



Claralouise Wheeler

October 5, 1920 - January 18, 2020

Claralouise M. Wheeler, age 99, passed away January 18, 2020. She was preceded in death by her beloved parent's Earl and Josephine Mackenstadt, her only son Steven, her only granddaughter, Heidi Louise Weld and her forever pals, Stitchie and Ghillie who always kept her company above under the covers. She is survived by daughters, Sarah Wheeler Weld and Mary Jo Wheeler. Claralouise graduated from West High School and the Pepins School of Design. She was a founding member of the Minnesota Weavers Guild and a founding instructor of the Pillsbury Learning Center, teaching needlepoint and embroidery, continuing to teach in various community education programs. She grew up a Girl Scout and was a troupe leader for over 15 years. She was a lifelong member of P.E.O. Chapter AF, alongside her grandmother and mother. Learning gardening and plant identification from her father, a pharmacist and botanist, she designed gardens and grew award-winning flowers her entire life. She was an active member of the Minnesota Landscape Arboretum, in charge of the Herb Tent at the Annual Plant Sale for 15 years. She belonged to embroidery and needlepoint guilds and eventually studied botanical art, furthering a lifelong, gifted talent as an artist, painter and drawer. An ardent lover of the natural animal world, she planted thousands of trees, and actively supported projects to protect plants, bees, birds, and dogs. Claralouise was creative, curious, funny, benevolent, willing and ready to travel anywhere, fearless to try new things, generous and problem-solver extraordinaire. She loved reading and played the piano. She loved writing

letters and cards, always including small drawings depicting what she was up to. She was optimistic and hopeful, grateful despite many losses in her passing, the Evening Star rose and set in her Window. Then she was renewed and reunited with those she loved most. Notre Pere, benis-la et garde-la maintenant et pour toujours.

Interment Lakewood Cemetery.

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