For All the Saints

2020 – 2021
Table of Contents

LeRoy “Lee” Larson
Phyllis Richman
Jon Rondestvedt
Judith Nordgaard
Philip Quanbeck
Joan Nelson
Nancy Dillon
Gloria Frestedt
Shirley Elavsky
Donald “Don” Haines
Duane Jergenson
Mable Gullickson
Joseph Drake
Illona Mahadeo
Stephen DeLong
Marilyn Dutcher
Daphine Ofsthun
Robert “Bob” Dillon
Myrtle Vangsnes
Rodney Johnson, Jr.
James Christianson
Warren Olson
Robert “Bob” Meland
David Preus
Carolyn Moore
Alpheus “Al” Simmons
Joyce Kay Freeman
LeRoy (Lee) Larson passed away on November 4, 2020, at age 80. He was born and raised in Royal, Iowa. He began with the Milwaukee Road in 1959, as a mail boy, and was with them for 25 years. Lee continued on with the Soo Line and CP Rail until his retirement in 1999, finishing his railroad career as Vice President of Marketing and Sales.

He married Nicole (Nikki) Roser in 1961. Their children are Wendy (Marwood) Larson-Harris, Roanoke, Virginia; Todd Larson, Bloomington, Minnesota; and Kevin (Lynda) Larson, Coon Rapids, Minnesota; and grandchildren Zoë and Dashiell Larson-Harris and Madeleine Larson and Corey Langlois.

Lee's siblings are Joyce (Jim) Zwar, Cheboygan, Michigan; Les (Cheryl) Larson, Indianapolis, Indiana; Ron (Carol) Larson, Des Moines, Iowa; and Neil (Pat) Larson, Lindstrom, Minnesota. He had many nieces and nephews to whom he was very close.

Lee never met a stranger and was a loyal friend. He will be greatly missed.
Phyllis Louise (Stelter) Richman, of St Louis Park, Minnesota, died on November 13, 2020, at Our Lady of Peace Hospice, in St. Paul, Minnesota.

Phyllis was born on January 1, 1938 in Tracy, Minnesota. Her mother was always mad about that because in January 1939 Tracy Hospital started giving presents to the first baby born every year so she missed out. She was baptized in 1938 and confirmed into the Christian faith on April 6, 1952.

She was always musically inclined and played both the piano and saxophone. She loved going to concerts and appreciated good music. Phyllis graduated from Tracy High School in 1955 and moved up to the “big city” to go to nursing school. She graduated in 1958 with her RN.

Phyllis met her future husband Berle in 1957. They were engaged in 1959 and married on February 11, 1961 in a small ceremony. She worked in pediatrics at St. Barnabas Hospital for a time but in January 1963, Debbie was born which changed things a bit. Shortly after that they moved to Rockford, Illinois for Berle’s job with Revlon. They were there only a short time before moving back to Minnesota and to Minneapolis and then St. Louis Park where they lived for the duration, most of that time in the family home on Idaho Avenue South. Daughter Amy was born in October 1969. She later went back to her nursing career and worked in long term care for 27 years.

Phyllis enjoyed many things over the years – boating, fishing, trips with Dad that he won for good work with Revlon, going to Debbie and Amy’s events, North Star Hockey Games, Twins Games, a couple of Vikings Games, making pickles, gefilte fish and hammentachen, gardening….she was also the “queen of sending cards” for every holiday, birthday, anniversary – all of which were documented in the little brown date book she kept.

She is survived by her husband of nearly 60 years, Berle; daughters Debbie and Amy; cat Mami; grand-cats Stanley, Iris and Charlie.

Phyllis is preceded in death by her parents, Elmer and Louise Stelter, her brother Richard, in-laws Sam and Sarah Richman and many aunts and uncles. Rest eternal grant her, O Lord; and let light perpetual shine upon them all.
Jon Daniel Rondestvedt  
1939 – 2020

Jon D. Rondestvedt, age 81 of Northfield, Minnesota, formerly of Brooklyn Park, Minnesota, passed away Wednesday morning, November 18, 2020, at Regions Hospital in St. Paul due to complications of COVID-19.

Jon was a graduate of St. Olaf College and earned an MA from the University of Minnesota. He was passionate in his love for teaching. For 34 years, he challenged the minds of thousands of students in English and the Humanities in the Robbinsdale schools, primarily at Robbinsdale Junior High and later at Armstrong Senior High. In retirement, his teaching continued. He co-founded the Headwaters Center for Lifelong Learning in Park Rapids, and later served on the Board of and taught courses in the Cannon Valley Elder Collegium. The family wishes to thank the staff at Northfield Hospital, Welia Health in Mora, and at Regions Hospital for the amazing care and kindness he and the family were shown during his illness.

Survivors include his wife Jeanette (Jay), children David and Stephen of Chisago City, Dr. Paul of Eden Prairie and Ann (Christophe) Cazaban of Minneapolis, his eight grandchildren; Taylor, Lauren, and Madeleine Rondestvedt, Christian and Haakon Rondestvedt, Margaux, Pierre, and Marc Cazaban. He is also survived by his brother Harold (JoAnn) of Elroy, Wisconsin; sisters Sonja Van Wyk of Minnetonka, and Kirsten (David) Skaer of Florida; nieces, nephews, as well as other relatives and friends.

Judith Carol Nordgaard  
1933 – 2020

Judith Carol Nordgaard, age 87, passed away peacefully in her sleep on November 22, 2020. She was born in Brook Park, Minnesota. Judy attended South High School, in Minneapolis. Judy married Glen, the love of her life, in 1954.

