

*Lucille Alberts*

## Lucille's Life Story

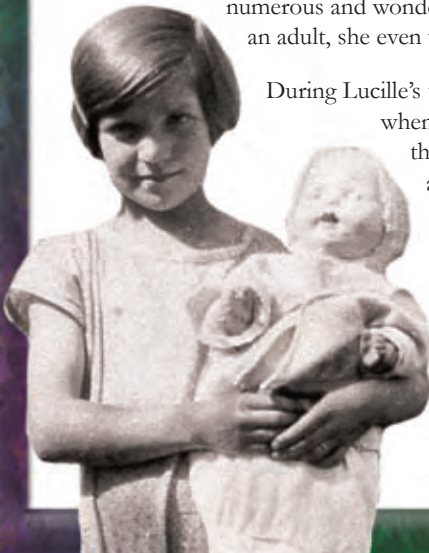


In as much as she gave, Lucille Alberts was loved abundantly and cherished in the hearts of many. A gentle woman who found joy and contentment in her beautiful gardens, she could also prove to be a little feisty at times. Lucille was a woman of faith who lived by her convictions. A blessing in the lives of those she leaves behind, she will be long remembered and sadly missed.

The year 1916 fell into a decade of advancement and struggle as the U.S. advanced as a world power while heavily engaged in World War I. Although many had heavy hearts because of the war, headlines of the day included exciting news. The Saturday Evening Post published their first cover featuring a Norman Rockwell painting while the Star Spangled Banner was sung at a baseball game for the very first time, marking a well loved tradition. On their farm in Kalkaska, Michigan far removed from the bustling world, Ray and Lucy (Aldrich) Carlisle focused their attention on exciting news of their own. They lovingly welcomed the birth of Nina Lucille on August 27, 1916.

From day one, Nina Lucille was affectionately known as Lucille, and as the fourth of five children, she grew up alongside her siblings Evelyn, Kenneth, Helen and Charles. Lucille's father farmed their land while her mother looked after the children as a homemaker. Although there were many things to be done on the farm and the responsibility of chores, Lucille enjoyed a typical childhood for the times. She was especially close to her sister Evelyn and remained so until Evelyn's eventual death. As a child Lucille was heavily involved in 4-H and made many friends. As a teen, she was part of The Grange in Kalkaska, another farm organization that provided agricultural information as well as a social network for farm families. She enjoyed numerous and wonderful experiences through those program and, as an adult, she even went on to serve as a 4-H leader.

During Lucille's teen years, she witnessed the struggles of many when the Great Depression brought hardship across the globe. Lucille lived with her grandparents while attending high school and continued her endeavors in 4-H and played piano. She loved dancing, and during her teenage years, she and her friends often attended dances in the area. She graduated from Kalkaska High School with the Class of 1934, and with high ambitions, Lucille ventured to Grand Rapids, Michigan to attend Cosmetology School. The early 1940s found the nation focused on World War II and the war effort. Although a trying time, many young women also had their attention tuned to the glorious music of the day, stars and starlets as well as wonderful times shared with friends.





Making a life on her own, Lucille's focus was soon turned in an exciting direction. While on a blind date, she met the man of her dreams, a handsome young man named Francis Alberts. Quite smitten, they dated for a time before Francis asked for Lucille's hand in marriage. They were married on June 24, 1939 at Comstock Park Congregational

Church before family and friends. They shared common interests and especially liked to go dancing, but their main priority was making a wonderful life together. The young couple began sharing their time as husband and wife in Alpine Township. They lived in a home on Francis' farm, located on Peach Ridge Avenue, where they raised cows and had fruit crops. A major part of their life revolved around The Grange, which Lucille had known as a teen and once again became part of the life she shared with Francis. No stranger to farming, Lucille embraced her new role as a farmer's wife.



