



Elsie V. Lichtenwald

January 19, 1921 - April 23, 2007

Elsie V. Lichtenwald, 86, formerly of 810 Michigan Avenue, North Fond du Lac, died Monday, April 23, 2007, at Deerview Meadows, Fond du Lac. She was born on January 19, 1921, in Fond du Lac, a daughter of George H. and Agatha M. Gross Langacker. Elsie was baptized at home on February 28, 1921, by Rev. Walter Schumann and confirmed at St. Paul's Lutheran Church, North Fond du Lac, on March 25, 1934, by Rev. Carl Lawrenz. Elsie attended St. Paul's Lutheran Grade School and graduated in 1934. After graduation from North Fond du Lac High School in 1938, she attended Fountain City Business College and graduated in 1940. She also studied music from area teachers. On October 18, 1942, she married Walter Lichtenwald at St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church, with Rev. Carl Lawrenz officiating. Elsie taught Sunday School at St. Paul's Lutheran Church for many years. Starting at age 13, she was assistant organist at the church and accompanied their choir for many years. She also played organ at numerous churches which included: Redeemer Lutheran Church of Fond du Lac, Zion Lutheran Church of Van Dyne, Faith Lutheran Church of Fond du Lac, where she also accompanied their choir for several years, Ridge Road Church of Eldorado, Good Shepherd Lutheran Church of Fond du Lac, St. Peter's Ev. Lutheran Church of Fond du Lac, St. John's Lutheran Church of Town of Forest and many years at St. Paul's Lutheran Church of North Fond du Lac. Elsie spent many years giving private piano lessons. She was a member of the Music Teachers Association at national, state and local levels. Elsie was also a member of Regional

Writers and Area Writers Club. She is survived by a daughter, Amy (Roy) Leemon of North Fond du Lac; two grandchildren: David Leemon of Dubuque, Iowa, Penny (Wayne) Messman of Austin, Texas; two great-grandchildren: Brett and Christa Messman of Texas; a sister, Lucille Hart of Westerville, Ohio; a sister-in-law, Kitty Langacker of Ohio; nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her parents; her husband, Walter, on December 1, 1995; a daughter, Rose Marie Lichtenwald on February 14, 1998; two brothers: George Langacker and Lee Langacker; and a brother-in-law, Frank Hart. The funeral service will be at 10:00 a.m. on Thursday, April 26, 2007, at St. Paul's Ev. Lutheran Church, 607 Illinois Avenue, North Fond du Lac, with Rev. Thomas H. Behnke officiating. Burial will be in Estabrooks Cemetery. The visitation will be from 6-8 p.m. on Wednesday, April 25, 2007, at Mach Funeral Chapel, 31 East Division Street, Fond du Lac and on Thursday at church from 9:00 a.m. until the time of service. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be directed to St. Paul's Lutheran Church Building Fund.

Tribute Wall

JT

“ *I wish comfort and peace to all Elsie's friends and family members. Elsie played an important role in my childhood and was a wonderful friend to our family for years. She will always be remembered for her patient, caring, and loving ways. I will never forget the wonderful times that I shared with her at her home or hiking through Hobbs Woods. She was very special to us and she will be missed.*

Joel Thiesfeldt - April 25, 2007 at 03:53 PM

RR

“ *Hi to those that mourn my Aunt Elsie. She may not have been my Aunt, but both her and Uncle Wally loved me as if I was in their/your family. I was saddened to hear of the loss, but part of me is smiling as I think she'll be "tickling the ivory" and making beautiful music for all the heavenly host. She is now at peace with our risen Savior! Reading the obituary reminded me of times when Amy, David and Penny would come along and visit, or times we would meet in Fond du Lac (my hometown). I think back of years gone by and remember all the good times we had with Aunt Elsie & Uncle Wally and I hope that you can find comfort in those days gone by and know that they were responsible for touching many lives and with tears in my eyes I'm proud to say that I'm one of them. Love to you all & God Bless
Ryan Robbert Wife Mandy and son Cameron*

Ryan Robbert - April 25, 2007 at 10:26 AM

SF

“ To Elsie's family: We are so sorry for your loss. Your parents were so kind to my family when I was privileged to be able to send my children for piano lessons. Elsie was so kind always, & I admired all of her talents that she generously shared. Her devotion to caring for Rosie all of those years just made me respect & admire her even more.