Judy was a loving and caring daughter, sister, wife, mother, grandmother, and aunt. She was described by all as being one of the sweetest people they had ever met, with a quick, dry wit. Judy worked hard at Ecolab in St. Paul during a long career and was also a skilled homemaker, cook, and baker dedicated to caring for her family. Her frozen lemon dessert and cinnamon rolls were legendary. She was an avid reader, loved to garden, and also relax at the cabin (where she was often chased by moose).

She is survived by her husband Glen; children Susan, Stephen (Susan Campbell), and Kathy; grandchildren Elizabeth and Alex; step-grandchildren Bruno, Max and Nora, and siblings Jon Gross and Joyce Elvig.

Judy is preceded in death by her parents, Lester and Viola Gross, and brother James. Rest eternal grant her, O Lord; and let light perpetual shine upon them all.
Philip Arden Quanbeck
1927 – 2020

Philip A. Quanbeck of Minneapolis, Minnesota, passed away December 1, 2020, at the age of 93. Born to Reverend John T. and Alette Quanbeck, in McVille, North Dakota, on September 18, 1927, he went to school in Roseau, Minnesota, and Starbuck, Minnesota, finishing at Roosevelt High School in Minneapolis in 1945. Phil graduated from Augsburg College in 1950 with a major in New Testament Greek and Augsburg Seminary in 1951. At Augsburg, Phil met classmate Dora Frojen, of Oakes, North Dakota, who became the love of his life. They married in 1949, Dora taught in the Minneapolis Public Schools while Phil completed his seminary training. After ordination, he was called to the Bagley Parish of the Lutheran Free Church in northern Minnesota. In 1952, receiving a scholarship from Lutheran Brotherhood, Phil pursued graduate study at Princeton Seminary in Princeton, New Jersey. He was awarded the MTh in 1954 and the PhD in New Testament in 1958. In 1957 Phil began teaching at Augsburg College and Theological Seminary and was also college pastor. He became a favorite instructor; at least four times students voted him the “Augsburg College Outstanding Faculty Award.” During a sabbatical leave in 1967, Phil wrote a book on interpreting the Bible, “When God Speaks.” He has written numerous Bible study guides, articles, book reviews and devotionals. Given his interest in biblical archaeology, Phil led college students on a number of interim study trips to Israel, Palestine, Jordan and Egypt. He retired from full time teaching in 1993 but continued part-time in Augsburg Weekend College. He began a "third career" as a pastor at Bethlehem Lutheran Church in South Minneapolis. Sunday morning "Conversations with Dr. Phil" were a very popular text study for almost 20 years.

Phil played sports - handball and golf - and was a special fan of Augsburg basketball and football. At Town & Country Club in St. Paul, he enjoyed playing golf, meeting with friends, and taking the family to brunch. He was a devoted member of Torskekubbren which celebrated cod, boiled potatoes and Norwegian heritage. He and Dora regularly enjoyed events at the Minnesota Orchestra, Guthrie Theater, Minneapolis Institute of Arts, and the National Lutheran Choir. Phil loved to travel. The family went on camping trips throughout the U.S. and twice had summer-long family camping tours the length and breadth of Europe. These were wonderful experiences for the family and inspired their curiosity, love of learning, and more travel! In later years he led groups to Turkey, Ireland and Norway and traveled to China and Russia. Descendants of Norwegian immigrants, Phil and Dora followed their roots back to Norway and were warmly welcomed into the homes of relatives there. They made multiple trips to Norway and enjoyed hosting Norwegian relatives who visited them. The summer cabin on Lake Vermilion was a special place for Phil. Crafted with love, it was a work-in-progress for many years. In addition to their home, it was a place for family time and making memories.

Phil and Dora shared a deep and abiding love; it was clear. He loved, cherished and celebrated his extended family. He left a profound and loving influence on his children and grandchildren as well as the lives of those who came to know him. We remember his easy smile and full laugh, his wisdom and wit, his generosity and fairness, his humility and compassion, but most importantly, his steadfast faith. We now say, "Well done, good and faithful servant."

He is survived by Dora, his beloved wife of 71 years and by his four children, Philip II (Ruth Johnson), Mary (Loren) Barber, Thomas (Deborah) and Juliann (Tom) Erdmann. He is also survived by nine grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

Philip was preceded in death by his parents; brothers, Russell, B. Randolf, John, Robert and by his sister Muriel Turrittin. He was the last of his generation. Rest eternal grant him, O Lord, and let light perpetual shine upon them all.
Joan Marie Nelson

1931 - 2020

Joan Marie Nelson passed away at home on Thursday, December 3, 2020, at the age of 89.

She was born on May 19, 1931, in Odebolt, Iowa, to Reverend Edmund and Dorothy (Hedlind) Carlson. She went to North Park College and earned her RN at Swedish Covenant Hospital. She then worked as a scrub nurse in the Operating Room at a Chicago hospital. She obtained a Bachelor’s degree in education at the University of Minnesota and briefly taught Operating Room Nursing at Lutheran Deaconess Hospital, Minneapolis.

She married Dale Nelson on March 26, 1960 in Pomeroy, Iowa. They lived in Minneapolis and Bloomington, Minnesota before moving to Fox Lake, Illinois after they retired.

Joan’s life work and calling was to start the Clothes Closet in 1967 at Central Lutheran Church, Minneapolis, where Joan and Dale were long time members. She was a leader at the Clothes Closet as a volunteer, providing clothes and a hot meal to those in need, for over 37 years before ‘retiring’ in 2004 when they moved to Fox Lake, Illinois. Joan loved people and connecting with them; family, friends and even those she just met.

