



Dorothy "Dottie" Haugen

October 3, 1937 - May 19, 2025

In the company of her family, she went home to be with Jesus, whom she faithfully served for a lifetime on Monday, May 19, 2025, at the age of 87. She lived with boundless enthusiasm and a passion for people wherever she was.

She raised a family with her husband, James "Huck" Haugen, who was her strong and steady teammate for life. They lived in their beloved home in South Minneapolis, where she was blessed to be surrounded by extraordinary neighbors.

She graduated from Buffalo High School in 1955, Wheaton College in 1959, and received a Master of Education from Bethel University in 1993. From these experiences, she maintained many wonderful lifelong friendships.

Dottie's physical education career included teaching at South High School, Richfield High School, Golden Valley Lutheran College, and Bethel University. She retired from Bethel University at the age of 72, saying as only she could, "How long can an old bag like me keep teaching aerobics to 18-year-olds?".

Her unwavering commitment to lifelong spiritual growth led her to opportunities to minister in Young Life, Bible Study Fellowship, Community Bible Study, and neighborhood prayer groups. She "pounded the piano" for Sunday School at Hope Church, where she was a member for decades. She

had a way of bringing life and light to every occasion, and she loved every minute of it.

Her greatest legacy is what most didn't see - a life of unceasing prayer. Every day started in His Word and on her knees before her Savior. If she knew you, she very likely prayed for you and your families. We are eternally grateful for this. Thanks, Mom, for your example, "We are blessed beyond all measure."

Survived by the joys of her life - her boys, Tom (Wendy) and Peter (Brenda); individually and uniquely loved grandchildren; Charlie and Holly Haugen, Ezekiel (Morgan), Zoë (Ethan), and Zetta Haugen; her nieces and nephew; Karla (Joe) Mavencamp, Paula (Kelly) Brecht, and David (Chris) Peterson; other relatives; and as she often said, "an army of friends."

Preceded in death by her husband, whom she forever loved and missed for the past 20 years, James "Huck" Haugen; Parents Walter and Doris Peterson; and brother Donald (Joan) Peterson.

1 Timothy 1:14, "The grace of our Lord was poured out on me abundantly."

A celebration of life for Dottie will be held on Friday, May 30, 2025, at 11:00 a.m. with a visitation one hour prior to the service at Hope Church, 7132 Portland Ave S in Richfield, MN. A private burial will be held at Lakeview Cemetery in Buffalo, MN.

Live stream link:<http://www.hope-pc.org/live>

In lieu of flowers, memorials are preferred and will be directed to Dottie's favorite charities.

Previous Events

Visitation

MAY 30. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

Hope Church
7132 Portland Avenue South
Richfield, MN 55423

Celebration of Life

MAY 30. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (CT)

Hope Church
7132 Portland Avenue South
Richfield, MN 55423

Tribute Wall

PL

“ Dottie with her family have been a spark in the East Minnehaha Parkway neighborhood. We moved in 1968 at the birth of our children and Dottie and Huck preceded us. With the birth of Tom and Peter, The Haugen family have always been a strong thread in this thriving community. Our memories will bring laughter and smiles forever; Patsy Lillehei

Patsy Lillehei - June 04, 2025 at 07:13 PM

NW

“ Tom, Peter and family, I am so appreciative to have been given the opportunity to attend remotely today to celebrate a life so well lived. My late husband Maury and I were new to Minneapolis and South High School in 1961 when your parents welcomed us with open arms. We attended their wedding one cold winter night and even bought our beef from her brother Donny. Our lives often went in different directions, as they do when children, moves, and careers change. Then suddenly we'd reconnect at the most surprising times. The most unusual was Maury calling Dottie from China, where we were teaching English post retirement, to get Tom's phone number. He felt congratulations on his new football job was an opportunity he couldn't miss. Several years ago I last saw Dottie at a fundraiser for disadvantaged youth and she still had that huge smile, energetic laugh, and wore a simple cashmere sweater so typical of her attire. Both your parents were such a blessing to us and will never be forgotten. R.I.P. dear friend. Nancy Webert

Nancy Webert - May 30, 2025 at 02:01 PM

JD

“ T and P.

I am sorry for your loss. Both your parents were instrumental in man I am today. This applies to the neighborhood growing up. I learned so many things about life from them.

In my college career I would not made it through had it not been for hours talking to your mother and father, in their offices.

God got a real one today!!! The life's she touched will continue touch's others. Facts on facts

Your family is in my prayers.



JD - May 30, 2025 at 12:32 PM

AH

“ *I am so sorry for your loss! I went to Bethel and had your mom as a professor. She was so fun, had the brightest light, and ALL the students adored her! The world lost a fabulous lady, but Heaven just got a little more fun! -Alicia Holmstrom (Anderson)*

Alicia Holmstrom - May 30, 2025 at 12:03 PM

KN

“ *Dottie was such an anchor of enthusiasm. positivity and Christian hospitality, welcoming all who happened to wander into her "space" for however brief of long. From first thing in the morning, she was greeting students and others with her big smile, brassy voice, and praise for the day God had given us all. Even in the midst of frustrating administrative problems, Dottie was always searching for the "right" solution, which meant doing good, seeking justice, loving mercy and walking humbly with her God. She was a bright star among many stars... Grace and Peace to you, Dottie. And to all whose lives you touched and will miss you here. See you on the other side.*

