



## Edna Carpenter

December 29, 1919 - May 3, 2013

Long-time resident of Torrington, WY, Edna Pearl Kenyon Carpenter, 93, went to be with her Lord on May 3, 2013 in Elko, NV. Funeral services will be held Sat. May 25th at 10:00 am, at the Berean Bible Church, in Torrington, WY, with internment at Forest Lawn Cemetery north of Morrill, NE. Pastor John Wilhelm will officiate with family members participating. Colyer Funeral Home in Torrington is in charge of arrangements. Viewing will be at Colyers Fri. May 24 from 4 to 7 pm and on Sat. at the church before the service.

Edna was born December 29, 1919 in Mitchell, NE to Charles and Edna (Henderson) Kenyon, the sixth of nine children. Most of Edna's life followed the traditions of the day such as being born at the family home. They lived on a small dairy farm, raised a big garden, chickens, and a few pigs. Edna attended school a brisk mile walk from home. It took the entire lunch hour to walk home, eat and return to school on time. In addition to regular classroom lessons, students received special instruction in penmanship. Edna excelled in this skill.

After graduating from Mitchell high school Edna married George Willard Carpenter June 29, 1938. They set up housekeeping in a sod house on the Carpenter ranch north of Henry, Nebraska. Just barely in their twenties, they lost their home, the majority of their worldly goods, and their first child, Georgie, from the affects of a house fire. They then lived in another two room

soddy, to which Willard added over the years. Until 1956, the Carpenters used a wind charger for power (DC), then power lines brought AC from the REA and they switched to it.

After Georgie came eleven other children, between 1939 and 1960. The children went to a one room elementary (Sioux Co.) school on the ranch, and then attended Torrington High School, 22 miles away. Eight of the children finished college; others opted for trade school or other training.

Edna loved ranch life, a crafting club with other ranch wives, a new born calf, spring flowers, lilacs in the hedge around the garden, her hollyhocks just outside the kitchen window, a deer leaping over the ridge, antelope in the meadow, and the howl of a coyote in the moonlight.

Edna, with help from the children, raised a large garden and preserved the harvest. She always grew flowers as well. She made wonderful bread, cinnamon rolls, jelly, candy at holidays, kept chickens and milk cows, and made do with little. She sold cream and eggs to supplement the family's income. The children were active in 4-H, some took piano lessons and some were involved in band, clubs, or sports.

Besides all the usual summertime ranch activities, the Carpenters often hosted family picnics. Often nieces and nephews stayed for week or two and got to experience working with the cattle, horseback riding, haying, and swimming and canoeing at the pond. Willard and Edna were dedicated to faithfulness in the Lord's house. Getting a large family to church twenty miles away in town, dressed properly, hair combed, on time, was a loving commitment. Willard had open heart surgery twice and passed at the age of 59. Edna continued ranching for a time, and then moved to Torrington in the late '80s, where she was a caregiver to several older couples. Edna went back to college to pursue her lifelong dream of a bachelor's degree, which she

received in Interdisciplinary Studies when she was 86. She and Willard loved to travel, which she continued after his passing. In the course of her life she has been to most of the states, Europe, Africa and Australia. A favorite summer time weekend trip was to Evans Plunge in Hot Springs, SD, where the older children had the privilege of swimming the evening of arrival, but the younger ones had to wait until the next day. Edna's last big trip was at the age of 89 when she traveled with two daughters to Ireland to visit her grandson Jason Carpenter and family who were there from Uganda. Edna will be greatly missed by her family and friends.

