



Volume 55

September 2021

No. 3

Dear WIFE Ladies

I am very excited and looking forward to our annual convention this year. It is being held in McCook, Nebraska and we have great plans for you this year!

It is always fun to see everyone and I believe this year will be extra special due to all of the confinement of COVID. We have all been working hard and persevering through the many challenges this year with the weather and our normal farming and ranch activities so...we are all ready to get together and enjoy each others company.

**Make your Reservations Now!**

**45th Annual Convention Nov 5-7, 2021**

**Cobblestone Inn Host Hotel for the convention! 308-777-2000**



Mobile shopping Boutique  
Thursday Evening!



Heritage Acres-Drive Thru  
Market with local foods!



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*There is so much to share about our area! We can't wait to show you around. Saltwater Hills Shrimp Company proudly raises and sells shrimp...who would have thought than could happen without an ocean? You'll get to see for yourselves!*



*Jennifer Steen*

Jennifer Steen,  
WIFE National President  
bmomfor3@hotmail.com  
308-350-1202

# Death and Estates

By Mary Ann Unruh

The pandemic prompted people to write their wills to try to get their affairs in order. Writing a will is just another matter of estate planning. If you already have a will, make sure it is less than 10 years old or when circumstances change such as new change of heirs, moving, etc.

A widow's advice to women: know everything about your husband's business, especially the books; pay the bills yourself; know the people with whom your husband deals—accountant, banker, seed dealer, landlords, and more; be sure to have an up-to-date will, don't be afraid to talk about death to your partner; be sure your names are jointly listed as owners of all property and equipment; don't be afraid to make changes in the way your husband ran the operation as situations change; don't be afraid to ask questions; and go to seminars on estate planning or later grief counseling. The same advice can go for men in case a wife should die first.

Carefully distribute personal items, jewelry, dishes, books, paintings, miscellaneous. Ask heirs to be patient. They can't get anything until taxes are paid. Mutual fund investments can often go directly to heirs without being taxed.

Your shelves and corners may be filled with items that bring memories. Most of them mean something to only you. Hand-me-downs might be generations old but of no monetary value. Most grown children already have their homes filled with things meaningful to them, especially furniture. Do they want your 'stuff'? What is valuable? Collections take up space and may bring little at an auction. Craigslist is an easy way to disprove the idea of "priceless" heirlooms. They might exist but not in the way we think. Who wants your button, lamp, Barbie Doll or toy collections?

Remember, we are talking about leaving decades of stuff to descendants with six decades of accumulations of their own or rented storages full of surprises. It is unlikely heirs will get teary over Moms third husband's collection of trolls.

Make a list of some of your items and ask your family who wants what. They might surprise you. If more than one wants something then you decide who gets it and put it in writing with your will.

The executors, relatives or friends, designated in a will are the final administrators of a deceased person's estate. The executors will be closing your accounts, inventorying assets, and distributing bequests. It sounds simple but often it is not. Even when one spouse dies and leaves everything to his/her spouse, the paperwork can be challenging. It gets more complicated when a widow dies with several children and assets.

When your time comes, make it easier on all. Talk it over to make sure the person truly wants to happen with the estate. Ask for details. Be prepared for surprises such as a former lover or leaving a child or children out. Ask the person to write it out with explanations to be read that will explain decisions.

Being an executor is not an easy job. Besides doing the paperwork, the human side can be difficult, too. You may need to pacify impatient heirs or mediate domestic squabbles.

Tell your executor where the original will is, whom to notify, your passwords, who gets what and where your secrets are hidden, such as love letters, nude photos, and medicines you were hiding.

After death the executor should lock up property to avoid thieves—even if it may be family. Move jewelry and other valuables to a safe place. Photograph the inside of the house to document its contents. People think stuff is theirs. Brace yourself for conflicts.

Executors need to start the paperwork right after death. File the will and the death certificate with the probate court so you will be recognized as the executors. Order at least a dozen or more extra certified copies of the death certificate as they will be needed to cancel credit cards, sell a home, transfer title to a car, shut off utilities, etc.

