

I am going to give you a chronological look at Ivanelle Wilhelmina Elizabeth Schlake Lockard's life

Ivanelle and her twin brother Ivan were born and raised on a small farm near Farmersburg, Iowa. She always like to point out that the twins were born over two hours apart and that the doctor had to be met out at the road by her dad and road horseback into the property due to inclement weather. This is where she got her love for corn on the cob which she often told us was the whole meal sometimes.

Her education spanned 17 years, eight in a little country school, four at Monona H.S. (class of '42), and three extremely demanding years at Kahler Hospital School of Nursing in Rochester, Minn. (Class of '46). She trained as a cadet nurse during WWII at Schick General Army Hospital in Clinton Iowa.

She was employed as an RN at La Crosse Lutheran Hospital prior to becoming supervisor of a tiny Waukon Iowa maternity hospital where she was on call 24/7, trained new aides, and helped prepare for the construction of a new hospital. The architect on that new hospital turned out to be her future husband, William A. (Bill) Lockard; they married in 1951 and lived in Decorah. Bill designed and built their new home. While under construction they lived in the garage. Once built they also took in five nieces for a short time.

They had three boys in Decorah, Enalo in 1953, Abram (nicked named "little Bromy") in 1954 and Frederic in 1955. Abram was born prematurely and died when he was only 17 days old. Fred was also born premature and the hospital wanted to keep him there, but based on their experience with little Bromy, she chose to take him home, and if he died, it would at least be at home. Fortunately he thrived. Sometime after the nieces moved out, Enalo had a lot of health issues that ultimately led to a trip to the Mayo Clinic. Dad and Mom were advised that the wet climate and constant mold spores were not best for me. So in 1957, they moved the family to Phoenix, Arizona where the doctors said the dry climate would be better.

Their new home on Oregon Ave was a special place where there were lots of kids on the block and two yards that mom could apply her green thumb year round. 902 W Oregon Avenue was known for its abundance of flowers and green lawn. It seemed like mom could make just about anything grow. There was also a very busy swimming pool that mom would host swim times for the neighbor kids. She would make sure there was another adult there to act as life guard as mom did not swim.

We took many road trips growing up to visit family and famous sites around the country including Disneyland. Mom made the trips easier on us boys by having special treats along the way and a new game or toy at the end of each day on the road.

During a slow construction season in the late sixties for dad, mom took a refresher course and did nursing again at Phoenix Baptist Hospital to help with the family income. She liked being a nurse again, but found it was entirely different from her early years of nursing.

I also remember one time when she was watching our kids, she let them put masking tape all over her. She also would get large boxes and let them pound nails and put tape all over them too,

Ivanelle was definitely the caring type. When dad became ill she cared for him his last few months. Overtime she also cared for her own mother, sister-in-law, twin brother and briefly her other brother prior to their departure from this world. She never complained about the duties she had to perform in caring for all these family members.

After Dad's passing, she moved to Prescott Valley and bought a place Ivan help her find. The previous owners had used it strictly as vacation home and there was only gravel covering the entire property. Ivanelle turned it into an oasis with several trees, bushes and of course flowers.

She was an active member of Trinity Lutheran Church for over 30 years, prior to her final four years in Cottonwood. She did cleaning of the building such as vacuuming carpets and sanitizing the bathrooms. She also baked and decorated a lot of birthday cakes and helped with the meals for various functions at church. Ivanelle was kind and easy going and made friends easily. Oh and did I mention she planted lots of flowers around the church too. She also enjoyed helping with things for God's World, the kid care facility run by her church.

Mom would regularly go through her picture church directory praying for different folks when she lived with us. She used her Bible for study often and followed the suggested readings she got from the church. Friends from church mailed her the bulletin and church newsletter regularly, which she looked forward to, almost to excess as she knew who was putting it together and when they would mail it out and when it should have been in our mail box.

During her last year's mom would ask "What am I here for, why hasn't the Lord taken me home yet?" We would respond that she was still needed to pray for her two sons, nine grand kids and 19 great grand kids and one on the way. She seemed to accept that assignment.

While she was living in Cottonwood, there was one day that we heard her in her room earlier than normal. Evie peeked in and saw that she was all dressed up as if to go somewhere. She was asked why she was up early and dressed up, she said "Well to go to church today of course". But it was a Friday. We all had a good laugh. She did get a little more confused toward the end, but still kept a positive attitude and definitely her sense of humor.

Mom always looked forward to church on Sunday and of course the rummy cube games that followed in the afternoon. My sister-in-law Ruthie, who stayed with her several times while we

were out of town said that Ivanelle was brutal when playing the game – meaning Mom was always winning, and she wasn't just being let to win.

