2. 11:30 AM (ET)

Loose Funeral Homes & Crematory
200 W 53rd St
Anderson, IN 46013
(765) 649-5255
info@loosecares.com

Tribute Wall



“ *Loose Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Norma Eileen Love*



Loose Funeral Home - April 30, 2017 at 02:36 PM

ED

“ *Our deepest sympathy to the family of this most gracious lady!! Eileen was always ready with a smile-and a plate of food to let you know you were a welcome guest but surprisingly she never made you feel like a guest-you were family!! She is sadly missed and at the same time-so lovingly remembered!! May you have peace knowing how many lives she touched and inspired in her beautiful life!!*

Nick & Evelyn Donsky

Evelyn Donsky - May 01, 2017 at 08:50 PM

DD

“ *Donnabelle Belangee Needler, Marsha & Paul Dennis purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Norma Eileen Love.*



Donnabelle Belangee Needler, Marsha & Paul Dennis - May 01, 2017 at 11:03 AM

MD

“ I still remember how fun it was to go with RaeAnn, Jan and Jill out to the farm. Your mom and dad always made me feel right at home! When I think of Eileen, she was always "put-together"- very elegant. May your memories help comfort you at this difficult time.
Marsha (Marcy) Dennis

Marsha L Dennis - May 01, 2017 at 10:16 AM

DT

“ DON&TAMMY EVERETT daughters TARA/INDRA/CARRIE purchased the Emerald Garden Basket for the family of Norma Eileen Love.



DON&TAMMY EVERETT daughters TARA/INDRA/CARRIE - May 01, 2017 at 09:23 AM

GN

“ George & Jim Frederick, Debbie & Andy Negri purchased the Enduring Grace for the family of Norma Eileen Love.



George & Jim Frederick, Debbie & Andy Negri - April 30, 2017 at 07:37 PM



“ 75 files added to the album Life Tributes



Loose Funeral Home - April 30, 2017 at 02:26 PM



“ Carolyn Love, Janice Leffew, and Rozanne Gentry purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Norma Eileen Love.



Carolyn Love, Janice Leffew, and Rozanne Gentry - April 30, 2017 at 01:23 AM



“ Eileen was a wonderful inspiration for many people. May she rest in peace. My condolences to all of the family. She will be missed by many. John Tonyes, a friend and neighbor.

John Tonyes - April 29, 2017 at 08:45 PM

RS

“ *Eileen will be remembered by us as a very thoughtful lady. Always concerned about her family and others. Her love even extended to her trees and farm. Bless all of you as you go with her to her final resting place. Rev. and Mrs. R. Larry Smith*

Richard Larry Smith - April 29, 2017 at 05:53 PM

WH

“ *Dear family of Eileen:*

We are sorry that we will not be able to attend the service for Eileen as we are in the Smoky Mountains.

We have many fond memories of Eileen and Ward. Family gatherings at the farm, buying eggs, purchasing a couple of her bears for our daughter's wedding, being shown around her flowers and her son's sacred place by the big tree. We remember the tornado that took out the barn and the pictures we took for her to show the insurance company. Also the numerous times my father and I hunted on the farm, and dad talking of playing basketball in the barn loft.

*We know she is now in peace with the Father.
Sincerely,*

Wendell & Joellen Hilligoss

Wendell & Joellen Hilligoss - April 29, 2017 at 12:31 PM