

A Journey Remembered

As some people journey through life,
they leave footprints wherever they go-

Footprints of kindness, and love, courage and compassion,
humor and inspiration, joy and faith.

Even when they are gone, we can still look back and clearly see the
trail they left behind- a trail bright with hope that invites us to follow.



As we look back to honor our residents who have passed away since
May 2020, we can see their footprints and their trail that they have
left behind for us to follow.

We celebrate their “Dash”, the gift of their legacy that they
have given us to cherish and treasure.

We thank you, beloved family members, for entrusting us to care for
your loved ones, as we too have grown to become one family
as we spent our days together. Each and every resident who we
are honoring was unique in their own ways. Our staff all have
special memories imprinted in our minds and in our hearts
and feel blessed that each one has come into our lives.





The Dash

By Linda Ellis



I read of a man who stood to speak at the funeral of a friend.

He referred to the dates on her tombstone from the beginning...
to the end.

He noted that first came the date of her birth and spoke of the following
date with tears, but he said what mattered most of all was the dash
between those years.

For that dash represents all the time that she spent alive on earth and
now only those who loved her know what that little line is worth.

For it matters not, how much we own, the cars...the house...the cash.
What matters is how we live and love and how we spend our dash.

So think about this long and hard; are there things you'd like to change?

For you never know how much time is left that can still be rearranged.

If we could just slow down enough to consider what's true and real and
always try to understand the way other people feel.

And be less quick to anger and show appreciation more and love the peo-
ple in our lives like we've never loved before.

If we treat each other with respect and more often wear a smile...
remembering that this special dash might only last a little while.

So when your eulogy is being read with your life's actions to rehash,
would you be proud of the things they say
about how you spent your dash?

Ruby Amberger



Ruby (Chandler) Amberger was born on April 20, 1928, in Colorado. She was the youngest of six children. Following her marriage to Robert Amberger in 1947, they lived in various states including Colorado, Wisconsin, Missouri and Florida. Robert passed away in 1988. After living on her own in Florida for many years, she came back to Wisconsin to be near her nephew, Vern Chandler. When Ruby came to Ladysmith Care Community in 2016, we were impressed that number one, she moved to Wisconsin from the sunny state of Florida and number two, that she arrived by airplane! We fell in love with Ruby's spunky personality, ultimate independence and unique sayings, one of

which was "Well, shoot a bug!" Ruby loved to read books and read the entire "Montana Maverick" series as well as many books that stemmed off from that series, well over 150 books all in regular print. She read from the time she got up, until the time she went to bed, and shared the saga with us in full detail. She was very proud to receive the mayor's top reader award among senior citizens in 2019, sponsored by the Rusk County Community Library. When she was told that the mayor would be coming to present her with the award, she commented "Well, shoot a bug!!!". Ruby loved cowboys, preferably topless, she often took sneak previews of the months ahead on her shirtless cowboy calendar, with popping eyes and a huge smile! Come the first of every month, we knew we had to run in there to change Ruby's calendar!

Dolores Atwood

Dolores Helen (Dahlvig) Atwood was born on March 15, 1931 in Ladysmith. She graduated from the Ladysmith High School in 1949 and married Dale Atwood in 1952. She was employed at the Ladysmith library before she was married. She was then a homemaker and raised five children. She worked in the home care field for a while and was the treasurer for the town of Stubbs for many years. Dolores was a wonderful cook and did a lot of canning from the large garden they had.



She enjoyed baking, reading, doing counted cross-stitch, jigsaw puzzles, playing cards and bingo. She also enjoyed bird watching, going for car rides and visiting family. Dolores had a great sense of humor, and would have random moments of outburst laughter that was contagious.

She had eight grandchildren, three step grandchildren and 18 great grandchildren.

Rose Mary Baker

Rose Mary (Kennedy) Baker was born on March 8, 1937 in Ladysmith. She attended grade school in Ingram and high school in Glen Flora. She met her husband Richard Baker in Hawkins, and the couple moved to Chicago where her husband worked as an iron worker building skyscrapers. They began their family and Cathy, Linda & Richard were born. The family moved from Chicago back to Hawkins and two more children were born Bonnie and Mary. Rose Mary worked at Phillips Plastics and later as a cleaning person at Norco Windows. She eventually opened her own cleaning business. Rose Mary LOVED old country music and listening to Moose Country. Her grandfather taught her to

love politics like he did, thus Rose Mary followed and listened to MSNBC all

day long. She enjoyed genealogy and exploring the internet and Facebook, she self-taught herself how to download, scan and post pictures on Facebook. She enjoyed gardening, working on jigsaw puzzles and she and her husband worked on the daily crossword puzzle in the newspaper together. Rose Mary enjoyed playing bingo, and always had to put her lip stick on before going to any activity!



Katherine Baker

Katherine (Peters) Baker was born on August 27, 1920 in St. Lawrence, South Dakota to John and Anna Peters. She was the fifth of six children; five brothers and one sister. Growing up she assisted her father with his bakery.

