



Gladys June Larsen

October 7, 1920 - July 6, 2017

Gladys June Larsen (Kruse), age 96, passed away on July 6, 2017, in Alexandria, Minnesota at Knute Nelson Care Center. Although she was a life-long resident of the Alta-Storm Lake communities, she moved to Minnesota in 2010, to Nelson Gables, an assisted living facility, to be closer to her family. She moved into Knute Nelson Care Center last December as her needs required.

Gladys was born on Oct. 7, 1920, to Charlotte (Carlberg) and Axel Kruse on a farm north of Alta, Iowa. She attended Fairview Consolidated School and later graduated from Alta High School in 1938. In 1939, she graduated from Sioux City Beauty Academy and took her first job in Denison, Iowa, where she met and married the “love of her life”, James Larsen, on April 12, 1943. On Jim’s return home from WWII, they settled first in Storm Lake, then, later Alta, Iowa, where they raised their two daughters, Linda and Nancy. Gladys owned and operated a beauty shop in Storm Lake for 30 yrs., retiring in 1982, due to Jim’s failing health.

In her earlier years, Gladys loved to bowl, golf, garden and feed the squirrels and birds. She was a life-long member of Trinity Lutheran Church in Alta, as well as an active participant in the Ruth women’s group, helping with various workshops and volunteering. She was a charter member of the Alta Chapter O.E.S. #138 Eastern Star. The “We Care” (grief support for spouses) was also

a joy to her in her retiring years.

Preceding Gladys in death were her parents, Charlotte (Carlberg) Kruse and Axel S. Kruse; husband, Jim (1989); brother, Kenneth Kruse (1992); sisters, Louise Kruse (1952) and Lucille Witt (1994); son-in-law, Edmund Silver (2016); as well as several extended family members.

Gladys' survivors include her two daughters, Linda Hoffman (David) and Nancy Silver (Ed, deceased); four grandchildren, Sean Silver (Ann), Scott Silver (Neysa), Megan (Hoffman) Gibbs (Jeff) and Jenn (Hoffman) Schulz (Eric); six great-grandchildren, Anthony and Abigail Silver, Isaiah and Camden Silver and Maggie and D.J. Gibbs; sister-in-law, Janice Kruse of Spirit Lake, Iowa; as well as many loving extended family and friends nation-wide. This lady made new friends wherever she ventured her whole life long!

Gladys, a woman of faith, will be long remembered for her engaging smile, her devotion to her family and friends, the enjoyment she found in living each day. She was truly the epitome of "a lady"!

A memorial service will be held for Gladys at Trinity Lutheran Church, Alta, Iowa on July 15, 2017. Visitation at 10 a.m., Funeral service at 11 a.m. followed by a luncheon in the church basement. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be directed to Trinity Lutheran Church, Alta, Iowa.

Fratzke & Jensen Funeral Home in Alta was in charge of the arrangements.

Previous Events

Visitation

JUL 15. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

Trinity Lutheran Church -- Alta
401 West 2nd Street
Alta, IA 51002

Service

JUL 15. 11:00 AM (CT)

Trinity Lutheran Church -- Alta
401 West 2nd Street
Alta, IA 51002

Tribute Wall

DS

“ Gladys and my mom, Bertha Swanson Carlson, were great friends! When my mom entered assisted living and later the nursing home, Gladys was so faithful in sending her handwritten notes and jokes. I especially remember the Pillsbury Dough Boy joke and how we read that to mom over and over and she'd have hearty laughter each time. What a joy it was to share her friendship!
Dick & Marsha Swanson

Dick & Marsha Swanson - July 14, 2017 at 09:52 PM

JD

“ John And Connie (Swenson) Demers lit a candle in memory of Gladys June Larsen



John and Connie (Swenson) Demers - July 08, 2017 at 12:06 PM

JD

Gladys did my Mom's hair for many years and was always pleasant to visit with. Such a caring lady. RIP Gladys.

John and Connie (Swenson) Demers - July 08, 2017 at 12:07 PM

LM

“ Loreen Moneypenny lit a candle in memory of Gladys June Larsen



Loreen Moneypenny - July 07, 2017 at 04:45 PM

LM

My sympathies to you, Linda, and your family for the passing of your mother, your happy memories will be in your hearts forever

Loreen Money Penny - July 07, 2017 at 04:50 PM



“ I have nothing but fond memories of both Gladys and Jim. They were two people I looked up to and admired all my childhood and young adult years. My thoughts and prayers are with the two girls and their families.

John Nordstrom - July 07, 2017 at 03:15 PM