Joan is survived by her husband of 60 years, Dale Nelson; her daughters, Chris (Dan) Kroiss and Ruth Kormendy; her grandchildren, Matthew (Bri) Anderson, Katie Anderson, Staci (AJ) Babcock and Andy Kormendy and great-grandchildren, Jacob and Chloe Babcock, as well as many cousins, extended family and dear friends.

Besides her parents, she was preceded in death by an infant daughter, Kari and son-in-law, Ed Kormendy. Rest eternal grant her, O Lord; and let light perpetual shine upon them all.
Nancy Jo Dillon
1946 – 2020

Nancy Jo (Behling) Dillon, age 74, of Brooklyn Center, Minnesota, passed peacefully from this life to the next on Sunday, December 13, 2020.

She was born and raised in Queens, New York City, she obtained a Bachelor of Science in Nursing from Wagner College, Master's in Psychiatric & Mental Health Nursing from the University of Cincinnati, and PhD in Higher Education from the University of Mississippi.

Nancy met Robert "Bob" Dillon while living in Cincinnati; they married in 1974 and moved to Minnesota in 1983. She was a caring and devoted wife, mother, sister, daughter, grandmother, mentor, and friend. Nancy was all these things and more to so many people. Both feisty and incredibly funny, her bright smile and welcoming nature helped everyone feel at ease. She will be deeply missed by all who knew her.

Nancy was a tireless advocate for individuals experiencing mental illness. She spent 20 years serving veterans at the Minneapolis VA Medical Center, then 9 years as Nurse Executive for the Minnesota Department of Human Services, plus time as a nursing instructor at the University of Minnesota. A recognized leader in her field, Nancy was awarded for Excellence in Nursing by the American Psychiatric Nurses Association (APNA) in 2008. She later served on the Board of Directors for the Minnesota chapter of the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI). Nancy was also a pioneering expert on professional boundaries in nursing, presenting her work across the country.

She is survived by husband Bob; son Matthew (Tracy) Dillon of Minnetrista; daughter Caroline "Cassie" Dillon of Minneapolis; beloved grandchildren Owen and Carlye; and sister Jill Padua of Narrowsburg, New York.

Nancy was preceded in death by parents George Christel "Chris" Behling in April 2000 and Myrtle "Mickey" Carolina Henning Behling in September 2000, as well as sister Barbara Goffin in October 2011. Rest eternal grant her, O Lord; and let light perpetual shine upon them all.
Gloria Lee Frestedt
1945 – 2020

Gloria was born July 22, 1945 and died December 15, 2020.

She married Elmer Frestedt on November 13, 1998. After joining the Central family in 2003, they both could be found every Monday in Central’s kitchen helping to prepare the community meal. The kitchen was filled with a lot of cutting, chopping, and mixing and plenty of laughter, with Gloria and Elmer in the midst of it all.

She is survived by her six children, fourteen grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

Rest eternal grant her, O Lord; and let light perpetual shine upon her.

Shirley Kathleen Elavsky
1933 – 2020

Shirley Kathleen Elavsky died Thursday, December 17, 2020 in Minneapolis, Minnesota of Covid-19. She was 94 years old.

Shirley was born in Minneapolis to parents, Millard and Sophia Moen. Shirley was a devout Lutheran and a member of Bethel Lutheran Church, and Central Lutheran Church. She loved her family more than anything, and treasured spending time with those she loved. She had a tremendous sense of humor and loved to laugh. She was an excellent cook and made sure every gathering was well supplied with food she made lovingly for those she cared about. She treasured trips to the North Shore. She enjoyed visiting with friends and easily connected with people around her. Shirley had a lifelong love of reading and was a regular at her local library. She always had a book beside her chair. Shirley will be dearly missed by all who knew her. She would not have passed away at this time if it were not for Covid. The world is short one angel now.

She is survived by two sons, Jeffery and Steven (Laurie); three grandchildren, Nikki (Joe) Burk, Paul and Alison Elavsky; two great-grandchildren, Izaak and Ethan, and many extended family members.

Shirley is preceded in death by her parents, her three brothers, Ron, Fred and Dale; her ex-husband, Michael and daughter-in-law, Karin. Rest eternal grant her, O Lord; and let light perpetual shine upon them all.
Reverend Donald O. Haines, age 82, passed away at his home on December 19, 2020. He was a native of Sturgeon Bay, Wisconsin, and dearly loved Sand Bay, on Green Bay water, his inheritance from the Haines Family.

He received degrees from St. Olaf and Luther Seminary. In his years of ministry through the ELCA, he was a true servant to others. He and Miriam lived and served in Kyle, Saskatchewan, Canada, Storden, Minnesota, Ishpeming, Michigan, Wausau, and Milwaukee, Wisconsin. After retirement from parish ministry they moved to the Twin Cities where they were surrounded by family.

Don was a creative and thoughtful soul, who left works of art for his family to enjoy. He encouraged all around him to think deeply, listen for the voices of the oppressed, and notice the beauty of God’s creation. We will feel his spirit during conversations around a Sand Bay firepit, fish boils, and Packers games. His grandchildren will particularly miss his yearly Christmas Eve story.

He is survived by his wife, Miriam; daughters Lisa (Randall) Kolberg and Ann Haines Holy Eagle; sons Jeff (Heidi) Haines and Douglas Haines; 9 grandchildren, 2 great-grandsons; and sister Adie (Peter) Hegrenes.
Duane Marion Jergenson
1938 – 2020

Duane M. Jergenson, age 74, of Minneapolis, Minnesota, passed away Sunday, December 27, 2020 at Methodist Hospital in Minneapolis, Minnesota.

