



## Aleida Scholte

May 3, 1919 - June 26, 2015

Aleida Scholte, passed away on June 25, 2015, surrounded by close friends. She was born May 3, 1919, in Kimberley, Wisconsin, to Dutch parents. She had one sibling, a brother, who died in 1997.

The family moved to New York Mills, Minnesota, where they set up a farm from scratch. At a young age, Aleida was involved in hard farm work, she must already have shown that strong, independent, even stubborn character. When she was given the opportunity, she went to study nursing in St Paul, Minneapolis, thanks to the support of her mother's sister who was a pharmacist.

Aleida's distinguished nursing career soon soared, and she achieved a high rank in the Armed Forces of the United States of America, which took her to the Pacific, the Far East as well as to Germany. One of the positions she fulfilled after returning to the US was that of Matron in Walter Reed hospital. Modest as she was, few were aware that Aleida was awarded the medal for "Military Merit" and the "National Defense" medal.

Aleida also had property in California, but from the two, she chose eventually to live in Roswell after her retirement. One of the considerations was the risk of unstoppable brush fires in California. Around 1989, she and her brother journeyed to England and the Netherlands to meet up with Dutch relations

and visit many of their ancestral places. When in Woking, England, she managed her brother and worked effortlessly to re-decorate her cousin's house and also worked in her garden.

Aleida was never one for luxury, but she liked going to classical music concerts at Pearson Auditorium at the New Mexico Military Institute. Over the years her visits to the casino brought her good winnings; she knew when to cash-in, pay the tax there and then go home. A longstanding member of the Newcomers' Club, she rarely missed a meeting. Card playing was not just to be in good company, "it keeps the brain exercised and your fingers supple." Aleida made many friends, quite a few of whom she outlived.

Almost to the end, she looked after herself and all aspects of the maintenance of house and yard. Suffering from deafness and because she didn't want anyone to see that she was no longer the physically strong person she had always been, Aleida kept more to herself during the last years of her life. That made it sometimes difficult for her friends and family to keep in contact.

"She was a very kind lady" ... .. "Intelligent" ... .. "A good judge of character" ... .. " Respected" ... .. "A very independent person and private" ... .. "We'd often sit, and she'd tell her stories and we could laugh" ... .. "She didn't suffer fools gladly" ... .. "Aleida was a dear friend"

# Tribute Wall



“ *Aleida Scholte*

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December 29, 2022 at 05:26 PM

“ *What beautiful memories of Aleida!*

*My husband and I met Aleida on one of her trips to visit her birthplace. She came over to our home for dinner with her bother, who farmed by us in Butler, MN. Aleida brought stories to our dinner table of her travels that entertained us and our children for the entire evening. Her passion for her vocation as a nurse resonated throughout her dialogue. She spoke with such conviction and compassion about quality characteristics of "taking care of your neighbor - as we all are neighbors". She demonstrated her beliefs not only in words but actions. We witnessed Aleida assisting her failing mother during her end of life and Aleida assisting her brother with business decisions regarding his farm.*

*I was always intrigued by Aleida's wealth of knowledge of boundless topics! As a nurse myself, we shared many "nursing" stories together. Through the years, Aleida continued to be engaged with the ever-changing environment of healthcare, especially in regards to how the changes impacted nursing. She was my mentor in so many ways as I sought out her advice on nurse-leader and nurse management direction. I admired her dynamic personality as she stated her thoughts with clarity and distinction.*

*She was so intelligent! Her "can-do" attitude was a huge part of her character. Upon notification by me that her brother died, Aleida thought nothing of driving by herself from New Mexico to Minnesota without stopping to rest. She was 78 years old. Again, her positive modeling for taking care of business was demonstrated as she planned her brother's funeral and settled his estate. Aleida stayed with us on our farm during this time. This proved to be a very a positive influence for our young daughters, who were aged 13, 10 and 8 at the time. They often reflect on her abilities and her self-confidence that she impressed upon them by her examples of how she presented herself and took care of herself and the people around her. Aleida's determination to operate independently was remarkable. Her stamina to live her life to the fullest was astounding! She was a feminist without being vocal about it. She taught me so much as a young wife, mother and nurse. I am forever grateful to have known her and so humbled to realize that she knew*

*and supported me.  
Until we meet again....*

*Rest in Peace, Aleida, my friend, my nurse partner, my idol.  
~Mary R. Peeters  
Butler, MN (rural New York Mills, MN)*

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**Mary R. Peeters** - July 08, 2015 at 08:45 PM