



## Fern E. Waters

February 11, 1921 - July 26, 2016

Funeral services for Fern will take place on Monday, August 1, 2016 at 2:00 p.m. at Farmer & Son Funeral Home in Geneva with Pastor Diane Ryder officiating.

Visitation will be held on Sunday, July 31, 2016 from 2:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. with the family being present to greet friends from 2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Graveside services will be conducted in the Geneva Public Cemetery following the funeral service.

Memorials are to be directed to the family for a later designation.

Fern Eleanor (Most) Waters was born on a farm west of Ohiowa, Nebraska on February 11, 1921. She was the eldest of three daughters born to Henry William Most and Myra Margaret (Snodgrass) Most. Fern passed away on July 26, 2016 at the age of 95 years – 5 months and 15 days in Geneva, Nebraska.

By the time Fern started school, the family was living in Ohiowa, Nebraska where she attended first grade. By the second grade, the family had moved to Geneva, Nebraska where Fern graduated as a member of the class of 1938.

After graduating Fern taught 4 years in Fillmore County rural schools. Fern then took a job as a cashier at J.C. Penney Co. in Geneva and was employed there for 3 years.

During this time, the Army Air Base was built at Fairmont, Nebraska. Fern met and married Otto G. Waters of Roanoke Rapids, North Carolina on February 2, 1945 while he was stationed there. They were married in Belleville, Kansas.

After Otto's tour of duty in Guam and discharged from the Army, in November of 1945, they made their home in Roanoke Rapids, North Carolina for the next 6 months. After a brief stay in Geneva, they finally settled in Lincoln, Nebraska where they lived for 51 years before Otto passed away on September 9, 1996. Fern remained in her home in Lincoln until 2011 when she moved to Heritage Crossings in Geneva.

Four children were born to Otto and Fern: Marcia, Gale, Myra and Bruce. She got her wish of two boys and two girls, so everyone had a brother and sister.

After the children entered Capitol Elementary School, Fern became active in PTA serving several years as president. She also cared for other children in her home and they came and went with her as though they were her own. Many hours were spent at the sewing machine making most of the family's clothes, often making matched sets including, Nebraska Centennial Costumes. She also taught her girls how to sew. She created cross-stitched aprons, rick-rack earrings, crocheted afghans, hand sewed many baby blankets and made Christmas ornaments as gifts. Summers were spent canning many quarts of peaches, plums and pears.

Fern assisted her husband in coaching Little Chiefs baseball when their boys were old enough to play. Many hours were spent playing catch in the alley to get them in shape.

When their children had families of their own, Fern and Otto enjoyed traveling to visit their grandchildren and Otto's relatives in North Carolina. From 1989 through 1996 they were active in Bryan Memorial Cardiac Rehabilitation.

Fern was preceded in death by her parents, Henry and Myra Most, her husband, Otto, an infant grandson, sister, Phyllis Riel and brothers-in-law, Arthur Riel of Geneva and Orville Benish of Denver Colorado, niece, Cathy (Benish) Brissman of California and son-in-law, Joseph Wood of Porter, Indiana.

She is survived by her sons, Gale Waters of Lincoln (Kathy) of South Hackensack, New Jersey, Bruce (Lori) Waters of Lincoln, daughters, Marcia Wood of Porter, Indiana and Myra (Kenneth) Aksamit of Nelson, Nebraska; grandchildren, Garrett (Cindy) Wood of Pleasant Prairie, Wisconsin, Amber Wood of Porter, Indiana, Tiffany (Tony) Migliorini of Graysville, Indiana, Dustin Waters of South Hackensack, New Jersey, Michelle (Jared) Harrington of Nelson, Nebraska, Rachel (Travis) Chapman of Beatrice, Nebraska, Jennifer (Jeramie) Benson of Hastings, Nebraska, Ryan Waters of Alliance, Nebraska (Fiancé, Mallory Sypal of Lincoln, Nebraska), Tyler (Jenna) Waters of Lincoln, Nebraska; great-grandchildren, Corey (Lucie) Wood of Kenosha, Wisconsin, Brooke Wood of Pleasant Valley, Wisconsin, Jacob and Gabriel King of Clearwater, Florida, Matthew and Cole Migliorini of Graysville, Indiana, Derek and Taylor Harrington of Nelson, Nebraska, Landen and Breanna Chapman of Beatrice, Nebraska, Lainey and Lexi Benson of Hastings, Nebraska; great-great granddaughter, Roxanne Wood of Kenosha, Wisconsin; sister, Ethel Benish of Denver, Colorado; Nieces, Susan (Russ) Rippe of Milford, Nebraska, Paula Henry (Significant Other, Steve Beetley) of Fairbury, Nebraska, Beth Benish Hornbein (Charlie) Powell of Littleton, Colorado and nephew, John (Joan) Riel of Geneva, Nebraska



# Tribute Wall



“ 7 files added to the album Memories Album



Farmer & Son Funeral Home - August 02, 2016 at 08:05 AM



“ Rhonda Patrick Smith lit a candle in memory of Fern E. Waters



Rhonda Patrick Smith - July 27, 2016 at 08:41 PM

JR

“ To a very special lady who never forgot a birthday until she became ill... Loved her family, "the farm" and pink!! Truly a pleasure to have know her !!! Love to all of her family and God's Blessings!! Love,  
John and Joan Riel

Joan Riel - July 27, 2016 at 05:19 PM

DR

*Fern was my fourth grade teacher at Sod Town country school. I never forgot her and kept in touch with her for many years until the last few weeks of her life at Heritage. She was not only a good teacher but a good kitten ball player with us at noon recess. I always wanted her on my side as she could bat the ball farther than anyone. Sweet memories.*

*Dick Rosenquist*

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**Dick Rosenquist** - July 30, 2016 at 12:15 PM