Create an organization system on what needs to be done and when as you are running another person's life. Keep costs down by keeping detailed records of what is done and being done. Hire an attorney if needed. Brace yourself for conflicts among siblings.

People rarely like to talk about dying. They often say "If" and rarely say "When" they die yet it is unavoidable. Make it as easy as you can for your heirs and your executors. Plan now rather than later.

# Resolutions and Policy

By Marlene Kouba

What are resolutions? They are the topics that become our policies and will be printed in our policy book. The year they are passed will be printed at the end of each one.

It is time to think about any resolutions you might have. Make sure you bring them up to your chapter and state before submitting them. The ones in the current book without dates are older than 2007. Do you want to delete or change some of them? None will be revisited just to put a later year on them.

It is the responsibility of each National Commodity/Topic Chairman to review all sections in the Policy Booklet that pertain to her Commodity/Topic. Any statement that Chairman thinks should be deleted, clarified, etc. should be sent in writing or emailed to the Resolution Chairman (Marlene Kouba) by September 22, 2021. All members are encouraged to review the booklet and suggest editorial or clarification changes or additions to the Commodity/Topic Chairmen.

States should submit resolutions using extra caution not to duplicate resolutions and making the "therefore, be it resolved" portion of the resolution complete and relevant.

1. Delegates from the Association submitting a resolution shall be prepared to explain resolutions.
2. Resolutions must be written to conform to a national situation. No names of states shall be included. Resolutions pertaining only to state issues should not be submitted.
3. Resolutions must be written in proper form. If not in proper form the Resolution Chairman may reject them.

In the past, numerous resolutions have been submitted without the proper form yet they were discussed. Follow the rules. Do not submit only the final wording you want without the explanations or Whereas. Keep them short and concise. Do not drag them out. Stick to one topic only for each one. Designate where it might belong. Be more positive than negative.

When writing resolutions, use the designated form below. Select the category then begin all the reasons by Whereas..... It can be one or more. Remember—they are only explanations and will not be in the final printing. The Solution should be the way you want the policy worded. Example:

Natural Resources, Water

1. Whereas, the Clean Water Act currently includes navigable waters; Whereas, if the word "navigable" is removed then every waterhole, whether it has drainage or not, could be under the control of the government, Therefore be it;  
Resolved that WIFE supports the words "navigable bodies of water" remain in the Clean Water Act.

If the above passed, the wording in the policy book would be: WIFE supports the words "navigable bodies of water" remain in the Clean Water Act and it would be listed under the appropriate category.

Put on your thinking caps and go through the policy book to see if your idea is in there or not. Submit them to me by September 22 which is about 45 days before the convention. They will be discussed, possibly changed and voted on at that time. If you have any questions, please contact me at any time.

Resolutions Due to Marlene  
September 22, 2021





# Homeland Security

By Marlene Kouba

Border communities have seen 960 percent increase in border apprehensions, 3000 percent increase in arrests of convicted sex offenders, seizures of enough fentanyl to kill every American four times over and the federal government failing to address the horror.

Earlier this year cartels were earning up to \$14 million per day in smuggling people across the border. Border patrol reported seizing more fentanyl in the first seven months than in all of 2020.

Our Constitution gives states the authority to defend themselves from an invasion and they are starting to do that. Florida, Nebraska and North Dakota have sent state troopers to help Texas and Arizona with law enforcement.

In mid-July Texas began putting young men immigrants in prison for trespassing and are letting young families go through the border. Officials had already encountered 55,805 families wanting to cross. They are coming from Haiti, Afghanistan and many other parts of the world.

Over 600,000 illegals have already crossed the Mexican border plus 300,000 who have sneaked in and are most likely bad guys. Buses are making 6 trips a day to transport them all over our country.

Biden suspended the wall at the southern border but has paid nearly \$2 billion to wall contractors to not build it. Trump built 450 miles but the Defense Department has a contract and is paying nearly \$3 million a day in suspension costs or safe and site security projects. Contractors are being paid to drive out to the seven sites and guard the unused pallets of steel and other construction materials while Biden studies the project and immigrants flock here by the thousands. How many miles of wall could that amount be building?

