



Leona Lydia Eley

May 3, 1927 - August 10, 2019

Leona Lydia Eley, 92, of Beloit, WI, passed away peacefully on Saturday, August 10, 2019 in Beloit Memorial Hospital surrounded by her family.

She was born May 3, 1927 in Janesville, WI, the daughter of John and Martha (Shoemaker) Liptow. Leona married George R. "Geo" Eley on September 5, 1953 in Pecatonica, IL. He predeceased her on October 6, 2005.

Leona owned and operated the Lucky 13 Restaurant. She was formerly employed by the Beloit Daily News and retired from Frito-Lay in 1986. She was a hard worker and played just as hard. She loved cooking and fishing. She was an avid Green Bay Packer and Milwaukee Brewer fan. Leona was a member of People's Church where she was the kitchen chairman for funeral luncheons and was known as "O Wise 1".

Survivors include her nine children, Jim (Ruth) Stauffacher, Sue (fiancé, John Fiedler) Polky, Kathy (Karl) Bell all of Beloit, WI, Cindy (Bill) Meyers of Gordon, WI, Patty (Bob) Kilday, Ron (Shelly) Eley both of Beloit, WI, Jackie (Dave) Tester of Marietta, GA, Kevin (Julie) Eley, and Dawn (Jared Short) Eley both of Beloit, WI; 24 grandchildren, 35 great grandchildren ;30 foster children including special foster children, Aaron Gibson of Janesville, WI and Danielle (Gibson) Beirl of Watertown, NY; sister, Marcela Davis of Jefferson, WI; nieces and nephews.

She was predeceased by her parents, son-in-law, Gene Polky; four brothers, nine sisters and former husband Leon Stauffacher.

Funeral service for Leona will be at 11:00 a.m. Thursday, August 15, 2019 in the People's Church, 340 W. Grand Ave., Beloit, WI, with Pastor Phil Rice officiating. Burial will be in Baldwin Cemetery. Visitation of remembrance will be from 4 to 8 p.m. Wednesday in the Daley Murphy Wisch & Associates Funeral Home and Crematorium, 2355 Cranston Road, Beloit, WI. Visitation will also be from 10:00 a.m. until 10:45 a.m. Thursday in the church. A memorial will be established in her name at a later date.

Cemetery

Events

**Baldwin
Cemetery**
4001 S. Afton
Road
Beloit, WI,

AUG Visitation 04:00PM - 08:00PM

14

Daley Murphy Wisch & Associates Funeral Home and
Crematorium

2355 Cranston Road, Beloit, WI, US, 53511

AUG Visitation 10:00AM - 10:45AM

15

People's Church

340 W. Grand Avenue, Beloit, Wi, US

AUG Service 11:00AM

15

People's Church

340 W. Grand Avenue, Beloit, Wi, US

Comments



“ She was such a nice lady!! I remember working with her at Frito-Lay. She was always so full of fun!!! So sorry for your loss.



LAVONNE DRAKE - August 15 at 03:09 PM



“ Grandma,

I'm honored to have been a part of your life. You taught me so much and I now have the privilege of teaching those lessons to my daughter. The other day My husband and I were discussing how it's like you have a super power. It's this ability to make everyone feel important. You made me feel important. I'll forever be grateful for that.

Danielle Beirl - August 15 at 01:13 PM



“ I remember one time when Grandma Lona came to visit us in Colorado. My mom had just left to pick up a pizza for lunch. I was about 3 years old and I wanted ice cream. But Grandma Lona said I had to wait until after lunch. Well being a toddler I had a temper tantrum and I told my Great Grandma to go home! But now I wish she could stay forever. I love you and miss you Grandma. You will be in my heart always.

Marlee Reitan - August 14 at 12:54 PM



“ I remember playing cribbage with Grandma 'Lona' and grandma started moving her pegs in the wrong direction and I didnt tell her until she got back to start. Then she asked me, "How did you get so far ahead?" I'll be missing the Ol Wise One who taught me how to play.

Max Reitan - August 13 at 09:53 PM



“ Dani, all your friends at WSP are so sorry to hear of Leona's passing. Keeping you close in our hearts and hoping you find peace and comfort at this difficult time.

MaryLu Moriarty - August 13 at 08:30 AM



“ Dawn York lit a candle in memory of Leona Lydia Eley



Dawn York - August 13 at 02:10 AM



“ I also remember the huge Christmas parties we'd have too, I always got big jars of peanut butter and dawn always got a big brick of velvita cheese LOL. OH how I'm going to miss that lol

Sondra york - August 12 at 07:09 PM



“ I remember every Tim she came in the room, she would ask me what today's weather was and I'd either turn on a weather band receiver, or look at the weather app on my phone, and say, "sunny and warm today but rain tomorrow " Leona, I love you lots, miss all your hugs and happiness.