Lucille was devoted to Francis in making a wonderful home, and before long they welcomed the love and laughter of children within its walls. They were blessed with the birth of Richard, Roger, Jean and Judy, and as a family of faith, they were involved members of Trinity Congregational Church. Their family also came to include two well loved dogs named Laddie and Tippy. An attentive mother, Lucille was dedicated, loving and caring towards her children and their activities. She had a few favorite expressions her children came to cherish over the years. Lucille always said, "haste makes waste" to get her point across, and "red sun in morn, sailors take warn" was another. Although she was a gentle woman, Lucille could be a little feisty when she wanted to be!

In 1969 Lucille and Francis built a new home on their farm, where Lucille maintained beautiful flower and vegetable gardens. Each fall, she enjoyed canning and freezing the fruits of her labor that provided a bounty of delicious dishes throughout the year. Lucille found complete contentment and joy working in her gardens. Another talent she enjoyed was cooking. She was an excellent cook and prepared wonderful meals for her family. Lucille absolutely loved apples and made a variety of scrumptious desserts from them. Her apple pies were a favorite. Each spring, Lucille relished the beauty of the many apple blossoms in their orchards as they truly warmed her heart.

Throughout the years Lucille balanced her responsibilities while working a variety of jobs. She worked as a beautician here and there but also as a clerk at Sears, Kmart and Wurzburg's Department Store at various times. She sold Avon,



held a position in the cafeteria at Union Bank in downtown Grand Rapids, and even sold Stanley Home Products until she was 83 years old.

As a grandmother, Lucille was devoted and dedicated. She loved each of her grandchildren and loved to be with them. She attended many of their school activities. She held close to her heart the memorable 50th anniversary party her children and grandkids put on for her and Francis at Cleo's Restaurant. It was truly a time to remember. When Francis passed away in 2001, it was difficult for Lucille, but her strong faith and the support of her loving family and friends sustained her. In 2005 Lucille went into assisted living at Holland Home. On April 7, 2010, she experienced a fall in which she broke her hip and consequently moved to Hospice Care at the Van Andel Pavilion of Holland Home. It was there that Lucille sadly died at the age of 93 on Tuesday, April 20, 2010.

Having lived a long and fruitful life, Nina "Lucille" Alberts was a gentle woman of faith who devoted her life to her family, friends and church family. She gave much and in return was blessed with those who loved and cherished her. Although she will be sadly missed, she leaves lasting memories in the hearts of those she leaves behind.

Along with her husband, Lucille was preceded in death by her siblings. She is survived by her children: Richard (Sandy) Alberts, Roger (Fern) Alberts, Jean Dood, and Judy (Silvio) deCardenas; grandchildren:

Debbie (Brad) Cox, Brian (Ann) Modzeleski,  
Ryan (Michelle) deCardenas, Jeff

deCardenas, and Ted Alberts (fiancée Amber Agler); great-grandchildren: Cory Modzeleski, Izabella and Tyler deCardenas; many nieces, nephews and friends.

A service to celebrate Lucille's life will be held on Saturday, April 24, 2010, 11:00 AM at Trinity Congregational Church, 2725 Four Mile Rd. NW with Rev. James DeWitt officiating. Burial in Pine Grove Cemetery. Relatives and friends may meet Lucille's family on Friday, 2-4 and 7-9 PM at Heritage Life Story Funeral Home-Alt & Shawmut Hills Chapel, 2120 Lake Michigan Dr. NW and at the church on Saturday from 10 AM until the service begins.

Contributions in her memory may be made to the Trinity Church Memorial Fund or the Holland Home Benevolent Fund. Please visit [www.lifestorynet.com](http://www.lifestorynet.com) leave a memory or submit a photo of Lucille or to sign her online guest book.



Visit [www.lifestorynet.com](http://www.lifestorynet.com) to connect with your friends and family, share stories, and sign the guestbook. Life Story Funeral Homes® are the exclusive providers of the Life Story Experience™.

Finally, there is a funeral home worth asking for.