In late July the Texas governor started to order National Guard to help arrest migrants for trespassing.

The Border Patrol stated that 188,829 attempted to cross the border in June. He has pledged to build a state-funded border wall to slow migration. ICE arrested 7,000 in a day and 800 children crossed (many 16 to 25) plus 14,000 in No new numbers on how many sneaked to

custody. There were 103,000 released with notices to appear in court but few will. At least 166,000 have already been released into the U.S. No new numbers on how many sneaked through. Most are uneducated, unskilled, unvaccinated, and dependent on the taxpayer. They are destroying our social services, overcrowding our schools, healthcare facilities, and communities. Many already have COVID symptoms. In July there were 19,000 unaccompanied children, a record high, plus also about 80,000 families for a total of 210,000 migrants.

In early August the U.S. began flying Central American and Mexican families to southern Mexico in an effort to deter migration under a border policy known as Title 42. Supposedly organizations and shelters down there will ensure migrants safely return to their home countries. No mention about those from other countries. A family of six from Senegal were just flown to an aunt in New York or another case of extended families being allowed in. A group of 200 young men from Haiti arrived at Texas border. They arrive untested and unvaccinated yet will be sent to places near you.

Here are the totals of immigrants by the month: February 101,095; March 173, 265; April 178,850; May 180, 641; June 188,829; and July 210,000 for a total of 1,032,680 in just 6 months and they are still coming from many countries around the world and no longer just those south of our border. These are only the documented "undocumented" while thousands are still sneaking past the Border Patrol or the thousands of phony vacationers and visa overstays. American may have already increased its total immigrant population by several million. Where will they live? Busses are arriving every 30 minutes to take them across the nation. Who is paying their fare? Taxpayers are.

As of July 15 about 20,000 Afghans had applied for the special immigration visa which does not include family members. Including them there could be as many as 100,000 who will be imported to the U.S. Thus far, 2,500 Afghans are scheduled to be resettled to the U.S. under a program called "Operation Allies Refuge". Some couples include young girls as wives of older men. The first flight has already arrived in DC and will be bussed to areas across America. Since 2008, over 70,000 Afghans have been resettled in America. Many call themselves interpreters but why are there that many for 2,500 soldiers? About 60 percent of these migrants still are unemployed after 90 days but get assistance from various federal programs.

Afer the fall of Afghanistan to the Taliban on August 16, the Department of Defense is planning on importing up to 30,000 Afghan young men refugees or more into the U.S. They will be housed in American military installations, such as Fort McCoy in Wisconsin and Fort Bliss in Texas. Why not any women?

The Pentagon has no answer as to what will happen to the thousands of Americans who live there or all of the military equipment that is being left there. Last month they had already taken 70 sniper rifles, 900 guns, 30 Humvees, 20 pickups, 15 armored vehicles, satellite phones, grenades, mortars and all labeled "Property of U.S. Government." The Pentagon had been paying the salaries of the Afghan soldiers who siphoned off fuel and it often went to corrupt officials. However they have no pilots or anyone with technical experience to run that equipment so they are selling what they can't operate. Since August 31 they also have helicopters and more of our equipment so they have a fully equipped army at our expense. Our country spent \$83 billion in the past two decades along with untold lives and injured servicemen who fought there.

Only five percent of those evacuated from Afghanistan on August 25 were Americans or 4,400 out of 82,000 who have been brought here. The rest have just filed a visa to say they worked with American officials. It is a mass migration to our country while thousands of our people are left behind.

About 340,000 illegals escaped capture as they crossed our southern border in August. There are 125,000 unaccompanied children that can't be found. The average number of children in federal care grew from 4,000 in January to 20,000 in May.

Mexican workers in this nation send money home to their families. In July a record \$4.54 billion was sent. The previous record was \$4.53 in May. Stronger growth in our economy increases remittance sent home. The average amount sent each month is about \$390 but the number of them has increased.

Over 70 percent of our nation's population growth and 90 percent in California, Florida and Wyoming are from immigration.





