



## LaDean Ahrens

December 21, 1953 - September 16, 2011

LaDean Ahrens, 57 of Mt. Carmel, Iowa died early Friday morning, September 16, 2011 at her home in Mt. Carmel.

A funeral mass will be held at 11 a.m., Wednesday, September 21, 2011 at Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Church in Mt. Carmel. The family will receive friends one hour prior to mass time at the church. The Celebrant will be Fr. Lynn Bruch. Con-celebrants will be Fr. Joe Dillinger and Fr. John McGuirk. Music will be by Denise Nieland and the Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Choir. Lector will be Pastor Ben Kolars. Gift Bearers will be Ethan Frank-Collins, Dominic Habrock, Bobi Adams, Angie Hiesterman, Jeni Taylor, Suzi Thompson, Alycia Ahrens, Zachary Ahrens, and Joshua Ahrens. Eucharistic Minister will be Vicki Reiling. Honorary Casket Bearers will be LaDean's brothers: Stephen Collins, William Ahrens, and Dominic Ahrens. Pam Van Ahn, LaDean's lifelong friend will deliver the eulogy. Online condolences may be left for LaDean's family at [www.sharpfuneral.com](http://www.sharpfuneral.com). Funeral arrangements are under the direction of the Sharp Funeral Home in Carroll. Memorials may be left at the church in LaDean's name.

LaDean was born on December 21, 1953 at Ft. Dodge, Iowa the daughter of Walter and Virginia (Whitney) Ahrens. LaDean attended Lake City Schools, graduating as a proud member of the class of 1972. Representing the class of 1972, she was crowned Ms. Lake City 2006, a title she still holds today. After graduating high school she attended AIB in Des Moines, IA. In 2007 she achieved a life goal graduating Summa Cum Laude from the University of

Phoenix. She spent a majority of her life in the Carroll, Iowa area. Dedicating her life to serving the community and helping others every way she could, becoming active in many organizations. Some of those organizations and groups Alcoholics Anonymous, Al-Anon, Toastmasters, Daughters of the American Revolution, Relay For Life, Child Abuse Prevention, Family Resource Center Board Member, Carroll Chamber of Commerce Board, playing her hand-crafted tubular chimes and entertained so many with Esther's Polka Band at nursing homes & other events throughout the area, also starting a 12-steps of Christians bible study. She held many positions throughout her life. She began her career in the family business Fleet Wholesale Co. of Lake City, IA. As she continued forward in her life she worked at New Holland, Computer Transportation Services, she owned an accounting firm, was a private contractor for Safe Choice Business Solutions, and Family Resource Center. Holding numerous positions she fulfilled her desire to help others in many capacities. LaDean was a warrior, not only in her battle with cancer but in her beautiful zest for life. She remained positive and optimistic throughout her final battle, always upbeat and unaffected. Her undying faith in God carried her through life and she celebrated everyday of her life to the end, knowing God was at her side.

Survivors include her husband, Doug Nees of Mt. Carmel; her children: Katharyn McVay and her husband Adam of El Paso, TX, Shannon Reising and her husband Jason of Lidderdale, and Eric Nees and his fiancé Darcy Larson of Breda; two grandchildren, Grace and Lucas Reising; three brothers: Stephen (Billie Frank) Collins of Santa Fe, NM, William (Becky) Ahrens of Lake City, and Dominic (Shelley) Ahrens of Carroll, as well as many nieces, nephews, and many friends.

She was preceded in death by her parents; her sister, Pamela Habrock; and her grandson, Jacob Reising.

# Tribute Wall

DA

“*Dave "DJ" Kullik Rarely in life do we realize how much the people we meet influence and enhance our existence. That was the case when I initially met LaDean back in April of this year. Although I only knew her a few months, she made an indelible impact on my life. LaDean brightened up the room with sunshine when she walked in. I'll always remember the last time I saw LaDean. We were kidding around, and out of nowhere she told me that she loved me. That was LaDean, never reserved when it came to voicing her emotions. I was one of those foolish people that hoped LaDean would live forever, would always be to my right hand side to give me a smile. I miss her very much. With an empty place in my heart, there will always be that warm feeling that such a soul imbeds inside of you. Ironically with LaDean's passing, a young apprentice may have come forward to take her place. Just last night I gave a young lady her first professional percussion lesson. She is very intelligent and loves percussion just like LaDean always did. Maybe one day, she can play the chimes in Esther's Polka Band, like LaDean did. LaDean would have enjoyed the idea of a young lady carrying on her work. May God bring comfort and understanding to all of LaDean's friends and family. I'm proud to have been known as LaDean Ahren's drummer. Respectfully, Dave "DJ" Kullik SSgt USAF (retired)*

---

**Dave** - September 22, 2011 at 01:16 PM

JW

“*My heart goes out to LaDeans family for losing such a wonderful woman! She helped many people including myself with her many words of wisdom! She will be missed by so many.*

---

**Julie Woodhouse** - September 22, 2011 at 09:00 AM

LS

“ Doug and family, we are so sorry for your loss. LaDean was a wonderful person always so concerned and caring. She would always ask how Mom and Dad were doing and stayed in close contact with Mom after Dad passed away. She will be missed by a lot of people. You are in our thoughts and prayers

---

**Lynn and Laurie Stein** - September 22, 2011 at 08:40 AM

JW

“ So sorry to hear of your loss. LaDean was a great person, and I always enjoyed talking with her at the reunions. She always had such a positive outlook. My thoughts and prayers are with you! Joni

---

**Joni Seidl Wailes** - September 21, 2011 at 03:33 PM

AJ

“ LaDean you were treasured by me and my family. You touched so many lives that you will not be forgotten. We will miss you dearly. Your family will be in our thoughts and prayers.