Duane Marion was born September 16, 1946, the son of Marion “Sparky” and Alice (Budach) Jergenson in Bricelyn, Minnesota. Duane lived his early life on the same farm built by his parents. Such a home provided a rich environment to cultivate an appreciation for hard and honest work that dominated Duane’s character. From spring planting to after-school shifts at the Bricelyn Canning Factory, Duane contributed to all aspects of their farm operations. Dedication to family and farm did little to limit Duane in academics or athletics. A star in both football and track, Duane helped propel the minuscule Bricelyn High’s 880yd relay team to a top-five finish in the ’63 MSHSL State Track Meet.

Such displays of personal achievement and familial devotion were enough to catch a young Lynda Quam’s attention in 1960. Neither needed more convincing that they were the perfect match for each other, leading to a relationship of 60 years, 54 in marriage.

His classwork led him to Mankato State University. To support himself in school, the ever-industrious Duane found employment at Carlson Wedding Services. This humble part-time position would serve as the base for Duane's extraordinary career. Post-graduation, he would accept a full-time role as Office Manager with Carlson Wedding Services. However, the burgeoning conflict in Vietnam would prove to be an obstacle. The imposition of a drafting moratorium on Fairbault County led to uncertainty about when Duane's military service would begin. Never being one to let chance dictate his life, Duane began a cross-state campaign of his own to find a regiment to enlist in. His journey led him to Cannon Falls, where he enlisted as a clerk in the U.S. Army.

He served in the Army Reserves for six years. During these years, Duane and Lyn welcomed their two children into the world, Tamara and Michael. Amid his service, Duane continued his career with Carlson.

In 1975, Carlson Wedding Services would become Taylor Corporation, with Duane as a founder and integral piece of its success. His leadership helped the company grow from a regional printing firm to an international conglomerate. During Taylor Corp.’s rampant expansion, Duane headed several initiatives advancing the company. One accomplishment was studying and integrating early IBM computers. Recognizing his leadership and organizational skills, Taylor Corp. promoted Duane to President of the newly acquired Heinrich Envelope Corp. In 1985, Duane ascended to Vice President of Taylor Corp.’s Operations. This role led Duane to oversee ten divisions of Taylor Corp. in three different countries: Impretas Unitas in Mexico; International Artcraft, RTI, and Sunset Ltd. In Canada; and Fine Impressions, Litho Tech, LTS Print Systems, Schmidt Printing, Travel Tags in America and continued to oversee Heinrich Envelope. Prior to Duane’s retirement he had the pleasure of being part of an ownership group for his favorite team, the Minnesota Timberwolves. After 34 years with Taylor Corp, Duane retired at the relatively young age of 53. His reason was simple. He had captured success, and now it was time to engage in his most significant venture, his family.

The ever active Duane also gave his time to organizations outside of Taylor Corp. An athlete to the end, Duane served on the Northwest YMCA Board from 1984 to 1990, and as chairman in ’89-90. Duane also provided his services to the Minnesota Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors. Even in retirement, Duane served as an Independent Director for Hawkins Inc. from 1996 until 2020.
In retirement, Duane approached his family with the same zeal he did in the boardroom. Until the very end of his mother’s life in 2014, Duane took trips to his childhood home to do the same chores he did as a boy. A perennial super-fan, Duane and Lyn rarely missed the hundreds of football, soccer, basketball, wrestling, choir, band, and theater events his four grandchildren provided. The consummate father picked up his beloved son, Michael, from his group home every Friday to spend the weekend with his parents. The same rigid schedule delighted both father and son’s propensity for precise plans. In the many cold months of Minnesota, Duane and Lyn savored each other’s company in Naples, Florida. Even in paradise, Duane began each day like the farmer he was, at the crack of dawn. Instead of hauling bales of hay, Duane started each day with his “NBA” workout. Four 12-minute periods of 6% incline and six miles per hour. Such a feat led to playful teasing of his grandchildren, “I’m old; you should be able to go twice as fast.” Always looking to spend more time with family, Duane ensured that when the family came down to visit, they not only got tickets but purchased them at the correct time to ensure the lowest price. Trips to Naples were an annual highlight for children Mike and Tami, and especially his four grandchildren.

Duane imprinted his presence on all that met him. He gave the world a distinctive combination of grit, love, determination, warmth, and humility. Duane leaves a void for all that loved and knew him.

Duane is survived by his wife, Lyn Jergenson of Minneapolis; his children Michael and Tamara (Peter) Wold; his four grandchildren, Harrison, Greta, Asa, and Charlotte Wold; his brother Dick (Beverly) Jergenson; and sister Debbie Jergenson.

Duane is preceded in death by his parents; and grandson, Owen Wold in infancy. Rest eternal grant him, O Lord; and let light perpetual shine upon them all.

†

Mable Orr Gullickson
1922 – 2021

Mable Orr Gullickson, 98, passed away Monday, January 11th, 2021 in Shorewood, Minnesota.

Mable was born in Langford, South Dakota, on December 8, 1922, to Edval and Ethel Gullickson, the third oldest of six children. She graduated from Langford High School in 1940. She went on to work for the federal government in Washington D.C., Miami, Chicago, and finally Aberdeen. She then relocated to Minneapolis where she worked for Piper Jaffrey. Ultimately, Mable wanted to teach and so later in life she graduated with a Bachelor of Education from the University of Minnesota. She spent the next 25 years as a highly sought-after substitute teacher in Minneapolis and the surrounding suburbs until retiring at age 80.

