



Anna Elsie Berk

April 14, 1926 - February 23, 2019

BLISSFIELD – Anna Elsie Berk, 92, left her earthly life on February 23, 2019, and entered fully into eternal life with Jesus, her Lord and Savior.

Elsie, as she was known to all, was born on April 14, 1926, to Karl and Anna Marie Munding in Worth Township, IL. Shortly thereafter, the family moved to Canton, IL. A 1943 Canton High School graduate, she worked at army Camp Ellis, IL, before entering college. Graduating from Taylor University in 1948 with summa cum laude honor, she taught school for two years at Canyonville Bible Academy in Oregon. Returning to Illinois, she entered the Canton Hospital School of Nursing. After receiving her RN, and because of her expertise and teaching gifts, she became a Nursing Arts Instructor at the Canton nursing school.

She married Harold Berk on August 7, 1954. After a brief honeymoon, they became missionaries with the Mission Aviation Fellowship and left for Brazil in 1955. After 13 years of ministry in Brazil, they returned to Blissfield in 1968 to care for Harold's parents and her mother. Wanting to help the family as well as others, she made a choice between nursing and teaching. Realizing she could be home when her children were, she chose teaching at the Blissfield Middle School, eventually earning a Master's degree in Education from Toledo University. The results of this decision have been profound. Not only has she contributed to her family in so many ways, but also so many of her students remember her as the teacher who loved and respected them and wanted the best for each one. To this day, her students continue to express their

appreciation for what she has meant to their lives. To her family and to everyone who has known her, she always put others first and herself second. As she was in life, so also may her memory be a blessing.

Elsie's father and mother, brothers Karl, George, Henry, and sister Elfrieda preceded her in death. She is survived by her husband Harold and four children: Dalinda (Clarke) Reese, Dianne (Ric) Iagulli, Cindy (Mike) Libby, and Elaine (Rick) Brown. Fifteen grandchildren: twins David and Michael, and Sarah Reese; Nic and Kristi Iagulli; Bradley, Jonathan, Leanna, Katie, Kayla and Ellie Libby; and Nathan, twins Rachel and Renee, and Ryan Brown. Six great grandchildren: Madison, Logan, and Jackson Reese; twins Reggie and Cassidy, and Waverly Iagulli.

Funeral services will take place at 11 a.m., Friday, March 1, 2019, Elem3nt Church in Blissfield with Rev. Keith Smith officiating. Burial will follow at Pleasant View Cemetery. Visitation will be held at Wagley Funeral Home, Tagsold Chapel in Blissfield Thursday from 4 to 8 p.m.

Online condolences and memories may be shared at www.WagleyFuneralHomes.com.

Cemetery Details

Pleasant View Cemetery

9175 E. US 223
Blissfield, MI

Previous Events

Visitation

FEB 28. 4:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Wagley Funeral Home Tagsold Chapel (Blissfield)
301 S. Lane St.
Blissfield, MI 49228
(517) 486-2133
info@wagleyfuneralhome.com
<https://www.WagleyFuneralHome.com>

Funeral Service

MAR 1. 11:00 AM (ET)

Elem3nt Church
220 East Jefferson Street
Blissfield, MI

Tribute Wall



“ *Anna Elsie Berk*

January 28, 2023 at 12:24 PM



“ *I am so sorry to hear about this. I have some very fond memories of Elsie. My condolences to the family. Sincerely, Gail Englert*

gail englert - August 19, 2019 at 05:35 PM



“ *Besides being a wonderful teacher, one of my favorite memories is seeing her outside in the yard, always waving and friendly to everyone passing by. Later, watching her walk to the Coney for supper with Mr. Berk and lately just watching Mr. Berk walking alone to get it. Such a lovely, devoted couple. My sympathies to Mr. Berk and family. Thinking of you and wishing you strength in the coming days.*

Gail Sinclair Yarger - February 28, 2019 at 08:59 PM



“ *Dreams From the Heart Bouquet was purchased for the family of Anna Elsie Berk.*



February 28, 2019 at 03:36 PM

FF

“ *from the Fords and Rupps in Florida purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Anna Elsie Berk.*



from the Fords and Rupps in Florida - February 28, 2019 at 10:35 AM

JN

“ *Harold and Family, Elsie was always smiling. She loved people and people loved her.
Harold, I loved to you and Elsie walking holding hands. I could see that you loved each other and your love of God came shining through.
She will missed. Cherish your special memories.
With sympathy and prayers, Jim and Bertie Novak*