# Energy

By Marlene Kouba

Oil wells on the Fort Berthold Indian Reservation near New Town, North Dakota, have brought \$1.5 billion since 2009 and it is hoped it will increase for another 25 years. Oil on tribal land now produces about 3% of the nation's oil. Standing Rock Reservation along the SD border has no oil, coal, or gas. They are now hoping for a wind project to give them energy. The oil fields complicate Biden's plans to curb carbon emissions regarding climate change. Outside North Dakota, tribes with oil are the Osage in Oklahoma, the Navajo in the Southwest and Native corporations in Alaska. The Navajos get about \$28 to \$35 million annually. It has been active since 1950 and is likely to continue for another 30 years and the company has expanded into New Mexico and Colorado. In Oklahoma they have been drilling for more than a century.

Many people have no idea what happens when they plug in their electric car to a wall socket. Unless something huge changes, Teslas, Chevy Bolts, Nissan Leafs, and other electric cars will be powered by nonrenewables. Renewables generated only 12 percent of U.S. electricity in 2020, according to the Department of Energy. Fuels that generated 87 percent were natural gas at 41 percent, nuclear at 20, coal at 19 and hydroelectric at 7 percent.

Coal Creek Station coal mine in North Dakota may soon have a new owner. The Falkirk mine supplies Coal Creek via huge trucks that haul loads of lignite to the power plant near Underwood. The Rainbow Energy Marketing Corp. plans to purchase Coal Creek and its transmission line providing job security to hundreds of workers. The Sierra Club is concerned with the sale as the new owner wants to install equipment for carbon sequestration (storage). It has not worked in past 15 years and the technology is not widely used.

China is now producing half of global new energy vehicles. The cumulative retired batteries was 200,000 tons in 2020 and could be 780,000 tons by 2025. More than half of the batteries were purchased by small factories. The average life of a battery is 5-8 years. a 20 gram cell phone battery can pollute three standard swimming pools or one square kilometer of land for about 50 years. The car batteries contain cobalt, manganese and nickel which do not degrade on their own and can pollute the air and

water. Lithium ion batteries can be harmful to the soil and water. Most batteries in China are just dumped without treatment. Discarded batteries still contain high voltages ranging from 300 to 1000 volts. Improper handling could result in fires, explosions, pollution and emissions. China produced 1,377,000 new energy vehicles in 2020 and could be 5.8 million in 2021 or half in the world.

North Dakota now has 211 electric vehicles (EV) and most charge at night at home. A Tesla charging station takes half an hour to fully charge. Using the stations will cost \$5 for a first connection and then another 25 cents per kilowatt hour of energy used. A full charge could cost \$10 for 250 to 300 miles. You can pay by downloading an app on your phone or use a preloaded card from the company. There are more than 43,000 EV charging stations in the nation but only 5,000 are fast charging. Recharging a battery with household current can take 12 hours. Cars cost about \$30,000 and up to six figures. (My son just drove 600 miles on one tank of gas.)

The president is set to sign another Executive Order for half of all car sales to be of electric vehicles powered by batteries and fuel cells or plug-in electric hybrids by the end of the decade. EPA and Dept. of Transportation will also propose new requirements on greenhouse gas emissions and fuel efficiency for cars, SUVs, and pickup trucks through 2026. These new rules are expected to save about 200 billion gallons of gas and slow 2 billion metric tons of carbon pollution. Plans are being made to set longer-term pollution standards for everything from tiny sedans to huge semi-trailers made in the second half of the decade. Biden wants to turn America's auto fleet into electric. This will be tougher after Trump eased regulations but Biden wants to cut U.S. emissions in half by 2030 and hopes this will send a signal to other countries.. They say more than 90 percent of the fuel used today is from petroleum. All this goes along with Biden's efforts to cut carbon emissions and climate controls. Less gas used means less money for the Highway Trust Fund which uses the federal gas tax to fund roads and bridges.

In August airports were running short of jet fuel. The shortage could delay cargo delivery and passenger travel. Part of the reason is a shortage of truck drivers. Some states are letting drivers drive longer hours. Some airports are limiting the amount of fuel a plane can load. Some of the fuel is being directed to planes fighting fires in the West.