Sondra york - August 12 at 07:05 PM



“ You are all very lucky because you've known Grandma for all or most of your lives. I, however, been blessed to have only known her for the past 13 yrs. I married into the family and she welcomed and accepted me with open arms and eventually became her favorite, or so I believed. That was one of her greatest gifts. Jenn said this the other day and it truly embodied who grandma was. She would tell you, you were her favorite and whether you believed it or not it was the truth because she said it. Her words carried truth. She was a woman of high integrity, patience, caring and full of love. You are all her legacy, carry her legacy throughout your lives that'll honor her. It's unfair she left when she did because if I recall correctly, the last game of cribbage we played together she won. That's ok Grandma, the next we see each other I'll have my cribbage board and I'll make it even :). I love you and miss you! Rest in

paradise!

Jerry B. Reitan - August 12 at 06:33 PM



“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Kimberly Campbell - August 12 at 10:54 AM



“ Diana Salathe Braden sent a virtual gift in memory of Leona Lydia Eley



Diana Salathe Braden - August 12 at 10:05 AM



“ She never met a stranger. Everywhere we went she knew people. And it didnt matter what she was doing, she always had time to stop and say hi, chat for a few, and give a warm embrace. Her smile was infectious. Her laugh was the same. Her positive energy would radiate through an entire crowd. She had a way of making anyone who was with her feel like her favorite child, grandchild, great grandchild, or bestest friend. She had the ability to look beyond a person's faults, and only see the good in them. I suppose that's how she ended up with so many people who loved her. L. Frank Baum wrote, " A heart is not judged by how much we love, but by how much we are loved by others." Leona is loved beyond measure. May her love, kindness, compassion, and generosity live on in our own hearts, and more importantly through our actions in our everyday lives. Rest in beautiful peace, grandma. I'll love you and miss you as long as I live.

Jennie Reitan - August 12 at 08:01 AM



“ The Old Wise One has moved on and is going to keep that smiling and laughing spiritually soul alive in heaven as she did here in earth WE WILL ALL MISS YOU I Hope they are rested because she will keep them in the go

Denice Hanson - August 12 at 07:23 AM



“ Truly to many memories that I have with my mom.... From getting our pedi to going to lunch at Tilleys.... Coming over for dinners with the family .. Always having to call for recipe tips...Taking her on a few trips to Minnesota. Then the dreaded limburger cheese and onion sandwich. Love and miss you so much mom... Words can not express how broke my heart is now. But yours is happy because you are with dad and that is what you have been wanting. Can't wait to see you again...

Bob and Patty - August 12 at 07:16 AM



“ I remember all the hugs Leona would give when anyone would walk into the room. If you were down under the weather and she saw you she would hug away all your sorro.

Dawn York - August 12 at 12:33 AM



“ Christy Davis sent a virtual gift in memory of Leona Lydia Eley



christy davis - August 11 at 08:30 PM



“ From the first time I met Leona, I knew what a wonderful warm woman she was. I will miss our Wednesday Pizza Lunches at Tilleys. Heaven has just welcomed a new Angel. R.I.P.



Maureen Pautz - August 11 at 08:25 PM



“ Your family was truly blessed by your heart of Gold, and those of us you adopted as one of your own. You have inspired a lot of people in your lifetime and left an abundance of memories! Hope you and George are finally dancing again to “Just Beyond the Moon”
Loved you! Al and Kathy Letcher



Al Letcher - August 11 at 08:13 PM



“ I so loved your mom , we always had such a great time when she came to get her hair done. Glad I got to see her a Woodmans not that long ago. We both enjoyed a big hug. A wonderful lady she will be missed.

Shirley Churchill - August 11 at 07:53 PM



“ She touched so many lives with her love and kindness. A true Wise1. She will be missed by everyone that knew her. Enjoy the warm glow of heaven



Todd and Sharon Hanson - August 11 at 07:31 PM



“ Angela Kirby Pelech lit a candle in memory of Leona Lydia Eley



Angela Kirby Pelech - August 11 at 07:26 PM



“ Amy Richter lit a candle in memory of Leona Lydia Eley



Amy Richter - August 11 at 06:39 PM



“ Pat Johnson lit a candle in memory of Leona Lydia Eley



Pat Johnson - August 11 at 06:24 PM



“ Lori Cade lit a candle in memory of Leona Lydia Eley



Lori Cade - August 11 at 05:53 PM



“ Leona was special. She made the drudgery of work fun. I think of the Frito Lay days and I always remember Leona. Sorry for your Jim condolences to your whole family.

Bill Bue - August 11 at 05:44 PM



“ Andy And Cheryl Mandera lit a candle in memory of Leona Lydia Eley



andy and cheryl mandera - August 11 at 05:39 PM



“ Jim And Kim Beirl lit a candle in memory of Leona Lydia Eley



Jim and Kim Beirl - August 11 at 03:29 PM