Jim and Roberta Novak - February 27, 2019 at 09:04 PM

PD

“ Aunt Elsie was an inspiration to me. How she juggled her family (and extras like me she took in) all the while working in the schools and with the migrant community in the summers. She made it look easy. I still have her Strawberry pie recipe. I remember the stories around the kitchen table. I am grateful for the time I had with Aunt Elsie and for the Birthdays we shared together. I think of her as living in the hearts of those she touched which are many. Nothing loved is ever lost and Aunt Elsie was loved so much. She will continue with us in our memories. My prayers are with you Uncle Harold and your family. You did a beautiful job loving and caring for Aunt Elsie. May you find comfort in knowing that we will all be together again. Love you
Paula Lewis Devitt

Paula Devitt - February 27, 2019 at 12:50 AM

DH

“ Besides being one of my favorite teachers I also attended the same church as the Berk family and was taught Sunday School band Choir in which she was involved. Being friends with Cindy and Elaine I was fortunate to have a few sleepovers at their house . One of my favorite memories is her making us the biggest and best pancakes for breakfast. Prayers to the family, many fond memories

Daphne Vescelius Hoffman - February 26, 2019 at 07:03 PM

JD

“ Jackie, Paul Lewis and Paula, Neal Devitt purchased the Sentiments of Serenity Spray for the family of Anna Elsie Berk.



Jackie, Paul Lewis and Paula, Neal Devitt - February 26, 2019
at 02:50 PM

CB

“ Beautiful, kind sixth grade teacher - She was the picture of kindness to all of her students. I am so thankful I was blessed to have her as my homeroom and reading teacher in sixth grade. It was the last year that the sixth grade was in the elementary, and then we all moved to the middle school the following year. Rest In Peace, sweet lady.

Cathie Bachman-Lewis - February 26, 2019 at 12:16 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Anna Elsie Berk.



February 25, 2019 at 10:51 PM

EC

“ When the Berks lived in Brasil as missionaries in the 50's and 60's, my parents, who were pastoring the Evangelical Christian Church, started with them a friendship relation. Two years after they returned to USA, in 1970, I was invited to spend one year in their home and to study at the Blissfield High school. This was a turning point in my life in various aspects, not only in preparing me for professional life in my country, but also because I had significant examples of faith, love, kindness, discipline, determination, dedication, and of an active Christian life. I am so thankful for everything I have received from my American parents. Now when mom Elsie has passed away, my heart is sad, but is specially grateful for the significance of her life. I ask God to comfort my dear American dad Harold, and my sisters Dalinda, Dianne, Cindy, and Elaine. All my love.

Eny Junia Lima Carvalho - February 25, 2019 at 10:23 PM



“ Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Anna Elsie Berk.



February 25, 2019 at 10:02 PM



“ Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Anna Elsie Berk.



February 25, 2019 at 06:56 PM

JE

“ Jonathan Egeler purchased the Country Basket B looms for the family of Anna Elsie Berk.



Jonathan Egeler - February 25, 2019 at 02:21 PM

EH

“ Evelyn H. lit a candle in memory of Anna Elsie Berk



Evelyn H. - February 25, 2019 at 01:15 PM

AM

“ Harold,

Carole and I send our heart felt thanks for yours and Elsie's faithful service to the Lord and missionary aviation. Our deepest sympathy for your loss and prayers for strength and comfort. God bless and thank you for your wisdom which you have passed on to me over the years.

Al & Carole Meehan

Al Meehan - February 25, 2019 at 10:19 AM

JD

“ Will never forget our trip down the Araguaia river when Darcy was a baby (1961 ?). The launch we borrowed motor died trying to go back up river at night, so Harold & Tom pulled us ladies & baby through the pirana-infested waters back up until they came looking for us.

So sorry to hear of your loss, Harold. I've been alone for 25 years. May you feel God's presence and comfort. Joan Dyce

Joan Dyce - February 25, 2019 at 09:53 AM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Anna Elsie Berk.