A photo of a wind tower in Texas has all the vanes hanging down like a wilted flower. It was hit with ice and wind storms last winter. Damaged blades are being stacked near Ardock, North Dakota but there are no plans on what will happen to them.

Ethanol production will likely shrink in the U.S. below 2018 and 2019 volumes as high corn costs send ethanol blending margins into the red. A large cattle inventory has also played a major role as corn is being used for feed. Shipments to China are the driving factor behind record corn export paces but exports to Southeast Asia are nearly 175 million bushels greater than last year or a 43 percent increase.

The biggest purchasers of Green Energy are:

GOOGLE

FACEBOOK

MICROSOFT

AMAZON

APPLE

## DID YOU KNOW????

Tech companies are big consumers of electricity because of their data centres, which need large amounts of power to keep the servers cool. The combined power usage of Amazon, Google, Microsoft, Facebook and Apple is more than 45 terawatt-hours a year, about as much as New Zealand. That amount will grow, as the rise of artificial intelligence and machine learning demands more computing power.



September 2019 Google buys Windfarm

Engie has signed an agreement with Google to sell 92MW of energy produced by the Norther offshore wind farm in Belgium.

Google will use the energy from the 370MW project to power its data center in Saint-Ghislain in what represents the first time the technology giant buys power from an offshore wind farm.

The deal is part of Google's 1.6GW-purchase of renewable energy, which is said to mark the biggest corporate purchase of its kind in history.

Together, the 18 new energy deals will increase the company's worldwide portfolio of wind and solar agreements by more than 40%, to 5.5GW.

"Sustainability has been one of Google's core values from our earliest days. We've been a carbon-neutral company since 2007. In 2017, we became the first company of our size to match our entire annual electricity consumption with renewable energy (and then we did it again in 2018)," said Thierry Geerts, Country Director at Google Belgium.





# Dairy

By Chris Anken

## The identity Crisis - Blending of the Real..Do you know what is in That

*More than ever Labels are important; let's get them right.*

As National Dairy Producers we have battled some difficult years, and topped off by the disruptions of the Coronavirus Pandemic, this has resulted in dynamite and rapid shifts within our Dairy Industry.

Innovation of new blended dairy products, including our checkoff-funded initiatives. Dairy Farmers located throughout the U.S. Want to understand where innovative dairy products are taking us and how our checkoff dollars are ensuring expansion and growth of sustainable dairy farms.. Dairy Farmers want to know how dairy farmers' check off dollars are being utilized. As the Dairy Farmers transition our businesses to the next generation, we are concerned with increase in blended dairy products and what might happen. Dairy Farmers need to know how our check off investments and partnerships are being used to allow growth for additional children who want to stay on the farm and support the next generation of dairy farmers with a decent income for future of dairy farmers.. We need to keep future generations Dairy Farm Families on their farms, dependent on United States Dairy Farm Families.

Dairy Farmers and their Families are concern with fake milk and now concerned with the increase in blended dairy dairy products such as 50% real milk and 50% almond/oat etc. and cellular lab grown proteins, that processors will choose to reduce and/ or in some cases eliminate products made with natural, wholesome, nutritious milk in order to make more of a profit. The nutritional value of plant base, does not compare to natural wholesome milk. This "blending" trend is not just happening to dairy. It is happening to meat and poultry too.

What will be the future of US Family Dairy Operations, US Family Meat Operations, and US Family Poultry Operations with the blending trend? Dairy Farmer Check off Dollars are using the World Wildlife Fund (WWF) supply chain leverage model

to steer consumers in a direction that certainly looks to be one that transforms food by diluting animal source foods like real dairy and real milk.

Consumers need to know the nutritional differences when blended. Consumers need to know 100% real dairy products are better for you and more nutritious. Let's keep the American Farmer/Rancher on his or her American Farm Land.

# Beef

By Pam Potthoff

In the first half of 2021, 12 percent of U.S. beef production was exported, with about three-quarters of that shipped to Asia.

