## Angelyn Stielstra Memorial Service Lakeland Clubhouse, Manistee, MI, August 19, 2013

## WELCOME

My name is Philip. On behalf of my brother Jon, and sisters Diane and Ellen, I would like to welcome you to the Memorial Thanksgiving Service for our mother, Angelyn Stielstra, or Ann, as she is known by many.

Present with us are all eight of our mother's grandchildren and six of her eight great grandchildren.

I want to acknowledge those of you who have come to join us in celebrating our mother's life. We are thankful to have present Janet Feenstra, our aunt and Ann's sister-in-law, and a long time resident here at Lakeland. Joining Janet are two of her three daughters, our cousins, Ginny and Barb.

Welcome also to our many cousins from our father's side of the family. We have had a Stielstra family reunion every five years since 1980 and are due for our next reunion in 2015. So we have gotten a head start with your presence here today.

And we are so happy to welcome those of you who knew Ann at her home here on Lake Michigan. You got to know the real Ann, because without a doubt, this was her favorite spot to be in all the world.

We designed this Memorial Service to be highly participative, so that your voice as well as ours, could be raised in Thanksgiving for her life. Much of the program is read or sung together. So I invite you to raise your voices with ours, loudly and clearly, to help celebrate Ann's life.

We do have a time in the program to share individual Reflections, where music, stories and memories can be shared to celebrate Ann's life. If there is any memory or story that you have about Ann that you were touched by, there will be an opportunity to share it at that time.

After the service, we invite you to stay for a luncheon, which will be served in the adjacent room and there are tables in the boat barn for us to sit together.

Let us begin.