



Carolee Ann (Case) Mehlinger

October 5, 1933 - August 12, 2014

Carolee Ann (Case) Mehlinger died peacefully at her home on August 12, 2014 with members of her family at her bedside. She died of complications following an eleven-year struggle with Alzheimer's disease. She was 80 years old.

Carolee was born in McPherson, Kansas on October 5, 1933 to Cecil and Lizzie Case. She was the youngest of six children. In addition to her parents, Carolee was preceded in death by two brothers, Harry and Wayne, and one sister, Lois Miller. Her surviving brother, Galen Case, lives in McPherson, Kansas; her surviving sister, Alice Frantz, lives in North Manchester, Indiana.

Carolee spent her childhood on her parents' Kansas farm. She attended Santa Fe School, a one-room, elementary school near McPherson. Throughout her first eight grades in school, she had only one classmate; the rest of the students were divided across the other seven grades. Upon graduation from Santa Fe

School, she attended McPherson High School. She was an excellent student and a talented musician, performing in both vocal groups and as a pianist. Following her high school graduation, she was employed as a clerk at McPherson City Hall from 1951-1953.

She married her husband, Howard Mehlinger, in December, 1952. They moved to Lawrence, Kansas in August, 1953 where Howard began his career as a high school teacher and athletic coach. Carolee worked briefly as a secretary at the University of Kansas, until she launched her true career as a full-time mother and homemaker. She gave birth to and raised one boy and two girls: Bradley Case, Barbara Ann, and Susan Kay. Carolee is survived by her husband Howard; her son Brad, his wife Carole and their two children, Travis (Lynn) and Alex; her daughter Barb, her husband Scott and their three children, Megan (Mitch), Andrew and Chris; and her daughter Susan, her husband Josh, and their three children, Casey, Katlyn and Koby; and two great grandsons, Jackson and Elliott.

In 1965, Carolee, Howard, and their children moved to Bloomington, Indiana. During the years that followed, Carolee became active in a variety of social and philanthropic organizations in the Bloomington community, including membership in the Local Council of Women, Psi Iota Xi, and PEO. She helped to deliver meals for Meals on Wheels, and from 1979-80, she served as Chairman of the Bloomington Thrift Shop. She was active in her church

and once served as a member of the St. Mark's United Methodist Church board of trustees. Many will remember Carolee as a superb hostess who opened her home to host many receptions, parties, and dinners for her husband's students and professional colleagues, both domestic and foreign, as well as for family members and close friends.

The family wishes to acknowledge the splendid care Carolee received from two devoted and skilled professional care givers: Larita Knight and Evelyn Hawkins. There is no doubt that they helped to extend her life and made it as interesting and comfortable as it could be given the circumstances.

Carolee was laid to rest at Valhalla Memorial Gardens, following a private family service. The family invites friends to a "Celebration of Life Service" at the Indiana University Foundation, 1500 N. State Road 45/46 Bypass, Bloomington on September 13, 2014 at 2:30 p.m. In lieu of flowers, the family suggests that those who wish to remember Carolee with a gift might consider a contribution to the Bloomington Hospital Foundation, P.O. Box 149, Bloomington, IN 47402, for the Alzheimer Resource Services fund.

Online condolences may be sent to the family at www.allenfuneralhome.org.

Tribute Wall

DA

“ Dear Howard: We are saddened by the news of Carolee's passing and wish to convey our sincere condolences. May your loving memories of Carolee comfort you and your family during this difficult time. Sincerely, Dana & staff

Dana & Staff Stampfli Associates - October 26, 2015 at 04:04 PM

MA

“ Dear Howard and Family,

I am so sad to hear of Carolee's passing. I will remember her always as a gracious and loving person who welcomed me into her home on many occasions. She also had a wonderful sense of humor that brought many a smile to my face, particularly when she teased Howard or talked about her grandchildren.

*May her memory be an ongoing blessing in our lives.
Marty Siegel*

Marty Siegel - October 26, 2015 at 04:04 PM

JE

“ Dear Howard,

Please accept our condolences on the passing of your wife Carolee.

Jeff and Joan Hart

Jeffrey Hart - October 26, 2015 at 04:04 PM

MA

“ *Brad and Family,
Please accept my most heartfelt sympathy for the loss of your
mother. My thoughts and prayers are with you all during these
difficult times.*

mike allen - October 26, 2015 at 04:04 PM

CH

“ *I was very sorry to learn of Carolee's passing. She and howard
were quite a couple.*

*The Greeks, who have words for everything, have a special prayer
for a time such as this: May the memory of our dearly departed
Carolee, who is worthy of blessedness and eternal memory, be with
us now and forever and ever.*

Charlie Mitsakos

CHARLES MITSAKOS - October 26, 2015 at 04:04 PM

MA

“ *Aunt Carolee ...her name rings like a crystal bell in my head and
heart. She was adored my my mother, Alice, and I think of her in
that adoring vibrant way, too.*

Mary Young - October 26, 2015 at 04:04 PM

CE

“ *Brad and family,*

*Sending you deep sympathy and condolences,
with prayers for comfort and healing.*

Sincerely,

Celia Bernens Kerr

Celia Kerr - October 26, 2015 at 04:04 PM

BR

“ *Dear Brad and family,*

*I am sorry to hear about your mother. I am praying that God will
comfort you and your family at this time, and that all will know the
peace of Jesus.*

*God's blessings,
Brenda*

Brenda Tharp - October 26, 2015 at 04:04 PM

TP

“ *My heart aches for you and your family during this time. I cannot
imagine the heartache, may He bless your family with peace and
comfort during this difficult time*

Tara Woods Pierson - October 26, 2015 at 04:04 PM

GE

“ Dear Howard:

My sincere condolences to you and your family on Carolee's passing. I have and will always think of her as a cordial, warm person with an inviting smile and encouraging word.

You and your loved ones are in my thoughts and prayers.

George kuh - October 26, 2015 at 04:04 PM

JA

“ Howard,

I am sorry for your loss. The picture you chose the Carolee captured my very positive memories of her as a host at the various School of Education events. She was gracious and welcoming to me as a young assistant professor. I wish you the best as your family gathers to mourn her death. Hopefully it can be a time to relive the most moments of her life.

Jack Cummings - October 26, 2015 at 04:04 PM

RE

“ Carolee lived a full and courageous life. May she rest in peace. My sympathy goes to her family.

Rex Stockton - October 26, 2015 at 04:04 PM