July's USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service Cattle report estimated the U.S. cattle herd at 100.9 million head, 1 percent less than the 2020 estimate, and the 2021 calf crop is expected to be down slightly from last year at 35.1 million head. The 2021 beef production forecast was reduced by 33 million pounds from last month to about twenty-eight billion pounds, based primarily on lighter expected carcass weights through second-half 2021. The 2021 annual price forecasts for fed and feeder steers were raised.

The 2021 and 2022 annual forecasts for beef imports were raised from last month to about 3.1 billion pounds. U.S. beef exports are projected at 3.2 billion pounds.

Now let that sink in. Our beef imports are estimated at three point one billion pounds and our exports are forecast at three point two billion pounds. We imported just a little bit less than we exported. The important aspect of this is we export the top cuts of beef. We import hamburger type beef.

Why does that matter to someone in the city? If you want the best beef cuts for your summer barbeque those exports tighten the domestic supply and, thus, increase the price. But, for the rancher raising those calves, it means the price they receive is lower because of imports.

I heard on tv today that meat is being blamed for the increase in total food prices. Then I read another report that said a tight supply of wheat is the culprit. Let's face it, when inflation sets in, ALL prices are going to go up. Let's not blame it all on farmers and ranchers!

# Sugar

By Klodette Stroh

The 2021 has added drought and high temperature for farmers in many states. Our farm is located on one of 1902 federal irrigation project authorized by Theodor Roosevelt. Rick and I have been so thankful for having water to grow our crops this year. Wyoming usually receive 6 to 8 inches of rain in a year. Seventeen western States were part of 1902 Reclamation authorized to loan 50,000,000 Million dollars to build dams to grow food in dry climate. Usually Buffalo Bill Dam reservoir fills up by mid July and farms in our area have enough water to finish growing our crops.

Park County is the home of Shoshone Irrigation Project which is the largest federal project in Wyoming and one of the nation's oldest in Wyoming. Park county farmers Produce malt barley, Dry Bean, Oats, Gluten free oats, Corn, Sugar Beets and Alfalfa hay for cattle on 97000 acres of land. Majority of farm land is located in my home town of Powell. Farmers like Rick and I have been so blessed this year with water and good weather. We just finished harvesting our Malt barley and gluten free oats.

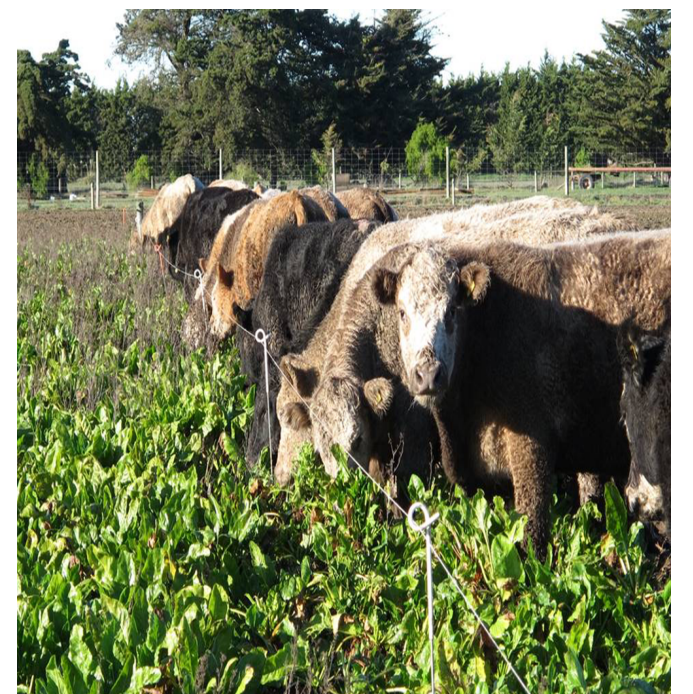
Sugar beet crop are looking beautiful around Powell, Cody, Lovell and Emblem area in Wyoming. Colorado, Montana, Nebraska and Wyoming sugar farmers members of Western Sugar cooperation started their early harvest the first week of September. Sugar beet growers are expecting a bumper crop this year again and sugar prices are expected to Rally. Looks like the reason is a combination of some crop damage, because of drought in key growing areas, and robust oil prices which could lift sugar prices. This is a good news. Across the country, there are 11,000 family farmers that grow sugar beets and sugarcane.