Mable had a strong faith and was well versed in the Bible. She enjoyed attending a variety of churches including Central Lutheran, Westminster Presbyterian, and the Basilica of Saint Mary, all in Minneapolis. She could spend hours at the library and was well known at the YMCA.

She has 10 nephews and nieces, Greg Gullickson, Marvel (Gullickson) Rich, Lynn (Gullickson) Gednalske, Jeff Gullickson, Gordon Wibbens, Nancy Wibbens, Diane (Gullickson) Alberts, Brenda (Gullickson) Bethke, Clark Hurrell and David Hurrell.

Mable is the last of her siblings to pass. Her brothers Clark, Marvin and Roy and sisters Ruth and Jeanette preceded her in death. Rest eternal grant her, O Lord; and let light perpetual shine upon them all.
Joe, age 99, born in Annville, Pennsylvania, passed away from natural causes after a fabulous long life with lots of adventures.

Joe’s family moved frequently in Pennsylvania and New York before settling in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. He graduated from Central High School in Philly. Shortly after high school, Joe studied music and joined a jazz band playing stand-up bass and arranging music. He performed at various clubs in the Philadelphia area and along the East coast until the start of World War II. Entering the service in August, 1942, he was assigned to the US Army Air Corp. While in officer’s training at Macalester College in St. Paul, he met his future wife-to-be, Doris Lee. Joe completed 30 missions over Europe as part of the 8th Air Force, 446th BG as a B-24 navigator. Joe received the Distinguished Flying Cross as lead navigator for the 8th Air Force on their twenty-ninth mission. In addition, Joseph received the Air Medal with four Oak Leaf Clusters. After the war, Joe entered the University of Minnesota, where he graduated with a Degree in Electrical Engineering. After graduation, he spent 36 years with the Westinghouse Electric Supply Corporation (WESCO) in various jobs in sales, marketing, and management within the company. He retired in 1984 as District Manager of the Northern District of WESCO based in St Paul.

Joe had a great interest in canoeing, camping and fishing in the Boundary Waters Canoe Area and Quetico Provincial Park. He took 42 canoe trips over 60+ years with family and friends. His first trip was in 1947. His last trip was 2014. During the late 1970s, he was active with the Friends of the Boundary Waters in the battle to secure wilderness designation. He was an active member of the Lake of the Isles Lutheran Church and served two terms as council president. Joe’s hobbies included canoe trips, a passion for jazz music, cross-country skiing, fishing (everywhere he could), hunting (the 4-J camp), bicycling, physical fitness (the Y), piloting a private plane, walking in the woods, solving crosswords, learning new vocabulary words, enjoying the challenge of golf, improving every home he lived in, and engaging in active discussions on topics of interest. If you were doing a car trip with Joe - you were talking. Joe loved nature, had unbounded energy, loved his family, and was a smooth dancer. He lived his dream!! Joe spent many years at the family cabin in Itasca County chasing those walleyes. He will always be remembered for his favorite saying - A positive attitude will help solve problems!

He is survived by sister Dorothy Maminski; son Bruce Drake and wife Elizabeth Garren; daughter Lynn Drake and husband William Ascani; daughter Laura Drake; daughter Diana Drake; grandchildren Sara Drake, Genevieve Gorder, Lewis Gorder, Adrian Gorder, Gemma Clarke. Great-grandchildren Calvin and Charlotte Green, Zachary Simonson, Bebelle Harcott. Great-great-grandchild Evelyn Green and many nieces and nephews.

Joe was preceded in death by his wife of 75 years, Doris (Lee); parents Anna and Paul Domovich; sisters Mary Andrus and Catherine Puchon, and brother Stanley Drake. Rest eternal grant him, O Lord, and let light perpetual shine upon them all.
Steve was born on March 26, 1972 and died on April 2, 2021, at 49 years old. He loved his family and his friends. He touched so many lives. He was and will always be a shining light. Steve was a good man in life and he will always be a part of us.

Steve is survived by his wife and partner of 15 years, Marjeana Kanatzer; his 8 children, as well as his brothers and sisters, and nieces and nephews.

Rest eternal grant him, O Lord; and let light perpetual shine upon him.
On Good Saturday afternoon, April 3, 2021, Marilyn Kay (Twedt) Dutcher was welcomed into eternal life by the resounding sound of Easter organ music that she loved so very much. She was surrounded by her loving family as she peacefully passed after a year-long battle with cancer.

Marilyn was born on December 27, 1948, to Russel K. and Agnes C. Twedt (Juel) in Sioux Falls, South Dakota. She was the oldest and only girl to Russel and Agnes’ and had four younger brothers and many stories about life on the family farm.

After graduating from West Lyon High School in Inwood, Iowa, Marilyn attended the University of Northern Iowa, where she majored in Home Economics. Her career began at Allison-Bristow High School where she taught for several years. Although she was a wonderful teacher, her real love came later when she became a stay-at-home mom, or rather, told Joe that she was not going back to work because she was going to stay home and care for her family.

On November 24, 1973, Marilyn married Joe Dutcher at Bethlehem Lutheran Church in Inwood, Iowa. After starting their life together in Cedar Falls, Iowa, Marilyn and Joe moved around the Midwest, as Joe pursued his business career.

At each stop on their journey, Marilyn found time to join school and local social organizations, sewing groups, church choirs and attend as many church concerts as possible. And much to Joe’s dismay, she also found time to acquire a growing cache of fabric ‘...to make clothes and toys for the girls and grandbabies’ and ensure that he moved every bolt of fabric and pattern with them during their numerous relocations.