Kathy Nevins - May 30, 2025 at 11:11 AM

LS

“ I worked with Dottie on and off for 18 years. She was my mentor, prayer-partner, colleague and friend. Her motto placed above her desk was “Feed My Sheep”. She was a role model of genuine godliness and faith. Can’t wait to be reunited in Heaven some day. She is face to face with her beloved Lord! So long for now dear friend...❤️✝️

Laurel Sulack - May 24, 2025 at 10:22 AM

ND

“ Dottie was one of my all-time favorite people. She was my boss, my colleague, and my friend. She had a way of making everyone feel like they were her best friend, and it was genuine. She loved God and loved others, especially her family and lived life to the fullest. Dottie was one in a gazillion. Love you Dot! See you on the other side. Love and blessings for the Haugen family. Neal and Beth Dutton.

Neal Dutton - May 23, 2025 at 02:06 PM

SC

“ I married Trent Carlson, son of May (Peterson) and Vern Carlson. Dot was always a delight at all of our family gatherings. One special memory I have is, I believe, a true God-sighting. She was the featured speaker for my son Josh's graduation from Bethel in 2010. This was such a fun surprise for our family, because Josh's major was Business/Political Science, and he never crossed paths with Dot. Our prayers are with you for the days ahead.
-Sue Carlson

Sue Carlson - May 23, 2025 at 11:41 AM

ZV

“ My family and I were blessed to know Dottie through Gustavus Football. We speak of her and her youthful enthusiasm often! Talking with Dottie before football games gave you an instant boost of energy. She exuded warmth, wisdom, positivity, faith, and love. We are so thankful to have had the chance to know Dottie. She truly left an amazing legacy.

Zach Vine - May 22, 2025 at 01:01 PM

WM

“ 4th of July will never be the same. A lady full of life, Faith& Love. You will forever leave your light in my heart! Go and be with Huck now...I will remember our laughs Dot!
Wendy McGraw Nasby

Wendy McGraw - May 21, 2025 at 03:01 PM

JM

“ Dottie was an absolute lifter of spirits and a relentless encourager! I loved taking aerobics with her! Crocodile Rock will forever remind of her! She shared her spirit, spunk, and smile with everyone! A life well lived and shared with countless Bethel students! My life is better because of her commitment to faith and service to others!
Thank you Dottie!

Jen Moberg - May 20, 2025 at 11:28 PM

KH

“ Tommy & Peter, my heart goes out to both of you and your beautiful families!! She was one of kind and simply the Best of the Best!!! I need to tell you both something, back in the late 80's I cleaned house for your mom. She made me promise that at her funeral there is to be NO Styrofoam Cups!!!! So that being said, I will be there Friday in my Finest Ralph Lauren attire to Celebrate your Beautiful Mother!
I will volunteer to wash the cups too!!

Karen Hegna - May 20, 2025 at 11:24 PM

RK

“ Dottie was so great!!! - friendly, supportive, invested in her students and concerned about the students overall wellbeing. It was a privilege to have her as a professor and mentor.
Rocky Koehn 86 - 90.

Rocky Koehn - May 20, 2025 at 08:18 PM

RS

“ I was privileged to know Dottie beginning when I came to Bethel in 1994. She and her husband were some of the finest people I've ever met. When I attended Huck's funeral, I was astonished at the size of the crowd that turned out for this quiet guy, and amazed at how people loved the two of them. If you could ever find someone who poured out energy, love for Jesus, and care for others, it would be Dottie. Heaven is indeed richer today.

Richard J Sherry - May 20, 2025 at 07:07 PM



“ *Dottie was one of a kind! She added joy to any situation and picked you up (sometimes literally) if you were ever down. Dottie helped students believe in themselves - and believe in Jesus. She was more energetic than people a quarter of her age. She was an amazing prayer warrior - and we were blessed to pray together many times. She never seemed to give up hope for lost sheep. In addition to being a mood elevator, she cared about basic physical needs. One of her gifts was a water fountain serving the tennis, softball, and soccer fields. She brought both a tangible and a spiritual cup of cold water in Jesus' name. I will miss her greeting - audible from a mile away - and her tap on the shoulder which was strong enough to knock someone to the pavement! She was never half way - always "all in" for others. She was an amazing gift to Bethel and to many of us personally.*

Jay & Barb Barnes

Jay Barnes - May 20, 2025 at 04:37 PM

TB

“ Dear Haugen Family:

I have had the pleasure of working with your mom/grandma for the past 18 years as her financial advisor. I considered her a wonderful friend and the best client I could ever work with and for. I so looked forward to the days she would come into the office for her meetings. She had a light that would shine every time she was here. We would talk about our families and she would always ask about my daughters and how they are doing in their sports. She prayed for me and my daughters when my husband passed away and would call just to check up on me. She had the biggest heart and I will truly miss her. I know when God called her home Monday that Huck was waiting for her with open arms telling her how much he missed her.

To Tom and Peter, you were very lucky to have such an amazing mother. She was and still is so very proud of each of you and your families. Her sons, daughter-in-laws, and grandchildren were the light of her life and she bragged about all of you. She was a very proud Mom and Grandma.

She will remain in your hearts forever.

God Bless,

Tiffany Brynteson-Johnson

Tiffany Brynteson-Johnson - May 20, 2025 at 02:46 PM