February 25, 2019 at 07:24 AM

CF

“ I am so sorry to hear the loss of a beautiful teacher and the lady she taught me a lot and Middle School she was most patient woman to help put up with the bunch of kids over the years that she did God bless her family and may you rest in peace mrs. Burke Carol Godfrey Fitzpatrick

Carol (godfrey) Fitzpatrick - February 25, 2019 at 12:44 AM



“ I remember Mrs. Berk. She was such a kind and sweet lady. My condolences and prayers to her family.
Robin Anderson Bender

Robin Bender - February 24, 2019 at 08:17 PM

MA

“ Sharing in your loss of a beautiful lady. I will always have fond memories of Mrs .Berk as the school nurse in the Blissfield Migrant Program. She cared about every one of those kids. Her Christian faith radiated from her smile and and interest in my life. I will miss her.

Mary - February 24, 2019 at 08:02 PM

LW

“ Hugs and prayers to the family. Mrs Berk was such a kind and gentle soul. She was one of my favorite teachers.

Lisa Wilson - February 24, 2019 at 07:37 PM

KV

“ Harold,
The ASAS DE SOCORRO (Wings of Help) family will forever be indebted to your and Elsie’s faithfulness, along with your MAF colleagues, for pioneering the aviation ministry in Brazil, while always having a vision for those who would follow your legacy of “giving wings to those who give their lives”. We are so grateful for the encouragement received from you and Elsie over the years, and for your example of safety-consciousness and excellence in service to the King of Kings. Elsie has finally graduated to rest in the presence of her Lord! Com fraternos abraços,
Steve & Kristin VanBeveren

Kristin VanBeveren - February 24, 2019 at 06:47 PM

GG

“ She was one of the best teachers ever...
We were twice blessed in our family to have her in our lives...Mrs.
Berk was first my teacher then years later she was my son Pedro
Garza's teacher..
You will be missed Mrs. Berk 😞

Gloria Garza - February 24, 2019 at 06:44 PM

MA

“ My deepest condolences for your loss of Mrs. Berk. What a
wonderful teacher she was to me. She was the kindest, most patient
and graceful woman I have ever met. Her beautiful smile will be
missed at church. God bless your family.

Marie Armstrong-Loar - February 24, 2019 at 03:58 PM

SG

Very sorry of the loss of your wife, mother, grandmother & great
grandmother. Elsie was a kind thoughtful Christian. She will be greatly
missed by many. God's blessings to all.

Sally Goetz - February 24, 2019 at 05:34 PM

 Kelly
Valdez

Elaine Brown and all the Berk family, your parents were like a second
set of parents to me in our Jr high years...loved her dearly! Prayers and
thoughts for all of you.

Kelly Valdez - February 24, 2019 at 10:24 PM

BS

“ So thankful to have had Mrs. Berk as a teacher at BMS. She was one of the sweetest people I know and she married one as well in Mr. Berk. What an example of true love and devotion. Whether it was seeing him pick up a to go order from Coney to take home, or seeing them out at the Adrian Red Lobster, his love for his wife was evident to all. ❤️ Prayers to all of you as you honor and celebrate Elsie’s life. So thankful for Heaven and the sure promise that you will see your wife/mother again one day. God bless you. Barb (Devantier) Schmidt

Barb Schmidt - February 24, 2019 at 03:13 PM

DM

“ Mrs. Berk was a wonderful teacher and person. We really enjoyed being in her class, as well as seeing her and Mr. Berk walking around town. Rest in Peace.

Dan and Melissa Mirelez

Dan Mirelez - February 24, 2019 at 03:11 PM



“ Kellie Osborn lit a candle in memory of Anna Elsie Berk



Kellie Osborn - February 24, 2019 at 02:58 PM



“ I'm sorry for all her Family and Friend's loss. She was a very wonderful and caring teacher. I was one of her students at Blissfield middle School. I will never forget her. Rest In Peace Mrs. Berk and thank you for putting up with me as a student.

Pedro Garza - February 24, 2019 at 02:57 PM



So sorry for the loss of your wife,mother and Grandmother.She was a wonderful teacher who I enjoyed very much she always made sure all her students understood her teaching. May Gods Blessing be with family at this time. Janet Gubbe Luckhardt

Janet Gubbe Luckhardt - February 24, 2019 at 03:25 PM



“ Aw I'm sorry for all of your loss. I loved Mrs. Berk wonderful teacher! She will be missed. Hugs and his bless! Janine Emerson walters

Janine Emerson walters - February 24, 2019 at 02:48 PM