Throughout her life, Marilyn’s main focus was her family, grandchildren and her faith. She leaves her loving husband, Joe Dutcher; her beloved daughters, Jill (Corey) Workman (Plymouth, Minnesota) and Mary (Chris) Jenniges (Woodbury, Minnesota); and six grandchildren, Olivia, Molly and Paul (Mary and Chris). Although she loved her family immensely, it was the title of “Momo” given to her by her grandchildren that brought her endless joy. She was often found in her rocking chair, reading to one or more grandchildren. She would read the same book endlessly without question, as her patience was unlike anyone else’s.

She also leaves four brothers, Greg and Cheryl Twedt (Inwood, Iowa); Roger and Sonok Twedt (Millcreek, Washington); Gary and Kay Twedt (Larchwood, Iowa); and Mark and Sarah Twedt (Eagan, Minnesota). Marilyn leaves many other dear relatives and special friends, as well as her adoring dog, Lily.

She was preceded in death by her parents and grandparents, in addition to aunts, uncles and cousins, and she is now rocking numerous infant grandchildren in Heaven. Rest eternal grant her, O Lord; and let light perpetual shine upon them all.

Marilyn’s sister-in-law recently wrote: “I see new life all around and am reminded that Marilyn is enjoying a new life now. I bet her beautiful hair is shining as she is smiling with pride, watching her beautiful daughters and grandchildren.”

‘... and the time has come for my departure. I have fought the good fight. I have finished the race. I have kept the faith.’ (2 Timothy; 4:6-7)
Daphine Mae Ofsthun
1927 – 2021

Mom was born June 29, 1927 to Alfred and Sophie Overlie in Rose Creek where she basked in an idyllic life with her two older brothers, George and Ralph, and younger sister, Shirley.

Just one year at Austin High School she was named Valedictorian, then proceeded to the University of Minnesota. There she met handsome WWII fighter pilot, Carroll, who sat behind her in Spanish class. They quickly became the love of each other’s lives, married in 1947 and together raised the three of us.

She was the ultimate mother. Mom poured herself into our lives. Offering her unending support, she encouraged us to pursue what we loved. She and her family were woven into the fabric of Central Lutheran Church, where many close, forever friendships were established.

The life Mom and Dad created for us was magical. The sound of music always filled the house, and that passion was passed on, as was her love of books. Every summer there were long road trips traversing the U.S. and Canada, camping, hiking, touring and bonding.

Then came cherished grandchildren. Mom championed their every endeavor, sweetly shared her insights and advice and loved each one beyond measure. She was so proud of them all.

To help support the family and fund the countless joy-filled trips she and Dad took abroad, Mom worked for years at Fairview Southdale Hospital, another place where she developed long-lasting friendships. She was a loyal Minnesota sports fan who rarely missed a Gopher, Vikings, or Twins game.

So many words describe Mom: intelligent, witty, curious, adventurous, feisty, opinionated, selfless, self-reliant, humble, caring, loving, and beautiful. She was all of those to the very end. Mom had a gentle, kind heart and a deep abiding love for her extended family and her dear Lord. She touched and inspired everyone that she knew. We all love you, Mom. You will be dearly missed.

Mom is survived by the three of us and our three spouses, Judd, Bruce and Kathy, whom she loved as her own, as well as her much-loved nine grandchildren, six great-grandchildren and sister, Shirley Capon.

Steph, Becky and Rich
Robert “Bob” John Dillon
1944 – 2021

Robert John Dillon, age 76 of Brooklyn Center, passed away peacefully at the VA hospital on Tuesday April 13, 2021. He was born and raised in Kalamazoo, Michigan, Bob proudly served in the United States Navy aboard the U.S.S. Takelma and the U.S.S. Peregrine from 1966-1970. In time, he obtained a business degree and later went on to earn an MBA from the University of St. Thomas.

Bob met his wife Nancy in Cincinnati and they were married in 1974. He was a loving husband, father, brother, and grandfather. Bob had a warm personality and truly cared for others first. Without fail, he asked how those he came in contact with were doing. Ever the optimist, things to him were always good no matter the situation. Bob was often quick with a joke; some were even good. He was a devoted member of the Brooklyn Center Lions Club, serving as president of the club twice and receiving the Melvin Jones Fellowship award for service in 2018. He enjoyed singing with the Minneapolis Commodores and helping out with the Free Store at Central Lutheran Church in Minneapolis. Bob loved fishing, and will be missed by those he shared a boat with. He was a handy guy and relied upon for his ability to fix “anything but a horse race”.

Bob is survived by son, Matthew (Tracy) Dillon and his adored grandchildren Owen and Carlye of Minnetrista; daughter, Carolene “Cassie” Dillon of Minneapolis; and his brother, Dan of Nashville, Tennessee.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Dr. Nancy (Behling) Dillon, December 2020 as well as his father, Paul and mother, Maxine. Rest eternal grant him, O Lord, and let light perpetual shine upon them all.
Myrtle Mildred Vangsnes

1915 – 2021

Myrtle Mildred Vangsnes, age 105, died on April 20, 2021 at Willow Gardens in Marion, Iowa.

Myrtle was born August 29, 1915, in Sioux Falls, South Dakota to Amund and Ingeborg Vangsnes. After graduation from high school in Baltic, South Dakota, she attended Augustana School of Nursing in Chicago, Illinois. She worked as an obstetrical and infant nurse at Sherman Hospital in Elgin, Illinois. After moving back to South Dakota, Myrtle worked at the Madison Hospital and Madison Clinic, where she completed her course as an X-ray Technician. She eventually moved to Minneapolis where she worked many years at the Richfield Clinic in Richfield, Minnesota.

She was a member of Central Lutheran Church in Minneapolis.

