



Helen Arps-Fencel

March 30, 1930 - March 24, 2020

Helen Arps-Fencel, 89, of Linwood passed away Tuesday, March 24, at David Place in David City.

Memorials can be designated to Sts. Peter and Paul Catholic Church in Abie or Linwood Volunteer Fire Dept. Memorials and cards can be mailed to Svoboda Funeral Home P.O. Box 267 Schuyler, NE 68661.

Helen's family asks that those wishing to send plants and flowers refrain from sending arrangements until the memorial service is held at a later date.

In compliance with the current Covid-19 regulations, a family service and burial will be held at Sts. Peter and Paul Cemetery in Abie on Monday, March 30, at 10 a.m., the services will be live-streamed to the Svoboda Funeral Home Facebook page: <http://www.facebook.com/SvobodaFH>. Those wishing to attend the service will be asked to stay in their car, as only the immediate family will be at the graveside.

A public memorial Mass and luncheon will be scheduled for a later date. Those wishing to leave condolences for the family may do so on the Svoboda Funeral Home Website, by clicking on the Tribute Wall tab.

Helen Arps-Fencel was born on March 30, 1930 on the family farm near Prague to John and Rose (Steinbach) Vanek. She graduated from Prague High School in 1947 and attended Midland College in Fremont. She taught in several country schools in Saunders and Butler County.

Helen married Vernon Arps on February 14, 1950 at Sts. Peter and Paul Catholic church in Abie. She was a devoted member of the Altar Society and taught C.C.D. there for 25 years. Helen was a member of the Abie District 25 School Board for several years, and was the leader of the Abie Busy Beaver 4-H Club for 30 years. She was also a member of the Butler County ARC Board and served on the Butler County Election Board. Vernon and Helen were co-owners of Arps Sand, Gravel and Redi-Mix. After Vernon's passing Helen

married Leonard Fencl in 1991.

She enjoyed many hobbies which included quilting, sewing, ceramics, stained glass, and cemetery research. Helen's special love was her grand-children and great-grandchildren.

Survivors include her husband Leonard of David City; children: Pam (Jerry) Stearley of Lincoln, Alan (Trish) Arps of Schuyler, Mark (Diane) Arps of Schuyler, and Janet Anderson of Lincoln; 13 grandchildren: Branden (Steff) Arps, Andy (Kady) Arps, Craig (Jessica) Arps, Deanna (Derek) Beck, Matt Arps, Chris (Melissa) Arps, Stephanie (Branden) Levander, Nick (Melissa) Arps, Robin and Amy Stearley, Eric (fiancé Chloe Johnson) Anderson, Ryan and Victoria Anderson; great-grandchildren: Enyssa, Jayda, Nolan, Korbin, Kia, Grant, and Max Arps, Brooklynn Levander, Paxton and Xander Arps, Regan Beck, Grey and Flynn Arps, Isaac Callicoatt, and Jade Bartek; brother John Vanek; sister Clara Schrader; step-children: Pam (Mike) Fernandez, Michaela (Bud) Becker, and John (Marji) Fencl; step-grandchildren: Stephanie, Micah, and Josiah Fernandez, Amanda and Cayla McManaman, Buddy Becker, Lindsey, Matthew and Jeremy Fencl, Jill (Michele) Stogdill, Brian (Morgan) Prochaska; step great-grandchildren: Kendyl and Landon Stogdill, Kaylei, Bryce, Kiersten, Kynleigh, Emma Joseph, and Paisley Prochaska, Otto Becker, Alijah and Kai Enriquez, and Gianni Fencl

Helen was preceded in death by her parents, first husband Vernon in 1989, daughter Victoria in 1985, step-daughter Susan McManaman, sisters Christi Franta and Elaine Blum, brothers Rudy, Richard, Ed, and Milo Vanek.

Events

MAR **Graveside Service** 10:00AM

30

Sts Peter & Paul Cemetery

Road W & 41 Rd, Abie/Linwood, NE, US, 68001

Comments



“ Leonard & Family~
Remembering Helen, who has been a very good friend over the years. We had many pleasant visits on the telephone, or at the St. Mary's Cemetery south of Linwood. Hoping that you all find comfort in your cherished memories.
~May she rest in peace with God and his Angels~
Stan Shavlik & Family

Stan Shavlik - April 04, 2020 at 06:59 PM



“ Helen was a beautiful lady and always so kind. May your memories bring you comfort and peace.... Cindy and Shorty Hilger

Cindy and Shorty Hilger - March 31, 2020 at 11:32 AM



“ Pam, so sorry to hear about your mom. We're thinking about you.

Barry Snodgrass - March 30, 2020 at 05:01 PM



“ Marilyn Kobza lit a candle in memory of Helen Arps-FencI



Marilyn Kobza - March 30, 2020 at 02:59 PM



“ I am so sorry to hear about the loss of your mom. She was a wonderful lady. I have wonderful memories of her when I was younger and would go out to the Arps home. You are all in my thoughts and prayers. Monica Ratkovec-Eaton.