After she graduated high school, Katherine worked in Washington, D.C. for four years for the government. She then moved to Downers Grove, Illinois to live with an aunt and got a job in Chicago. On weekends, Katherine worked as a cashier at a local theater. A young man, named Robert Baker, would come by frequently while she cashiered. Robert finally worked up the courage to talk to her, and asked her if he could walk her home after her shift. Love blossomed and nine months later they were married at St. Joseph's Church at Downers Grove, Illinois on November 4, 1949.

The young couple bought a horticultural nursery in Arlington Heights, Illinois, and called it the Baker Family Nursery Inc. Garden Center. Katherine and Bob raised two boys, Arthur and James. They enjoyed many activities as a family, swimming, fishing, bicycling and traveling to Hawaii and Florida for vacations. After Katherine and Bob sold their nursery, they purchased registered quarter horses, and enjoyed horseback riding on trails. They took the horses all over to be shown, including the Nationals in Columbus, Ohio every year.

Katherine was devoted to her Catholic faith. She was a member of St. Catherine of Sienna, Dundee, Illinois for 38 years, and served as a Eucharistic minister. She was active in Ministry of Praise. Katherine had many interests playing cards, loved tending to her flowers and reading, her favorite author was John Grisham. When the weather was good, she looked forward to traveling around outside on her scooter. Katherine cherished her friendships with other residents, staff and volunteers. She graced us with her beautiful smile and sunny disposition.



Paul Bocek

Paul Joseph Bocek was born on November 11, 1925, in the Maple Hill area of Ladysmith. He was drafted into the Navy when he was 18 years old during WWII, serving from 1944-46. He was a driver of a landing craft on the USS Griggs (APA-110). Serving in the South

Pacific, his job was to take troops and equipment to shore. During his service, he went through two typhoons, crossed the equator twice and the International Date Line once. He participated in the amphibious assault during the Battle of Okinawa by taking troops to shore. When the suicide bombers were nearby, he would go between the ships and make smoke so the bombers could not find a target. When talking about the Battle of Okinawa, he always said, "I unloaded troops without a hitch. I had no idea how big the battle was. I just did my job." Paul often shared his

war stories with us as well as talking about his family. Paul married Bonita Mattison. They bought a farm northwest of Bruce, where they raised their 4 children. They were blessed with 63 years of marriage. Paul was a school bus driver and the head of maintenance/custodian at Bruce School District for many years. Paul enjoyed gardening, woodworking and hunting. He was skilled at fly-fishing. He was a member of the Nathaniel Lutheran Church, Bruce American Legion Post 268, and the Ladysmith VFW. Paul was very appreciative and gentle, his smile would light up a room, especially when he would see his family and friends. He enjoyed watching the golfers from the screened in porch and liked to read the newspaper.



Beverley Clark

Beverley (Johnson) Clark was born on Christmas Eve in 1941.

She arrived at Lake Manor on Christmas Eve
and was our Christmas gift.

She was from Ladysmith and married Jim Clark,
she had a daughter, two
step-daughters,
several grandchildren &
great grandchildren
and her beloved dog Sara.
She was always so sweet
to our staff.
She would check in with
them every day to see
how they were doing and
she called us “Hun”.



Peggy Considine

Peggy (Nazzaro) Considine was born on May 26, 1941 in Dover, New Jersey. In 1929, her father Alfonso and her mother Mafalda moved from Naples Italy to New York. Her father was a shoemaker and started his own business, her mother was a seamstress. Peggy spoke Italian growing up, but was eager to learn as much English as possible.

She had a happy child hood, she took piano lessons and tap-dancing lessons. Peggy attended a Catholic school, she

enjoyed studying, sewing with her mother, and writing poetry. Her family took many day trips to the seashore. Peggy met Edmund Considine at a dance for Catholic singles that the church was putting on at the Fireside Lounge in NewYork. They were married in 1968 and had two children.

Peggy loved her family and was so proud of her grand children, loving it when they visited with their curly locks and generous laughs. The little girls loved their