In 2016 she moved to Cedar Rapids, Iowa to be closer to her family. Survivors include her sister, Clara Ackerman of Cedar Rapids; nephews Terry (Janell, deceased) Ackerman of Center Point, Iowa; David (Karen) Ackerman of Cedar Rapids; nieces Dixie (Rod) Newbigging of Spokane, Washington, and Ethel (Dennis) Winger of Cedar Rapids; as well as many great, and multiple-great nieces and nephews.

Myrtle was preceded in death by her parents, one sister, Alma Vangsnes, and a brother-in-law, Harry Ackerman. Rest eternal grant her, O Lord; and let light perpetual shine upon them all.
Rodney Waldemar Johnson, Jr.
1943 – 2021

"May 3, 2021

Today an amazing man went to be with our Lord. This past weekend was very special with all the visitors that came to see Dad and share special stories.

Rodney W Johnson, born December 26, 1943 in Anniston, Alabama - Army Veteran. He was a loving Brother, Husband, Father, Grandfather, and Great-Grandfather.

He is survived by his wife of 53 years, Candy Johnson, married on May 6, 1967; daughters Wendy Johnson (Tim Johnson) and Melissa Gootee (Philip Gootee); grandchildren Kyle Johnson, Douglas Dixon, Kaitlyn Johnson, and Amber Dixon; great grandchildren Elijah and Hudson; siblings Steve Johnson (Lynn Johnson), Cindy Rupprecht (Jeff Rupprecht), Tim Johnson (Cindy Johnson); nephews Geoff Johnson (Amy Brown), Mason Stromberg, Erik Johnson; nieces Natalie Johnson (Ben Peine), Nicci Schoen (Adrian Schoen).

Rodney was predeceased by his father Rodney Sr. and mother Eleanor. Rest eternal grant him, O Lord, and let light perpetual shine upon them all.

Love to all from the Johnson Family. ♥"
Warren Henry Olson

1935 – 2021

Warren Olson, age 85, of Fridley, passed away on May 8, 2021 at home surrounded by his wife and family. He was a graduate of Hamline University with a BA in history and physical education in 1957, and Masters of Education from Macalester College. Warren was a social studies classroom teacher and football coach for 35 years, starting at Westbrook (1957-61), and retiring from Brooklyn Center High School in 1991, where he was on the original staff (1961).

After his retirement he continued to coach at Hamline University, Edina and Richfield High Schools. Warren was inducted into the following Halls of Fame: Hamline University Athletics, Minnesota Football Coaches Association and Minnesota Football Old Timers. Warren coached the Brooklyn Center Centaurs to victory in the Class A Prep Bowl I in 1982.

Warren was a lifelong gardener, and faithful volunteer for 25 years at Global Health Ministries and a lifelong member of the following organizations: National Education Association, Minnesota Historical Society, Minnesota Horticultural Society, season ticket holder of the History Theatre, Central Lutheran Church Foundation, Hamline University Football & the Centaur Foundation.

Warren married Sandy Olson on December 29, 1956. They were married for 52 years before Sandy passed away in 2008. He was her loving caregiver for many years. Warren then met and married Lilly Olson on April 9, 2011. Together they traveled the world and significant spots around the country. She became his loving caregiver right until the end.

He is survived by loving wife of 10 years, Lilly Olson; sons, Todd (Lisa), Tom (Eunice) and Terry (Kelly) and daughter, Tina Ross (Charlie); grandchildren, Trevor, Dylan, Nicholas, Constant, Fedelia, Juste, Kevin, Laure, Olivia, Casey, Mickey, Josey, Janey, Eric, Melany; great-grandchildren, William, Aaliyah, Faith, Grace, Logan, Luna, Archer; sister-in-law; Janyce Olson of Richmond, Virginia. Bonus Family, Erik, Kirsten, Aaron; grandchildren, Kendra, Kate, Mike, Elin, Emmett, Nate; great-grandchild, Lukas.

Warren was preceded in death by wife of 52 years, Sandy Olson, parents and brother Richard Olson of Richmond, Virginia. Rest eternal grant him, O Lord, and let light perpetual shine upon them all.
Robert "Bob" Donald Meland
1928 – 2021

Robert "Bob" D. Meland, age 93 of Golden Valley, passed away on July 21, 2021. He graduated from the University Minnesota and started his work career in the insurance industry. In the mid-60s he trained at Northwestern University in Chicago to become a Securities Broker with a Wall Street firm. For the next two decades he worked for several large Wall Street Security firms selling bonds to institutional clients. The last two decades of his work career he owned his own securities firm that focused on institutional securities and commercial real estate financing. He loved spending time with family, visiting the University of Minnesota Arboretum, travel, camping across the country with family, sailing, boating, golfing, skiing, fishing and hunting.

He is survived and will be missed by his wife Dona; children, Greg (Delice), Bruce, Karen (Ralf), Paul (Michaelle) & Kathy (Alan). Also his grandchildren, Jena, Ben (Jen), Ted, Max, Alexander, John, Ani, Meg, Molly and great-grandchildren, Tanner, Cael, Jensen & Dana.

Robert was predeceased in death by his daughter Kristine. Rest eternal grant him, O Lord, and let light perpetual shine upon them all.
David Walter Preus
1922 – 2021

David Walter Preus, loving husband and father, Lutheran bishop and pastor, civic leader and World War II veteran, passed away peacefully on Friday, July 23, 2021, due to complications from heart failure.

