



Avis Louise Tilden

November 3, 1928 - May 23, 2026

Avis Easton Tilden, age 97, passed away on Saturday, May 23.

Avis was born on November 3, 1928, in Medora, North Dakota, to Myron "Mike" Easton and Hazel Stedwell Easton. She was raised in the rural Medora area, attending Indian Hills Grade School and graduating from Beach High School in 1946. She went on to attend the University of North Dakota in Grand Forks. After her first year of college, she lost the fingers of her left hand in a work accident. Support for the remaining years of college were covered by state-sponsored worker's compensation and vocational education. She earned a degree in journalism in 1950.

Following college, Avis began her career as a reporter for weekly newspapers in Beach, North Dakota, and Plentywood, Montana. She later moved to Havre, Montana, where she served as the women's editor for the Havre Daily News, developing a lifelong love of storytelling and community engagement.

On August 27, 1955, Avis married Robert "Bob" Tilden. Together they built a life grounded in faith, service, and family. The couple first made their home in Marshfield, Wisconsin, where Bob served as a high school band director and their daughter Janet "Jan" was born on March 2, 1958. After relocating to Mobridge, South Dakota, Bob and Avis had another daughter Linda, who was born on January 8, 1961.

Answering a call to ministry, Bob attended United Theological Seminary in New Brighton, Minnesota, while Avis worked at the Honeywell Plant in Minneapolis. The family later moved to Andrew, Iowa, where Bob continued his studies at Dubuque Theological Seminary and served the Andrew and Emeline Presbyterian Churches.

Bob's ministry led the family to Renville, Minnesota, and then in 1968 to Crosby, Minnesota. During their eight years in Crosby, Avis was deeply involved in community life, serving on the public library board, participating in Presbyterian Women, and working part-time as a church secretary.

The family later moved to Baldwin, Wisconsin, where Avis began a long career with 3M. She held a variety of roles, but her favorite was secretary and copy editor in the Department of Audio-Visual Communications.

After Bob's retirement, they settled in Vadnais Heights, Minnesota, and later in Burnsville, MN. Following Bob's passing in 1987, Avis continued her life of service with remarkable dedication. After retiring from 3M, she devoted herself to volunteer work in both her church and the broader community.

Avis had a special passion for education and outreach. She joined Toastmasters where she honed her skills as a speaker. She was member of American Association of University Women. She worked as an English as a Second Language tutor for adult learners and was recognized for her efforts with the 1997 Gold Award for Outstanding Innovative Volunteer Service by the Minnesota Literacy Council, as well as the 2008-2009 John Coskran Volunteer Award from the Burnsville-Eagan-Savage School District.

Her faith was central to her life. She remained actively involved in the Presbytery of the Twin Cities area, contributing to Preparation for Ministry,

Peacemaking, Mission Support, and Presbyterian Women. She was also a devoted member and supporter of Central Presbyterian Church then later the Presbyterian Church of the Apostles.

Avis's commitment to service extended beyond the United States. In 1994, she traveled to Africa, accompanying missionary friends in Nairobi, Kenya, as well as in Swaziland and Zambia. She later spent a year serving as a volunteer in border ministry in Hidalgo, Texas.

In her later years, Avis lived at Central Towers in downtown St. Paul, where she was an active member of Central Presbyterian Church, located just across the street from her home. Most recently, she resided at The Rivers Retirement Community, where she remained a vibrant presence and continued her involvement with her church community.

Avis will be remembered for her deep faith, her commitment to service, her love of learning, her welcoming acceptance of all people, and her unwavering dedication to helping others. Her life touched countless individuals through her work, her volunteerism, and her kindness. She will most be remembered for her smile as it could "light up an entire room."

She is survived by her daughters, Jan Tilden of Woodbury, and Linda (Curtiss) Horarik of Salida, CO; as well as her grandchildren: Sarah Rostollan, Matthew Rostollan, Nicole Rostollan, Benjamin Horarik, and Mae Horarik; great-grandchildren, and many nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her parents and siblings as well as her beloved husband, Bob Tilden.

A Celebration of Life will be held at 11 am on June 6 at the Presbyterian Church of the Apostles in Burnsville, MN. Visitation will be prior to the service. Memorials may be directed to one of the following: The American

Heart Association, The American Cancer Society, Central Presbyterian Church in St. Paul, MN, and Presbyterian Church of the Apostles in Burnsville, MN.

Previous Events

Visitation

JUN 6. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

Presbyterian Church of the Apostles
701 E 130th St.
Burnsville, MN 55337

Church Service

JUN 6. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (CT)

Presbyterian Church of the Apostles
701 E 130th St.
Burnsville, MN 55337

Tribute Wall

MC

“ I admire aunt Avis and her love for life and travel.
I too appreciated her Christmas cards and hearing of her travels.
Though I didn't get to see her often, we also had great conversations when we were together.
I am pretty sure she heard Well done thy good and faithful servant.
Sorry I will miss her service on Saturday.
Praying for Janet and Linda.