Besides her husband, G. Willard, Edna is preceded in death by 4 children, and survived by 8 who are: George James Carpenter (d), Robert (Virginia) Carpenter, Zambia, Peggy (Robert) Latham, Elko, NV, Ruth (Jim) Butler, Oklahoma City, OK, Shirley (d) (Boyd) Williston, Kansas City, MO, Lucille (Kirkpatrick) (Art) Hughes, Parker, CO, Howard Carpenter (d), Henry, NE, Lee (Jerri Lynn) Carpenter, Lingle, WY, Mary (Jim) Mathis, Wheatland, WY and Ft. Myers, FL, Joy (d) (John) Horton, San Antonio, TX, Edna (Roger) Chase, Cheyenne, WY, and Paul Carpenter, Torrington, WY. At the time of her passing Edna had 28 grand children, 29 great-grandchildren and 8 great-great-grand children. Edna is preceded in death by 3 brothers, and 2 sisters. She is survived by sisters Eleanor Miller, Kirkland, WA, and Marjorie Ahlquist, Carlsbad, CA, one brother, Harry Kenyon, Mitchell, NE., and a sister-in-law, Mildred (Kenneth) Carpenter of Douglas, WY.

# Previous Events

## Service

MAY **25**. 10:00 AM (MT)

Berean Bible Church  
2002 East D  
Torrington, WY 82240

# Tribute Wall

JA

“ Dear Carpenter Family,  
Although it has been many years I will always treasure the friendships of all your family. From when we went to the ranch in high-school to go horseback riding, your Mother's love and hospitality, to seeing Mrs. Carpenter's college graduation notice in the newspaper and being proud because I knew her. You are all special and now we rejoice as she holds the hand of Jesus. My love and prayers, Jan (Hesselgesser) Abbott

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Jan (Hesselgesser) Abbott - May 25, 2013 at 12:27 PM

LO

“ Lori lit a candle in memory of Edna Carpenter



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Lori - May 25, 2013 at 09:57 AM

ST

“ Our sympathy and thoughts to the family. She was a very nice hard working lady. We are so sorry for your loss. I am also sorry i will not be able to attend the services as I work at nite and will be sleeping. I can remember many times up on the ranch she would be gathering wood and chopping it. Sorry for your loss Tim and Stacey Cleays Morrill Ne, Matt and Mistie Cleays Morrill ne, Jc Tahlia and Lacey Zorn of Oshkosh Nebr, Daniel Zorn of Oshkosh Nebraska

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Stacey - May 25, 2013 at 12:53 AM

FS

“ From your friends at A&W Water Service. purchased the Sweet Liberty for the family of Edna Carpenter.



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**From your friends at A&W Water Service.** - May 24, 2013 at 10:45 AM

PB

“ Our sympathy, prayers and thoughts are with you for the loss of your dear mother, Edna. We enjoyed knowing her and the family when we were neighbors in Sioux County. We have fond memories of times spent together. Peggy Bixler and family - Sally, David, Don and Susan

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**Peggy Bixler** - May 22, 2013 at 05:49 PM

PB

“ Our sympathy, thoughts and prayers are with you for the loss of your dear Mother, Edna. We enjoyed knowing her and my son David remembers her delicious cinnamon rolls after school before we picked him up from school. Also the school Christmas party Edna hosted and I remembered one of the kids in a tiger outfit it also could have been David, Lee or Howard. We sang Christmas songs and had such a good time. I picture Willard, Howard and Joy welcoming wife and Mother home. Peggy Bixler, Sally, David, Don and Susan

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**Peggy Bixler** - May 22, 2013 at 05:35 PM

JF

“ I am so sorry for your loss and I know you will miss her. She was a great influence on my life and the last thing I remember her saying to me at her birthday party was " We always got along pretty good for a couple of hotheads." She was a real jewel and I am so thankful that she had a personal relationship with the Lord Jesus Christ and is now fellowshipping person to person with Him.

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**Joyce Allen Frazey** - May 22, 2013 at 09:42 AM

IS

“ Dear Marjorie and family: I extend my deepest sympathy on your recent loss. Kenyons and Smiths were a part of the long history of Mitchell.

Sincerely,

*Iris (Smith) Snyder*

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**Iris C. (Smith) Snyder** - May 21, 2013 at 12:10 PM

LO

*Dear Friends: We are sending our heartfelt sympathy and you have been in our thoughts and prayers. Hold close all those cherished memories of Edna. She was a wonderful person and she will be missed.*

*With all our love,  
Helen Lay, Lana, Gary Svoboda, Lori, Ted Niemeyer, Beth Ann, Tim Stevens*

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**Lori** - May 25, 2013 at 09:56 AM