If you ever had lunch at our house the last four years, you would know what Mom's favorite dessert was – vanilla ice cream. And most especially in a cone – the only true way to have the cold stuff in her opinion.

We will miss her sense of humor and always being concerned for our and others health and well-being. She was generous (almost too much, a couple of times when we discovered she had sent out checks for more than what was in her checking account. I had to make a quick transfer of funds so they would not bounce, we then had to keep the check book where she had to ask us first to use it.

Following is a tribute to Mom taken from Proverbs 31 customized/paraphrased by me.

### Description of a Worthy Woman

<sup>10</sup> An excellent wife, who can find? For her worth is far above jewels.<sup>11</sup> The heart of her husband trusts in her, And he will have no lack of gain. <sup>12</sup> She does him good and not evil All the days of her life. <sup>13</sup> She looks for craft materials And works with her <sup>[h]</sup>hands <sup>[i]</sup>in delight. <sup>14</sup> She is like a welcome wagon; She brings her food from a Safeway not to afar. <sup>15</sup> She rises also while it is still night And gives food to her household And <sup>[i]</sup>portions to her grandkids. <sup>16</sup> She consider a car and bought it and drove it till she stop driving 25 years later; From <sup>[k]</sup>her earnings she plants lots of flowers. <sup>17</sup> She girds <sup>[i]</sup>herself with strength And makes her arms strong. <sup>18</sup> She senses that her gain is good; Her lamp does not go out at night. <sup>19</sup> She stretches out her hands to the distaff, And her <sup>[m]</sup>hands grasp the spindle. <sup>20</sup> She <sup>[n]</sup>extends her hand to the poor, And she stretches out her hands to the needy. <sup>21</sup> She is not afraid of the snow for her household, For all her household are clothed with flannel and down. <sup>22</sup> She makes home decorations for herself; Her clothing is fine JCPenney or Kohls. <sup>23</sup> Her husband was known in the gates, When he sat among the builders of the land. <sup>24</sup> She makes decorations and cakes and gives them away, And <sup>[o]</sup>supplied payments to the <sup>[p]</sup>tradesmen who repaired her household. <sup>25</sup> Strength and dignity are her clothing, And she smiles at the <sup>[q]</sup>future. <sup>26</sup> She opens her mouth in wisdom, And the <sup>[r]</sup>teaching of kindness is on her tongue. <sup>27</sup> She looks well to the ways of her household, And does not eat the bread of idleness. <sup>28</sup> Her children rise up and bless her; Her husband did *also*, and he praised her, *saying*: <sup>29</sup> “Many daughters have done nobly, But you excel them all.” <sup>30</sup> Charm is deceitful and beauty is vain, *But* a woman who <sup>[s]</sup>fears the LORD, she shall be praised. <sup>31</sup> Give her the <sup>[t]</sup>product of her hands, And let her works praise her in the gates.

I believe Mom was the longest living member of the Schlake clan ever at 94 ½. I also believe that in part the reason for her longevity can be found in the Old Testament. In the Ten Commandments the first commandment with a promise was number 5 found in Exodus 20

verse 12, “Honor your father and your mother, that your days may be prolonged in the land which the LORD your God gives you”. Mom did honor her parents even though she and her mom may not have always seen eye to eye. She cared for grandma better than most daughters and nurses would have.

Another aspect of mom’s life was discovered after her passing. In the myriad of notes found here and there, my wife found the following list within a medical book mom was probably researching all that was happening to her. It was titled “6 levels of Forgiveness”:

1. Set aside personal vengeance
2. Turn away and let God handle it
3. Respond in a friendly way
4. Affirm their adversary
5. Forget what happened
6. Restore the relationship to a creative partnership

Followed by the scripture “Father forgive them, for they know not what they do”.

Mom’s life was a life well lived, she fought the good fight, she stayed the course God laid out for her. Her legacy is being seen in her descendant’s. All her kids and her grandkids know Jesus as their Lord and Savior as do her great grand kids who are old enough to understand. They are a hard-working and caring blooming bunch from her garden. Mom is definitely smiling in heaven.

So next spring, take special note of the wild flowers. They just may look a little richer and brighter because of mom’s new assignment in heaven.

Mom was preceded in death by her son Brome, her parents, Leroy and Louise Schlake, her husband Bill, and her two brothers (Ivan and Merle). Surviving her is her sister Carol and husband Bob Hanson, her 2 sons Enalo and his wife Evie & Fred his wife Melanie, her 9 grandchildren Chris, Brian, Matthew, Anthony, Nathan, David, Hannah, Maria and Joshua and 19 greatgrandchildren and one that is due in February. Her remains have been inurned and will be scattered on a family farm in Iowa at a yet to be determined date.