Mavis Clinton - June 03 at 06:35 PM

BF

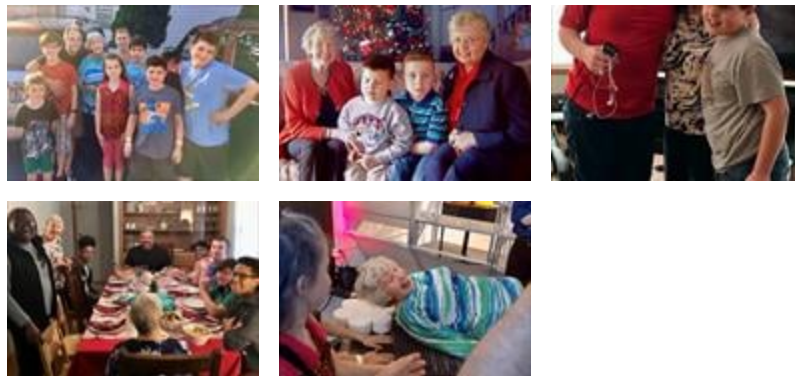
“ Bobbie Fletcher lit a candle in memory of Avis Louise Tilden



Bobbie Fletcher - June 03 at 11:00 AM

CS

“ 5 files added to the tribute wall



Carlene Silva - June 02 at 07:24 PM

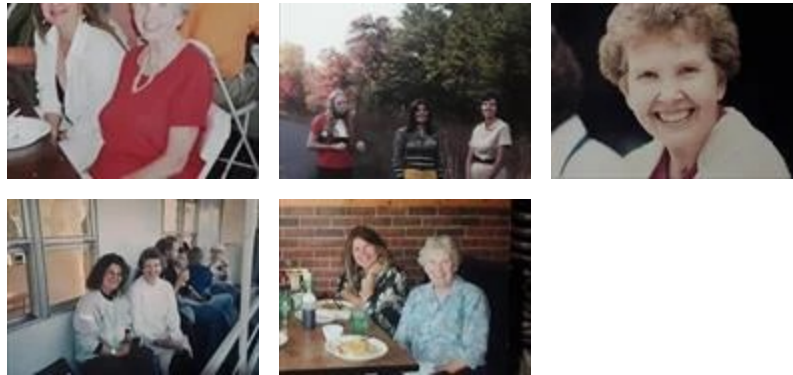
CS

Avis always brought joy with her wherever she went. For years we had the privilege of visiting her as we traveled from MKE to ND and back - always stopping off to stay overnight or get a meal with her. Then she started coming to our Thanksgiving and it was wonderful - her laughter, her stories, her absolute love for learning everything she could about other people made her an amazing dinner companion. She always made whoever she was with feel special and interesting. I loved listening to her stories and admired her passion for learning, and going, and DOING. She was never idle for long and lived every day to it's fullest. We will miss her dearly.

Carlene Silva - June 02 at 07:29 PM

VK

“ 11 files added to the tribute wall



Vana Karounia - June 01 at 03:43 AM

VK

Moments and Memories..

Vana Karounia - June 01 at 03:45 AM

LH

*Hi Vana,
Thank you so much for the pictures. I miss you.
Love you,
Linda*

Linda Horarik - June 03 at 06:28 PM



*Hi Linda,
I love you too sis and I miss you..* □

Vana Karounia - June 04 at 03:10 PM

BF

“ As her favorite niece (ha ha ha) My first memory of Avis was in 1955 when she was newly engaged to Bob and they visited my mom and dad. I remember giggling as the two of them sat on the couch kissing & kissing & kissing; I was six and had never seen anyone kiss that much!

We didn't live close, but we did visit them in Mobridge SD and since they had an air conditioner AND a sailboat, We thought they were RICH.

Uncle Bob brought slide shows of their travels whenever they visited ND. So in May 2000 when Aunt Avis asked me to go to Florida with her to house sit for her friends I jumped at the opportunity.

We enjoyed 3 wonderful weeks in their beautiful home - Avis always got up at the crack of dawn (we did NOT have that in common) and she would pick oranges right from their trees and make me fresh OJ to have when I woke. We also drove to many tourist spots and discovered gorgeous scenery. she left me in the dust at Epcot in Disney - she had an amazing energy reserve and a drive to see and do and LIVE every moment.

During that trip we went from relatives to friends and became consistent phone pals while making an effort to see each other anytime we traveled to the same state as the other.

I especially appreciated her Christmas letters which were expressions of her life talent. I could never share so much information in such few sentences.

I will miss her positive and uplifting attitude and the love she shared with everyone - this world is losing one of it's most treasured inhabitants and I know she is being welcomed into her new world with open arms!

Bobbie Fletcher - May 31 at 08:53 PM

LH

*Thank you, Bobbie.
That means a lot to me.*

Linda Horarik - June 03 at 06:27 PM

LH

*Love you bunches,
Linda*

Linda Horarik - June 03 at 06:29 PM

MK

I knew and loved Avis through the American Association of University Women. If I had to pick out words that expressed how we experienced her presence, they would be bright, cheerful, intelligent, and, most of all, loved. The smile on her dear dear face extended to every person in the hall. Ever curious, she had meaningful things to add in her discussion of every program. I will never never forget her. She made the world better.

Marla Kennedy - June 04 at 10:06 PM