Three of David’s major themes in life were "Jesus, Justice and Joy." He came from a long family line of church leaders. He was born May 28, 1922, in Madison, Wisconsin. He spent most of his boyhood in Decorah, Iowa, where his father was a pastor and president of Luther College, and his mother was an accomplished musician and created a joyful and welcoming home. He studied and played basketball at Luther College where his Coach Hamlet (Pete) Peterson called him his "bread and butter man." David graduated from Luther College in 1943. He and his four brothers enlisted in the U.S. armed services. He served in the U.S. Army Signal Intelligence until 1946 where he learned the Japanese language with overseas duty in the Philippines and Japan. Following World War II, he went to a year of Law School at the University of Minnesota, and completed Luther Theological Seminary in St. Paul; he was ordained in 1950. David took postgraduate studies at Union Theological Seminary, New York, and the University of Edinburgh (Scotland) in 1951-52. As a pastor and President/Presiding Bishop of the American Lutheran Church (ALC), servant leadership infused his life’s work. He served as a parish pastor for 23 years in Brookings, South Dakota, Vermilion, South Dakota and Minneapolis, Minnesota. During his 15 years as Presiding Bishop of the ALC he also served as Vice President of the Lutheran World Federation and as a member of the Central Committee of the World Council of Churches. In 1988, he was appointed Distinguished Visiting Professor at Luther Seminary and Director of its Global Mission Institute. During his later retirement he continued to engage in preaching, writing, and other forms of service.

Long an advocate of participation by church members in civic and community affairs, David was a member and chair of the Minneapolis School Board, the Minneapolis City Planning Commission, and other civic organizations in the Twin Cities. He actively supported equal opportunities in housing, civil rights and civil rights legislation at city, state and national levels. One of his special attributes was his ability to actively seek out people from all faiths and backgrounds to work together toward a common good. He was at home speaking with and working with local leaders, church leaders from all faiths, four presidents of the United States of America, and leaders from other countries. For example, he met with John Paul II about ecumenical opportunities, worked with Martin Luther King, Jr. to address social justice topics at a Lutheran youth event, and joined Vice President Mondale on work trips abroad. The Minneapolis Star Tribune named him one of the 100 most influential Minnesotans of the 20th century. Over the years David received recognition from a wide variety of sources, including many honorary doctorate degrees, the Commander's Cross of the Royal Norwegian Order of St. Olav, the Torch of Liberty award from the Anti-Defamation League, the St. Thomas Aquinas award from the College of St. Thomas, and the Pax Christi award from St. John's University. Friends established an annual David W. Preus Servant Leadership Award. Friends and neighbors remember his love of nature, stewardship and joyful spirit. With a cabin in northern Minnesota, David enjoyed tending to the land. Every summer one heard his chainsaw humming and saw his newly planted pine seedlings growing. At his home in Minneapolis he planted colorful tulips each fall, with hope for beauty in the spring. He literally whistled and sang while working outdoors. He loved a good game of golf. David cherished time with his family. He enjoyed playing various outdoor and indoor games, doing crosswords, and making blueberry pancakes for his grandchildren.
David is survived by his beloved wife, Ann Margaret Overgaard Madsen Preus, whom he met and married 70 years ago in Brookings, South Dakota, and five children, Martha, David A. (Carmenza), Stephen (Martha), Louise, and Laura (Michael), nine grandchildren, Natalie (David John), Christian (Robekkah), Katharine, Andrew, Daniel, Brita, Johan, Nathan, and Annabel, two great-grandchildren, Raegan, Ryder, and many nieces, nephews, relatives and friends.

Carolyn Moore
1943 – 2021

Carolyn Moore, age 78, of Edina passed away peacefully in hospice care on August 18, 2021. Carolyn was born on February 13, 1943 in Ottawa, Illinois. She was an active member at the Basilica of St. Mary. She was also an active member, and alto in the Streetsong MN Choir, a choir composed of persons who are currently of formerly homeless and those who care about them. Carolyn volunteered her time at the Basilica and at Ebenezer Nursing Home.

She is survived by her beloved daughter Carolyn Moore; grandson Desmond Deshay; other relatives and friends; and special cat Christian.

Alpheus “Al” G. Simmons
1943 – 2021

Alpheus “AL” G. Simmons, age 86 years old, of Minneapolis, Minnesota died September 1, 2021.

He is survived by daughter Gail Simmons of Minneapolis, and step-son Larry Abney of Texas and grandchildren Eric and Micheal of Mississippi. Al loved football, fishing and being a house inspector. He will be very well missed!

Al was preceded in death by wife, Oddie Simmons. Rest eternal grant him, O Lord; and let light perpetual shine upon them all.
Joyce was born in Saint Paul, Minnesota and lived in the Twin Cities throughout her life. She was an amazing woman that cared deeply for her family and friends. She was a thoughtful person that helped many people. Joyce was very social, loved to be around others, go on trips and travel around the Twin Cities, and play Bingo. She frequently went to both Central Lutheran Church and Plymouth Congregational Church.

Joyce was a daughter, sister, mother, grandmother, great-grandmother, and friend. Her children, Sam, Judy, Melissa, Michael, and Angela loved her and will miss her so much. Her grandchildren Darren, Tiffany, Elisha, Natasha, Randle, Josephine, Alexis, Austin, Raymond, Kiarra, Diavian, Lilly, Jaxtin and Jestin will forever love and miss her as well. Her great-grandchildren Jahi, Nevaun, Arya, Jayce, Legend, and Legacy will know how much she loved them. Her friends will also miss and cherish the memories they shared with her.

She has joined her parents Archie and Edna; her sisters Elsie, Shirley, Mila, and Bonnie; her brother Gary; her son Tom; and grandson Ryan in eternal rest. Rest eternal grant her, O Lord; and let light perpetual shine upon them all.