



Rachel L. Sterkel

October 28, 1927 - December 23, 2018

TORRINGTON, WYOMING.....Funeral services for RACHEL L. STERKEL, 91, will be held at 2pm Wednesday, January 2, 2019 at the First Congregational Church with Reverend Matt Gordon officiating. Burial will follow in the Valley View Cemetery. Rachel died December 23, 2018 at Goshen Healthcare Community. Memorials may be made to the First Congregational Church. Visitation will be Wednesday at the funeral home from 10am to noon and the casket will be closed at the service. Arrangements are by the Colyer Funeral Home and condolences may be sent to www.colyerfuneralhome.com.

Rachel was born October 28, 1927 in Longmont, Colorado the daughter of Pete and Elizabeth Schlagel. At an early age she moved from Longmont to Torrington, Wyoming where her family farmed west of the sugar factory. She attended school in Torrington until the eighth grade when her father announced she was the best hired man he had. She was one of the first “females” to haul beets to the sugar factory. While she never learned to ride a bike, she could run the tractors and trucks with ease. On November 25, 1945 she married Raymond “Willie” Sterkel. Together they farmed in the Lingle, Wyoming area, then Douglas, Wyoming and near Huntley, Wyoming. In 1960 they moved to their forever home in Torrington. Rachel began working in the school lunch program . During her forty plus years, she worked at the Lincoln School, the middle school and the high school. As the school lunch

coordinator and with the onset of government regulations, she did continuing education classes, receiving many certificates of recognition. Hard to please a family of four at mealtime? Try feeding a team of high school football boys. She cooked for the football camps for over twenty years. She loved to see them “chow down”. Her favorites always got a little extra on their plate. Rachel will always be remembered for her culinary and baking talent.

Rachel was a member of the First Congregational Church. The very same church she and her brothers and sisters were confirmed in. She held various offices and was a member of the ladies group, The Friendly Society.

Rachel is survived by her son Donald Sterkel of Lake Side, Arizona with his three step-children, twelve grandchildren and one great grandchild. Also surviving is her daughter Connie Packard of Torrington, Wyoming; granddaughter Nicole (Jordan) Cattin and grandchildren Taylor and Cooper of Kenmare, North Dakota. Being the last survivor of the original “Schlagel” family, she is survived by many loving nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her parents; her husband Willie; one infant daughter Diane Lydia; brothers Herman (Martha) Schlagel, and Ben Schlagel; sisters Helene (Ruben) Foltz, Pauline (George) Schleining, Rosemary (Henry) Feagler and Darlene (Richard) Bower.

Cemetery Details

Valley View Cemetery

30th Avenue
Torrington, WY 82240

Previous Events

Visitation

JAN 2. 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM (MT)

Colyer Funeral Home
PO Box 20 / 2935 Main
Torrington, WY 82240
(307) 532-2320
colyerfuneralhome@gmail.com

Service

JAN 2. 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM (MT)

First Congregational Church
2102 East E
Torrington, WY 82240
(307) 532-5595

Tribute Wall

TW

“ *Torry Wilson lit a candle in memory of Rachel L. Sterkel*



Torry Wilson - January 21, 2019 at 01:06 PM

RW

“ *Robin E Walter lit a candle in memory of Rachel L. Sterkel*



robin e walter - January 09, 2019 at 01:07 PM

LS

“ *My sweet dear Aunt. ALWAYS sent birthday/anniversary cards too ALL of her many many nieces and nephews. I will miss her sweet gentle spirit.*

Linda Schifferns - December 29, 2018 at 02:36 PM

RB

“ *Mrs. Sterkel left me with some great memories of her cooking and baking skills. I was one of her "football favorites" who would feast on her great food she prepared. I always got lots of food and seconds when I needed more. She was always ready with her beautiful smile and pleased she could take care of "her boys."*

Roy Brewer - December 28, 2018 at 05:33 PM

KS

“ Kelly & Debra Sterkel purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of Rachel L. Sterkel.



Kelly & Debra Sterkel - December 28, 2018 at 04:30 PM

ES

“ I remember Rachel when I was a child, I worked for her in the lunch room. She taught me a very strong work ethic and I will always be grateful for all she did for me. Rest in peace Rachel.



Elma M. Servantez - December 27, 2018 at 11:34 AM



“ Pink Tribute Spray was purchased for the family of Rachel L. Sterkel.



December 26, 2018 at 09:16 PM



“ *Connie your mom was a wonderful lady and I see so much of her in you. In this time when words hold little comfort I pray you find comfort in those who love you and surround you each day.*

Although she is now with Jesus her memory lives on here on earth and today the pain is hidden with tears but I pray also someday soon you will trade those tears for happy memories.

I am so sorry for your heartache.

Tracy Davis



Tracy Davis - December 26, 2018 at 07:19 PM



“ *Beautiful Heart Bouquet was purchased for the family of Rachel L. Sterkel.*



December 26, 2018 at 05:15 PM



“ *Carol Peterson lit a candle in memory of Rachel L. Sterkel*



Carol Peterson - December 26, 2018 at 03:27 PM



*I have so many memories of her. I will always love you Aunt Rachel. You were always a loving and kind person. I will never forget you.
Love Kathy Sterkel Larsen*

Kathy Sterkel Larsen - December 30, 2018 at 02:34 AM