Monica Eaton - March 29, 2020 at 11:34 AM



“ Pam and Family, So sorry to hear about your Mom. She will be dearly missed. Praying that our Lord will wrap his loving arms around you and grant you peace during this difficult time.
Love and Hugs,
Kathy Rees

Kathy Rees - March 28, 2020 at 05:42 PM



“ Leonard, Pam, Janet, Alan, Mark and families,
I want to Express my sincere condolences in the passing of Helen. Heaven has gained a beautiful soul. Please know you are all on my thoughts and prayers.
Renee Dubas, RN

Renee - March 27, 2020 at 07:07 PM



“ Terry & Jennifer Bloom lit a candle in memory of Helen Arps-FencI



Terry & Jennifer Bloom - March 27, 2020 at 11:43 AM



“ Dear Pam and families,

My thoughts and prayers are with you in the loss of your Mom. I am so grateful that I visited her and you at David Place last December. May she rest in peace and may you and all your family be comforted and strengthened by the healing love of Jesus.

God bless you.
Sr. Patricia Ann Hanus, MS

Sr. Patricia Ann Hanus - March 26, 2020 at 09:58 PM



“ Pam, Janet, Alan, Mark & families & Leonard,
We send our deep & sincere sympathy in your loss. Aunt Helen was an awesome person & a favorite Aunt to so many of us. She was always ready with a smile & a hug! I always enjoyed seeing her & visiting when possible. May your fond memories be of comfort during this difficult time.
Love & hugs, Carolyn & George

Carolyn Novak - March 26, 2020 at 08:06 PM



“ Janet and family, you have my deepest sympathy at the lost of your mom. I pray God will comfort you with happy memories.

Karen Polak Johnson

Karen Johnson - March 25, 2020 at 06:39 PM



“ Dear Pam and Families:
Thinking of you....Peace.
Carole Augustin Hoyt

Carole Hoyt - March 25, 2020 at 01:11 PM



“ Pam, so sorry to hear about the loss of your Mom. Thoughts and prayers. Steve Sypal

Steve Sypal - March 25, 2020 at 12:36 PM



“ Dear Leonard, Pam and families,

Helen was a beautiful, kind and humble lady. She shone her light brightly. Rest in peace, Helen.

Vickie Kerkman - March 25, 2020 at 11:22 AM



“ Pam, so sorry to hear this. Your Mom was good to me! Please know that you are all in my thoughts and prayers. Bridget Rolenc

Bridget Rolenc - March 25, 2020 at 11:18 AM



“ Leonard and family,
We were so saddened to hear about Helen. Heaven has gained a beautiful soul.
Please know you are in our thoughts and prayers. In Christ, The Aquinas Alumni
Association



Aquinas Alumni Association - March 25, 2020 at 10:58 AM



“ Many times said, "God always takes the very best" and Helen was truly a lady with great Faith and much love for everyone. No matter what, she was there for those of us who were fortunate enough to have that special visit with her. Prayers and Love.

John and Barb Dehner

Barb Dehner - March 25, 2020 at 11:26 AM



“ Aunt Helen's Family, our deepest sympathy to all of you. A very special lady to all who knew her. Heaven has gained another angel from the Vanek family tree. Keep the memories and cherish them and spread her goodness to all.

Prayers and Love.

Ron & Jeanne Vanek Family

Jeanne - March 25, 2020 at 10:33 PM



“ Dear Pam, Alan, Mark, Janet, my heartfelt sorrow goes out to all of you. Your mom had a long interesting life, filled with both many happy times and some sad. I have memories of her going back to my childhood as we all grew up together. I'll miss seeing her drive by my farm as she went to Abie for coffee and lunch. Sincerely Larry Stanislav

Larry Stanislav - March 27, 2020 at 08:45 AM



“ To my dad Leonard and the Arps family...We were so sorry to hear the news about Helen's passing. She lived a long and healthy life, tirelessly endeavoring to make people smile and give them joy. She was a light in my dad's life after the passing of my mom. Helen's love for him was an ointment that gave his life meaning and happiness. They shared a happy 29 years together, and my dad enjoyed their special moments and times they got to travel together with friends. We will miss her ability to make an interesting conversation out of anything under the sun.

With great affection,

Pam Fernandez

Pam Fernandez - March 27, 2020 at 10:48 AM



“ We love you, Dad, and we know these next few days and weeks are going to be tough. You're in our thoughts and prayers each and every day. Saying goodbye to a loved one is never easy, and it's only through the love of God, our memories, and the prayers of family and friends that pull us through. You said that you were alone, and in part you are. But you have dozens of people who know you and who are calling you each day to grieve with you and give you support. Lean on them. They will help you through this. We, your family, will help you through this, even when we can only be there by voice alone. If we could, we

would give you a long hug and a shoulder to cry on. It's hard for us, knowing how you're struggling through your loss and knowing we can't be there to hold you. For now, our voices will have to be enough. May God give us the words that will bring you comfort, and to know when to be silent while you share the memories that are so precious to you.

All our love to you,

Pam and Mike Fernandez

Pam and Mike Fernandez - March 27, 2020 at 07:28 PM