

**M**arie Irene Taylor was born on July 30, 1925 to Mr. and Mrs. Robert Taylor of Milford, Iowa and was the youngest of eight children. She attended Okoboji country school and graduated from Okoboji High School near Milford in 1943.

Marie then attended Iowa State Teachers College in Waterloo (now UNI) for two years and earned a teaching certificate in elementary education. After teaching in West Bend and Estherville for several years she married Gordon Wells of Marathon in 1947. Three children followed: Marilyn, Larry, and Cheryl.

She returned to teaching in 1953, serving in the Havelock school district until 1959 while taking night school and summer school courses to finish her B.A. The family moved to the A.A. Wells home in Marathon in 1959, and Marie taught remedial reading at the Marathon Consolidate School through 1976. She then trained to become a learning disabilities teacher, working in the Laurens schools until her retirement in 1987, having served the teaching profession for 34 years.

After retiring, her adventurous spirit emerged and she took numerous trips with Bertie Paquin and with her daughter, Marilyn. These included an Alaskan cruise and white-water rafting, a mule train trip down the Grand Canyon, and a hot air balloon ride on her 80<sup>th</sup> birthday. She spent many winters in Texas with Irene Johnson where she also did volunteer tutoring in the local schools. She learned to oil paint and produced many still life pictures that we still enjoy. She also took woodworking classes and made two beautiful wall clocks.

Her many other talents included writing poetry and short stories, composing music and lyrics, and she enjoyed ballroom dancing. She had six stories and six poems published and continued writing until shortly before her death.

Marie is survived by her brother: Orville Taylor of Hartley, IA; daughters: Marilyn Wells of Phoenix, AZ, and Cheryl (Scott) Frye of Laurens, IA; grandchildren: Christina (Scott) Boudewyns of Des Moines, IA, Amanda Frye of Lincoln, NE, Jacob (Melissa) Frye of Lake View, IA; great-grandchildren: Evie, Owen, and Lincoln.

She was preceded in death by her parents: Robert and Verna (Wilson) Taylor; sisters: Francis (infant), and Mildred (Taylor) Groff; brothers: Lloyd (infant), Howard, Dale, and Glen Taylor; her son: Larry Wells.

She will be remembered for her fiercely independent spirit and her kind and patient teaching of special needs children. In any contest, she was always an avid supporter of the underdog.

The family expresses thanks and appreciation for the wonderful care that Marie received from the staff at the Laurens Care Center and the Hospice nurses that attended her during her final days.

## In Loving Memory



**Marie Irene Wells**

**1925 — 2021**

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.  
He maketh me to lie down in green pastures;  
He leadeth me beside still waters.  
He restoreth my soul; He leadeth me  
in the paths of righteousness for His name's sake.  
Yea, though I walk through the valley of the  
shadow of death, I will fear no evil,  
for Thou art with me;  
Thy rod and Thy staff, they comfort me;  
Thou preparest a table before me  
in the presence of mine enemies;  
Thou anointest my head with oil,  
my cup runneth over.  
Surely goodness and mercy shall follow  
me all the days of my life;  
And I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.  
—Psalm 23



**W**e wish to express our sincere gratitude for the many kindnesses evidenced in thought and deed, and for your attendance at this service. Please join us for refreshments in the church fellowship hall immediately following the burial.

— *The Family of Marie Wells*

## IN MEMORY OF

### Marie Irene Wells

July 30, 1925 — November 25, 2021

#### MEMORIAL SERVICE

Saturday, December 4, 2021

#### TIME

1:00 p.m.

#### LOCATION

United Methodist Church  
Marathon, Iowa

#### CLERGY

Pastor Morris Hurd

#### PIANIST

Judy Taber

#### CONGREGATIONAL HYMNS

“I Love to Tell the Story”

“When They Ring Those Golden Bells”

#### INTERMENT

Poland Township Cemetery  
Marathon, Iowa

Arrangements by

**SLIEFERT FUNERAL HOMES**

<https://www.sliefert.com/>

Albert City • Marathon • Sioux Rapids • Storm Lake