



Barbara Esther Simkins

January 20, 1935 - November 12, 2021

Barbara Esther (Jesse) Simkins, 86, of Maplewood, MN passed into the arms of our Lord on Friday, November 12, 2021 at Lyngblomsten Care Center in St. Paul.

Barbara was born January 20, 1935 in St. Paul, MN to Kenneth and Esther (Andersen) Jesse. She graduated from Minnehaha Academy where she was the accompanist for the Minnehaha Singers. She continued her music education from private Twin Cities musicians. Music, both instrumental and vocal, was an important part of her life and she was director, organist and pianist for several churches and events. In addition, she was involved in Bible Study Fellowship for several years as a support to the teaching director. She married Wilfred (Bill) Simkins on September 9, 1955 and they lived in St. Paul and later in Maplewood, MN. She loved to make clothes for her kids and herself and her favorite was tailoring, which was what her maternal grandfather did for a living. She also knit beautiful sweaters as gifts for many of her relatives. Dogs and cats were treasured for their love and companionship to her and she had several over the years.

Barbara is survived by her husband, Bill; their children, Tim (Sheela) and Cheryl; her sister, Carol (Don) Heuton; nieces, Laura Heuton, Kelly (Andy) Halgerson; nephew, Joel (Elaine) Heuton; great-nieces, Lois, Marie, Nina Halgerson and Esther Heuton.

A celebration of Barbara's life will be held on Thursday, December 2, 2021 at Holcomb-Henry-Boom-Purcell Funeral Home, 515 Highway 96 West,

Shoreview, MN. Visitation with the family will be held from 11:00 AM to 3:00 PM.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to East Immanuel Lutheran Church, 1173 Payne Ave., St. Paul, MN 55130.

Due to COVID-19, masks are required to be worn at the celebration.