

I am nominating my mother, Jane Lucht, for the honor of Mother of the Year. I have to admit, I was going to do this last month when I saw it, but only thought about it and then tossed the magazine. Then this month, it came out again, and one of the members from our church called me and said I needed to nominate her because she deserved this award.

She helped on the farm where she could, milked cows, and was a stay at home mom for 5 children until my youngest brother went to kindergarten. She wrote the Prairie News for the local newspaper for years at home, when she decided to go to work, the editor asked her to work at the North County News doing grocery ads. She continued at that position and also started being the photographer. When the editor position opened up, she took that job and still wrote the Prairie News and the papers photographer. She held that position until she retired for over 25 years.

She never missed taking pictures at Proms, Homecomings, sports events, churches, and schools, everyone got to know her. She was even tackled standing on the sideline of a football game getting a shot. She covered all meetings in Randolph County. She was never home, there was always something or someplace she needed to cover. Yet she still had time for family, church and friends who needed her.

She has dedicated herself, volunteered, and never complained, even if she didn't feel good or had something she wanted to do, everyone else comes first.

This paid off for her, even though she is from the country, the city of Red Bud nominates an outstanding citizen for the Citizen of the Year. She was one of the first women to receive this award.

Dedicated to history, both in Prairie and Red Bud, she wrote a book, had 2 printings and sold somewhere around 1500 copies. Red Bud had a request for a museum and she was one of the founders, she now is the Museum Coordinator. She has taken on the task of putting all of Trinity Lutheran Church's records together and getting them in order. She also wrote a genealogy of her family.

Besides the 5 children (5 spouses), there are 14 grandchildren (5 more with the spouses), 8 great-grandchildren and one on the way. She has been there for all of us, whatever she can do, she will. She still has all of us over for the Holidays and whenever we can all make it there is 43 of us, and we all still get gifts. She is famous in our family for her dressing.

I know I am missing some of her accomplishments and the different organizations she belongs to, but I don't want to ask her for her to suspect anything. Those include: Lutheran Women's Missionary League, (LWML), Randolph County Historical Society, Home Extension Co-op, Hospital Foundation Board, Red Bud 150 Board, Trinity 175 Board, Editor of the Lutheran Layman's League (LLL) newsletter, Editor of Trinity Lutheran Church's Monthly Newsletter. Over the years, she has held many offices, mostly president of these organizations.