



## Barbara Anne Johnson

February 9, 1935 - April 20, 2021

Barbara Anne (Sayler) Johnson, peacefully passed away in Bloomington, Minnesota on April 20, 2021 at the age of 86.

Born in 1935 in Hastings, Nebraska, Barb and her family lived in a variety of places following her father's work until they settled for a time in Hebron, Nebraska where Barb graduated from high school in 1952. After high school, Barb attended Immanuel School of Nursing in Omaha where, after declining the first few invitations, she met her future husband Richard Johnson on a blind date set up by mutual friends. Barb graduated from Immanuel in 1955 and she and Dick were married on June 17, 1956. In 1963, they moved with their young son Eric to St. Paul, Minnesota. Barb soon found employment as a surgical nurse at what ultimately became Abbott Northwestern Hospital in Minneapolis and began a 35 year career in the surgical department. Barb was extremely proud of her work and of the hospital. She was known for her competence and her ability to work well with even the most difficult surgeons.

Barb was devoted to her family and along with Dick and the children an avid traveler. For many years, the four kids would be packed into a station wagon and the family would head west to visit friends and relatives in Nebraska and California. During that time, the family visited just about every state west of the Mississippi always looping up and down the California coast to visit Barb's father and step-mother in the Bay Area. In later years, Barb and Dick traveled,

often on cruises, to many distant lands including China, India, Nepal, Caribbean islands, Russia, Egypt, Brazil, Morocco and many other places in Europe.

A lifelong Lutheran, Barb's faith was important to her as was her commitment to serving others as a nurse and as a community volunteer, most notably with Meals on Wheels where she spent years delivering meals and serving on the local board.

Preceded in death by her father Edwin, mother Eleanor and step-mother Florence, Barb was deeply loved and is survived by her husband of 64 years Richard, children Eric (Kirsten) Johnson, Rebecca (Pam Neumann) Johnson, Jennifer Johnson and Peter (Kristi) Johnson, grandchildren Berit, Noah and Signe Johnson, Summer Neumann and Kaija and Alexander Johnson and great granddaughter Jasmine Neumann.

Due to COVID restrictions a private family service will be held on May 6, 2021 at 10:30 a.m. at Transfiguration Lutheran Church, Bloomington, MN. For those who would like to honor Barb's life with the family, a live-stream of the service will be available by visiting [www.tlcgo.live](http://www.tlcgo.live) at the time of the service. Later viewing is also available at the online Transfiguration Memorial Garden at Garden Path - TLC Memorial. In lieu of flowers, the Johnson family would suggest memorial contributions to either the Transfiguration Lutheran Church Foundation or the Presbyterian Homes Foundation.

# Tribute Wall

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“ *My sympathy and prayers are with you as you mourn the passing of Barb, a very special wife, mother, and grandmother. I have wonderful memories of when Barb and I worked together at Fairview Hospital in the early 1960's while Dick and Ivan were students at Luther Seminary. We were also neighbors in the Seminary neighborhood. Through the years we have kept in touch with our annual Christmas letters. I always looked forward to reading about the Johnson family news each year! Praying that you will feel surrounded by God's love and peace!*

*Lois Wambheim*

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**Lois Wambheim** - May 05, 2021 at 02:00 PM