



Mea H. Tennis

June 27, 1925 - March 28, 2017

Mea H. Tennis

RACINE – Mea H. (nee: Hollenbeck) Tennis, 91, passed away on Tuesday, March 28, 2017 at the Atrium Nursing Home. She was born in Kenosha on June 27, 1925 to Hollis and Marie (nee: Jensen) Hollenbeck. She attended schools in Kenosha and graduated from Mary D. Bradford High School.

Mea married Lyle Tennis on March 2, 1944, celebrating 73 years of marriage. They had four children, Anne Tennis, of Green Bay, Holly Tennis of Delafield, Lynn (Ashmore) Edwards of Lakewood, CO and Melody (Michael) Coffey of Bettendorf, IA . She is also survived by eight precious grandchildren, Nicholas, Dane, Mariah, Charlie and Claire Coffey; Jordan and Abraham Tennis and Tyler Edwards; one great grandson, Jayden Edwards. She is also survived by a sister-in-law, Arlene Oudenhoven of Kimberly, WI, other relatives and friends.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Hollis D. and Marie J. Hollenbeck and brother-in-law, Richard Oudenhoven.

Mea graduated from Whitewater State College in 1948 and was a member of Theta Sigma Upsilon sorority. She taught school in New London, Deerfield and St. Louis, Missouri. After moving to Racine in 1952, she joined the staff of the Atonement Lutheran Nursery School, where she taught three year olds for twelve years. Mea served as a Girl Scout Leader and enjoyed the outdoors in Wisconsin.

She was a devoted member of Holy Communion Lutheran Church, where she

sang in the choir, attended bible study, served on the alter guild, and volunteered in Harmony Club, which is a care giving all-day program for adults. Her further commitment to Habitat for Humanity has sustained her through 30 years in retirement. Mea also was a story teller/reader at the Uptown Library for six years and loved to be with the young 3 and 4 year old children.

Funeral services will be held at Holy Communion Lutheran Church, 2000 W. 6th St. on Monday, April 3, 2017 at 11 a.m. There will be a visitation at Sturino Funeral Home on Sunday from 3 p.m. to 4 p.m. and at church on Monday before services from 10 a.m. until service time at 11 a.m. Mea will be laid to rest in a private service at South Bristol Cemetery in Kenosha County. For those wishing to remember Mea in special way, memorials to Holy Communion Lutheran Church or to ones choice has been suggested.

Cemetery Details

South Bristol Cemetery

Bristol, WI

Previous Events

Visitation

APR 2. 3:00 PM - 4:00 PM (CT)

Sturino Funeral Home
3014 Northwestern Avenue
Racine, WI 53404
(262) 632-4479
info@sturinofuneralhome.com

Visitation

APR 3. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

Holy Communion Lutheran Church
2000 W. 6th Street
Racine, WI

Funeral Service

APR 3. 11:00 AM (CT)

Holy Communion Lutheran Church
2000 W. 6th Street
Racine, WI

Tribute Wall

MS

“*Mea Hollenbeck and my mom were friends from an early age. In fact they became lifelong pals who shared the same exact birthday. My mom, Evelyn Anderson, passed on in 2004, but often talked about the fun the two girls had together. In elementary school they decided to make a birthday deal. They couldn't both have their birthday parties on June 27 because they shared friends. So they decided to alternate years. One year Mea had her party on the 27th and Evie had hers a day later. And the next year Evie had her birthday party on the 27th and Mea a day later. A solution that worked for years. Later on as they married and started families both of them often met for lunch on June 27th to share their birthday and their love.*

My family sends our prayers to the Tennis family now.

Marti Schiele

Martiann Schiele - April 03, 2017 at 01:05 PM

JH

“ Growing up across the street from the Tennis' my siblings and I quickly learned that if an adult was needed and my parents were not available you always went to the Tennis'. Mrs. Tennis would step in and provide support giving us a sense of security. It was her concern for others that made this possible.

I can recall the times when my parents and the Tennis' would meet out in the front yards and catch up as friends, talking about their children and accomplishments. Mea would display such delight in hearing about it all. It was her loving personality that made it so meaningful.

When my mother was affected by cancer Mea would come over to their house offering to help in any way. You could see the concern and care in her face and hear it in her voice. She was a comfort to both my mother and father during this trying time. Again, when my father became ill, she was there to help make certain he was safe. It was her caring that will always be remembered.

Always filled with caring and compassion, she quickly became a connection to my past, to my parents that in a way, she and Lyle became an extended part of my family such that it was not Christmas unless my wife and I stopped by and visited around the holiday.

She will be deeply missed.

Jay and Kelly Held

Jay Held - April 02, 2017 at 11:34 AM

MC

“ We will miss you Grandma. The Iowa Coffey Clan
Mike & Melody and family



Mike and Melody Coffey - April 01, 2017 at 08:28 PM

TM

“ The other Tennis family: Tony, Bernie, Jerry, Mike
purchased the Vivid Recollections for the family
of Mea H. Tennis.



The other Tennis family: Tony, Bernie, Jerry, Mike - March 31,
2017 at 01:48 PM

MM

“ Two of my sons had Mea as their loving nursery school teacher
back in the '70s. In fact she allowed our youngest, Danny, to start a
year early because, at only two years of age, he would run into
Mea's arms whenever we dropped off Mike. Dan became so
attached we couldn't get him to leave.
With her radiant smile and flowing love, we knew all three of our
boys were in the best of hands. We knew Mea as a consummate
teacher!
Lyle, our heartfelt sympathies go out to you and your family.
Blessings,
Marilyn and Dennis McGoldrick

Marilyn McGoldrick - March 31, 2017 at 08:25 AM

TL

“ *Mea had a beautiful laugh that radiated the room and a quick sense of humor. She was a joyful spirit that will surely be missed. She was a very warm and welcoming woman who knew and loved much. She always had a way to make you feel special, especially Nicholas, since the day he was born. We feel so blessed to have had the opportunity to know you and call you our friend. May you rest in peace, Mea. You will be missed.*

*Your neighbors,
The Loew Family*

Thomas and Liz Loew - March 29, 2017 at 10:26 PM

JP

Mea has been our neighbor for over 55 years. We will certainly miss her sense of humor and her lovely personality. Through the years she has been one of our best friends. When I was teaching Middle School and the students were learning all about young children and some things they could do when baby sitting, Mea would come to my classroom and give her expertise that she acquired while teaching nursery school. The students just loved her and were very interested in what she had to say. We will certainly miss her. Our thoughts and prayers are with the family during this difficult time.

Judy and Joe Porcaro and family

Judy and Joe Porcaro - March 30, 2017 at 06:22 PM

SB

Condolences to the family of Mea. We are thinking of you, especially Lyle.

Sheila and Maury Blada

Sheila R Blada - March 31, 2017 at 11:46 AM