---

**Amanda Julich** - September 21, 2011 at 02:22 PM

DR

“ Our deepest sympathy to you Katy and your family. May all the memories be your comfort and strength in the days ahead. Keeping you in our thoughts and prayers.

---

**Dale & Diane Rohe** - September 20, 2011 at 03:34 PM

KM

“ To Ladeans family, I met LaDean a few years ago when she visited her friend Frankie here in Arkansas. My thoughts and prayers are with all of you at this time. Kathy Metz

---

**KATHY METZ** - September 20, 2011 at 02:48 PM

JW

“ God Bless!

---

**Jeff and Laura Wine** - September 19, 2011 at 11:10 PM

HG

“ *My deepest sympathies and condolences to LaDean's family. I only met LaDean once and knew her for a very short time, but in that time she left an impression that I will never forget. Live life to its fullest, enjoy your family and friends, and don't worry about how silly you look while doing it for life is short and should be treasured. I consider myself lucky and blessed to have been able to know a person as wonderful as LaDean.*

---

**Heather Griffith** - September 19, 2011 at 07:29 PM

AC

“ *Doug, Katie & family, Ladean was such an amazing women & friend..I was first blessed with her presence when I was a lifeguard at the Breda pool many years ago and gave Katie swimming lessons only God knew that we would later be brought back together through the Family Resource Center - Her passion to help others and treat all as we would like to be treated mentality without judgement and only love is just one of the several admirations i have for her...her laugh was contagious and I can hear it now as I type this.. she blessed my life and as i know what you are going through is tough... our faith in our savior is what will get us through.. she is claiming her treasures that have been stored up for her in heaven and our Lord is saying "well done my faithful servant" I love her and will miss her... sending my heartfelt sympathies to you all*  
*Anne Malm- Collison*

---

**Anne Malm- Collison** - September 19, 2011 at 04:24 PM

ME

“ *LaDean was such an inspiring individual. To know her was to love her.*

*Heaven has a new angel. Our loss, heaven's gain.*

---

**Mary Lou Engel** - September 19, 2011 at 04:24 PM

LB

“ *My sympathy to LaDean's family. She was a brave warrior and had not seen her for a couple years until this past spring at St. Anthony hospital when we got to chat several times. My husband Tony was in hospital with cancer and she was always so optimistic and I knew she had lots of faith in the Lord. May she rest in peace!*

---

**Linda Bluml** - September 19, 2011 at 03:22 PM

RM

“ *LaDean Ahrens*

---

**Richard & Melinda McVay** - September 19, 2011 at 10:07 AM

DV

“ *Our sympathy to you, Doug and your family on the death of LaDean.*

---

**Denny & Marilyn Vonnahme** - September 19, 2011 at 09:55 AM

AM

“ *Mick and family, I'm so sorry for your loss. She was a fighter. I know she has a special place in your heart, and she always will. I will pray the lord carries you through this time of grief.*

---

**Angie and Jim McNeill** - September 19, 2011 at 08:17 AM

LM

“ My heart is with your family from so many miles away. God Bless you and take care of you. Psalms 121

Lindy Mcvay - September 19, 2011 at 12:20 AM

JC

“ Our sympathy goes out to LaDeans family. She will be missed by many.

Jeff and Patrice Claiborne - September 19, 2011 at 12:01 AM

SP

“ We had the privilege of meeting and spending time with LaDean two times and we will forever cherish the wonderful time spent with her. LaDean's contagious smile and laugh were something very special. Her always upbeat outlook on life was an inspiration to all that spoke to her. We love and miss her! Susan and Steve Peterson

Susan and Steve Peterson - September 18, 2011 at 08:35 PM

DN

“ My deepest sympathy to LaDean's family. You are all in my thoughts and prayers. I loved LaDean's sense of humor and to stand up for what was right. She was so passionate about life and made this earth such a better place. She has taught me so much about not sweating the small stuff in life. I will never forget her and will miss her always.

Dawn M. Nellor - September 18, 2011 at 06:43 PM

LS

“ Sending our sympathy to LaDean's family. Thoughts and prayers to you. LaJean Schmeiser

LaJean Schmeiser - September 17, 2011 at 08:38 PM

KS

“ To all of you, we extend our deepest sympathy in the loss of a great person and friend. LaDean is now resting in God's arms smiling looking down from heaven. Our prayers are with you at this difficult time. There will be lots of tears with the loss of your mom, but also there are lots of smiles that she has made possible for us!

---

**Kenny and Colleen Steinkamp** - September 17, 2011 at 08:06 PM

JD

“ We will miss you.

---

**Joe and Kristy Dewey** - September 17, 2011 at 07:52 PM

DE

“ Even though we are left behind, the memories we made are timeless. LaDean and I made some memories that are heartfelt, full of laughter, filled with joy and some tinged with sorrow. All are carried in my heart forever. Doug and Katy, I am so sorry for your loss and will keep you both in my prayers.

---

**DeLynne** - September 17, 2011 at 07:32 PM

NW

“ We have lost a wonderful person here on earth, but God has certainly gained an angel in heaven. My sympathy to all of you.

---

**Nancy Weisenborn** - September 17, 2011 at 05:41 PM