

FORMER BROOKLYN RESIDENT

# Laura Jane Hucke

PCCR

9-27-2017



Laura Jane Hucke was born December 1, 1939, at the Madison Church of Christ parsonage in Brooklyn, Iowa, the daughter of Herbert Ernest and Frances Helen (Graham) Kleiss. She passed from this life September 6, 2017, at home in rural Fredericksburg, Iowa, surrounded by her loving family.

Laura attended country school at Madison #9 near Brooklyn until the school closed, when she continued her schooling in Brooklyn Public Schools. She graduated from Brooklyn High School as Co-Valedictorian of the 1958 class, having won various solo and small group vocal music awards during her school years. Following graduation, Laura studied one year at Iowa State and one semester at Midwest Christian College in Oklahoma.

On Memorial Day in 1957, Laura met Roger Alan Hucke on a blind date arranged by Laura's cousin. They were united in marriage February 26, 1960, at Madison Church

of Christ. The couple started their married life living in Arlington, Virginia. Roger had a civil service job with the Marines and Laura worked at the Northern Virginia Sun newspaper. After a year they moved back to the Fredericksburg/Sumner, Iowa, area to take up farming, eventually purchasing the Hucke Family Farm.

Laura was a stay-at-home mom from 1960 to 1991, caring for the home and their daughter Robin and son Steve.

In 1991 she became the Assistant Librarian at the Upham Memorial Library in Fredericksburg. Laura was very active in the United Church of Christ Peace Church in Fredericksburg, helping with Sunday School, summer Bible School, Women's Bible Study groups, Choir, Youth Musical Programs, and Women's Fellowship. In 2000, Laura took seminary classes and graduated as a Lay Minister. She became Associate Pastor of the United Church of Christ (UCC) Peace Church for four years, and pastored the Clarksville UCC for two years and also the New Hampton and Ionia UCC Congregational

Churches, until she retired in May of 2013. Laura served as Dairy Princess Chairperson at Fredericksburg Dairy Days and helped with Cancer Bike-A-Thons and Summer Reading Programs. She loved her Card Club, bird watching, tending to her plants and flowers, reading, and studying. A very organized person, she loved to plan activities and trips. She helped found the Hucke-Mitchell Singers, arranging and producing the music, writing the scripts, and directing the programs which the group presented at venues around the state. A gifted writer, she wrote wonderful stories for her grandkids.

She is survived by Roger, her husband of 57 years, daughter Robin (Steve) Jons of Fredericksburg; son Steve (Dawn) Hucke of Byron, MN; grandchildren Andy Jons, Seth Jons, Danielle Hucke, and Collin Hucke; sister Margery (Dave) DeVilder of Brooklyn, IA; one brother, Paul Kleiss of Osage Beach, MO. She was preceded in death by her parents, Herbert and Frances Kleiss; brother Alan Kleiss, and grandson Brandon Jons.