Despite a devastating 2019 and 2020 financial losses, American farmers are still standing. Having witnessed how our county have been dealing with a Corona pandemic, my heart bleeds when I see American farmers like my husband Rick and our farmer friends working hard to grow crops for my beloved America and her people.

The founding fathers of this county tried to put together a strong foundation for a young nation. This county had to have wealth, and the export of goods to other countries brought money and wealth to build the young America. Tobacco, rice, indigo, and meat were one money and wealth to build the young America. Tobacco, rice, indigo, and meat were one of the first products to exported. In 1800, agriculture was 75% of total export and its value was 23 million dollars annually. Today Our country exports \$43.5 billion in agriculture products and imports \$26.4 billion in farm products, equaling a positive net trade balance of \$17.1 billion. We export over 6 million dollar of commodities every hour of a day.

Keep in mind If crops are not profitable, farmers lose more than our farms. We lose our businesses, our investments, and our local economies and our precious independence.





## RUTH LARIBEE OBITUARY

August 1, 1935 ~ August 11, 2021

Ruth I. Laribee (86) of Lowville, New York, passed away on August 11, 2021 after a short stay in the hospital even though she had expected to return home after three days.

Ruth was born on August 1, 1935 in Natural Bridge, a daughter of the late Gordon and Louise Booth. She attended Lowville Academy. She married Glenn R. Laribee on October 6, 1952. The couple took over the family dairy farm in 1958. They and son Gary owned and operated the farm until August 18, 2000. Glenn passed away November 30, 2007.

Ruth was active in her church where she was a member of St. Therese's Guild and served as lector. She was a longtime member of the Lowville Grange and was past member of Lewis County Farm Bureau. She was a member of Women Involved in Farm Economics, serving as Area III Director, National President and Trade Chairman. Ruth served on the Lowville Town Board for decades. She was a mentor for the Dale Carnegie courses and served on the Board of Directors of Mountain View Prevention Services.

She greatly enjoyed babysitting for great-grandchildren Lizzy and Gavin and home-schooled them this past year while their parents were teaching. She enjoyed traveling, dining out with her husband and friends, spending time with family and hosting family dinners during the holidays.

She is survived by two sons and their wives: Gary and Lisa Laribee and Larry and Valerie Laribee and two daughters and their husbands, Suzanne and Gary Peters and Diane and Russel Baker and brother-in-law Michael Pelo, all from New York. Diane and family had just moved to Fremont, Nebraska. She is also survived by 10 grandchildren.

numerous great-grandchildren and several nieces, nephews and cousins.

She was predeceased by her husband Glenn, siblings Dale Booth and Patti Booth and her parents Gordon and Louise (Morrison) Booth.

Her funeral was held on August 14 in St. Peter's Catholic Church of Lowville, NY.

### MEMORIES

Ruth Laribee will be greatly missed by many friends and family. I first met her and Kay Zeosky in 1988 when the National WIFE convention was held in Syracuse, NY and we quickly became friends. We kept in close touch with each other over the years and often roomed together during WIFE meetings. She and Kay often drove to Washington, DC, when we met there for conferences and she would take me along to all of her Congressmen's offices to help deliver WIFE information to them and introduced me to many of them. We spent a lot of time in those halls and she had them planned by location to not do any backtracking. One year she organized a meeting with Rep. Larry King for the three of us as he was on the committee for Homeland Security and I was National WIFE Chairman of that committee. I last talked to her on her birthday this year, little knowing that would be the last time. She did much for WIFE on her state and national level and was so knowledgeable about so many topics. She was a devout Catholic, strong Republican, had a good sense of humor, a quick smile and a gentle voice.

I will miss her!

Marlene Kouba

## 2020 WIFE Leadership

### National Officers

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Vice-President, Belinda Sturges

Secretary, Pam Potthoff

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Beef, Pam Potthoff

Dairy, Chris Anken

Energy, Marlene Kouba

Sugar, Klodette Stroh

Rural Life, Mary Ann Unruh