grandma so much that they wouldn't want to leave her when the visit was at its

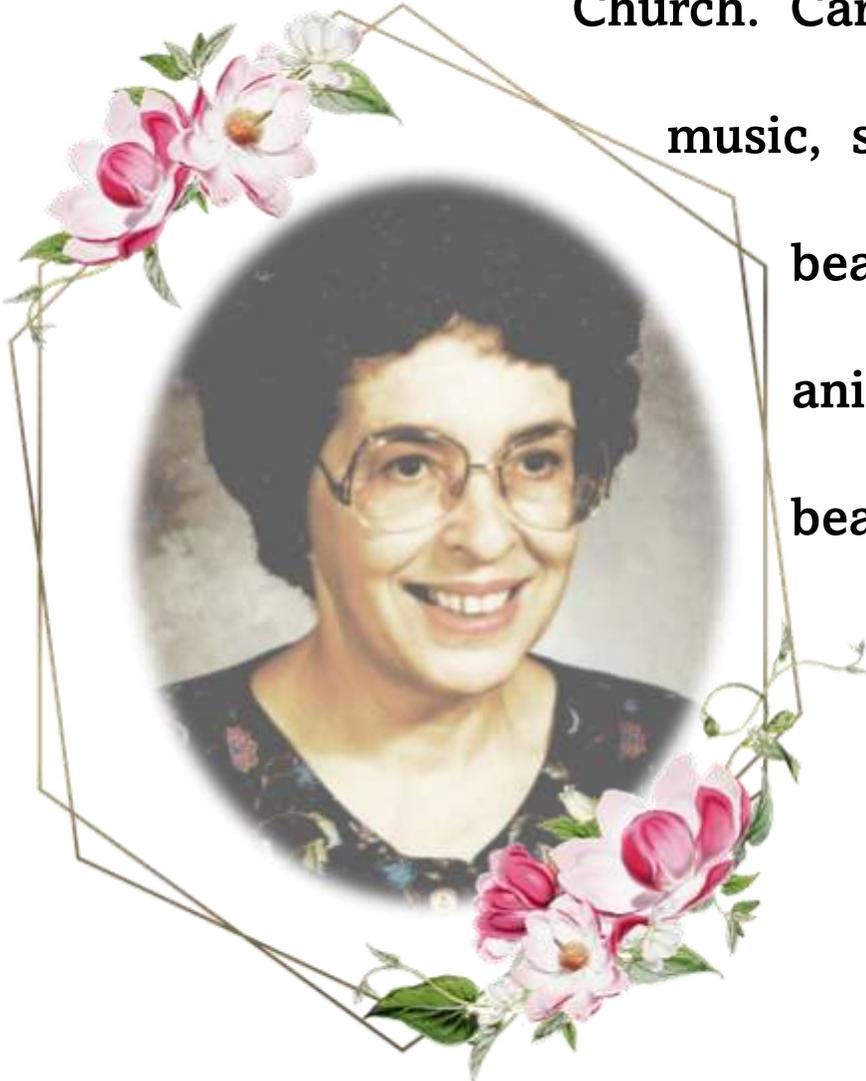
end. Peggy was calm and patient and she had a gracious smile. We referred to her as our "Activity Queen". Whatever was planned, she was ready and willing to go. And when that activity was over, she was looking forward to what came next. She attended all of the activities, but baking was her favorite, her job was cracking the eggs.



Carole Dauer

Carole (Rorschach) Dauer was born in Ladysmith on January 29, 1937. She married Raymond Dauer on May 15, 1959 and they raised two sons, Steven and Christopher. Carole was an English teacher in the Ladysmith School District and she was an active member of Hope Lutheran

Church. Carole loved to listen to music, sing and keep time to a beat. She also loved animals, and had a beautiful, bright smile.



Jean Doughty

Jean (Leonhard) Doughty was born on April 14, 1929, in Ladysmith, she was one of nine children.

She married Walter Doughty, they had six children.

Everyone loved to visit with Jean because she was full of life and had a sassy sense of humor. If you couldn't find staff around in the hall, you could always find them hanging out in Jean's room!

She was very close to her family, her 13 grandchildren & 17 great grandchildren adored her.

She loved her coffee and always had a special snack from her kids at her side. Jean loved to tell stories about her childhood and the mischievous things she did with her siblings. She was so much fun to be with, she loved people and was social with everyone. She was up for anything and her presence and humor were the life of the party! She loved to have a manicure, to go on trips to the casino, bowling and her favorite was a good game of dice or bingo, she could play 24/7!



Jan Drahos

Janice (Robards) Drahos was born on Nov. 24, 1942, in Cook County, IL. She married her sweetheart, Jerome Drahos. Although Jan & Jerry spent their early years of marriage in the city, they both loved the country and lived in the beautiful Northwoods of Wisconsin where they raised their five children; most of those years were spent in Glen Flora, where they called home. Jan loved her family and always thought of them first. She had a wonderful sense of hospitality. She loved to cook, garden, and spend time in Canada fishing with Jerry. She loved the outdoors and animals in general. She loved music and she loved to color, even as an adult. She found great joy watching her children & grandchildren participate in sports. Jan enjoyed serving others in many capacities throughout her life: from being the assistant manager at A&W to the check-out counter in Ben Franklin, to the IGA/County Market in the deli. She was strong in her faith and was dedicated to the Eucharistic Ministry of her Catholic faith and served in a variety of capacities in her parish cluster of St. Anthony's, St. Mary's, and Our Lady of Sorrows.



Gustav Ernst

Gustav Ernst was born on October 5, 1919, in Chicago, IL. He resided in Chicago for 60 years, Florida for 20 years and Ladysmith for 20 years. He came to Rusk County in 1978, then left, and returned in 2013. He married Joyce Avery and the couple had two sons and a daughter. Gustav was proud of his large family, He had 15 grandchildren, 27 great-grandchildren; 18 great-great-grandchildren and two great-great-great grandchildren. Gustav was a veteran who served in the Army Infantry during WWII as a Private for two years. He was a member of the American Legion Post 64 in Ladysmith and a member of Local 546 Amalgamated Clark and Butchers. Gustav cared so much about everyone, he was always looking out for the best interest of other residents and our staff. His smile lit up the room, and his sarcastic comments made everyone laugh. He lived a full life of 101 years.