God be with your family at this time of loss.

Sharon Adams & Family

Sharon Adams & Family - April 25, 2007 at 09:48 AM

DB

“ Elsie V. Lichtenwald

Deb Bakken - April 25, 2007 at 08:35 AM

RW

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Ryan Robbert of Onalaska, WI - April 25, 2007 at 12:00 AM

JC

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Joel Thiesfeldt of San Diego, CA - April 25, 2007 at 12:00 AM

SW

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Sharon Adams & Family of Fond du Lac, WI - April 25, 2007 at 12:00 AM

CJ

“ To Amy and Elsie's family, Please accept my condolences at Elsie's passing. She played such an important part in my life and I will always be grateful for her teaching and her loving way. She planted a love of music and the piano that has become my life. I still remember how thrilled I was when she gave me my first "big" piece - the Kuhlau Sonatina in C - which I am currently teaching to a student. I remember how Elsie loved that piece and her enthusiasm was contagious - I make sure that all my students play it at one time or another. Elsie was the only piano teacher I've had who encouraged composition, and I still can play my very first little creation she helped me with - "Dance of the Rain Drops..." Elsie was always so supportive of my later career as well. I owe her so much! Amy, you might not remember me, but I remember so many wonderful times spent with you, too, before or after my lessons. I also remember Rosie and how your mother was so very devoted to her. Elsie's legacy is one I will always cherish.
A colleague, Joan Gratton, called to give me news of Elsie's passing. I'm so happy that she let me know. My mother, Anne Jachec, also sends her condolences.
With deepest sympathy and prayers, Carol Klose (formerly Carol Anne Jachec)

Carol Klose (Carol Anne Jachec) - April 24, 2007 at 08:52 PM

PM

“ My deepest sympathies to Elsie's family. I almost feel as though I was a part of her family. Growing up next door, playing paper dolls, reading, putting on shows, coloring & learning to bake, all with Amy, shaped my world.

Elsie gave me the gift of love of music. I learned to play the piano under her guidance and patience. Not only technique, but a love and appreciation of music and its great composers.

Elsie also taught Amy & I how to bake homemade bread & her special lemon meringue pie. I still treasure the cook book she hand wrote for me. Elsie also wrote a little story about my daughter Jill when she was just a baby. It will be long remembered.

I will always remember Elsie and her wonderful smile. Her smile was like a ray of sun. She will be missed by many people, but never forgotten for what she brought to all of us.

Peggy Auchue Myers - April 24, 2007 at 08:30 PM

TF

“ *Elsie was an amazing lady! Teaching piano was a special gift she shared with so many children.*

Cody has many wonderful memories of Elsie teaching him piano and we all will remember her kind heart and caring ways.

Elsie's love of music and flowers was evident with the patience and loving way the children and her plantings grew and blossomed! Heaven truly has a new angel.

Gods blessings, Carl, Trudy, Cody & Taylor

The Backhaus Family - April 24, 2007 at 07:19 PM

KM

“ I began piano lessons with your mom when I was 4 years old. At such a young age, Mrs. Lichtenwald was a positive influence in my life. I loved music and Elsie was always very encouraging. I remember she smiled and laughed a lot. After 12 years she felt she didn't have anything more to teach me and sent me to her piano teacher. I also witnessed the tremendous patience and love Elsie had when caring for Rosie. Going to her home for those 12 years, Elsie's place began to feel like a close relatives, and not just a piano teacher. I was happy to visit her at the nursing home in April 2006 and played piano for the residents for about 45 minutes. Even though she really didn't remember me, I remembered her and the skill she gave me for a lifetime. Elsie was a dear woman and I do feel blessed to have been a small part of her life. Thank you for sharing your mom with me and all of her other students.
With God's love, Karen Mitchell

Karen (Fenske) Mitchell - April 24, 2007 at 05:45 PM

PC

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Peggy Auchue Myers of Salinas, California - April 24, 2007 at 12:00 AM

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Carol Klose (Carol Anne Jachec) of Wauwatosa, WI - April 24, 2007 at 12:00 AM

TL

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Karen (Fenske) Mitchell of Nome, Alaska - April 24, 2007 at 12:00 AM