



## Edna Thompson

February 26, 2004

Thompson Edna Johnsgaard Thompson, 98, died peacefully February 21, 2004 at North Ridge Care Center. Formerly of Minnetonka, Fridley, and many years in the Chicago area. She was born January 21, 1906 in Bottineau, ND. She received her music education at St. Olaf College where she sang in the choir under F. Melius Christiansen. From there she taught music at Canton Lutheran Normal Academy, South Dakota. She was a noted professional soprano soloist for over 20 years in the 30's and 40's and on daily live national radio broadcasts from Chicago's WGN studios performing classical, religious, and opera music. Additionally, she regularly sang for church and synagogue services in both Chicago and St. Louis, and was a featured performer at many concerts with Chicago orchestras. She was proud of her Norwegian heritage, and often performed Scandinavian classical music in her concerts, including one performance for Norwegian royalty. Retiring from singing, she had a second full career as a realtor in the Chicago area before again retiring and moving to Fridley. She had been very active at St. Philip's Lutheran in Fridley, Westwood and Oak Knoll in Minnetonka, and a current member of First Lutheran of Crystal, where the family belongs. She was noted for being an organizer of activities for charity and headed quilting groups at church and at RidgePointe Apartments, Minnetonka. She was a charter member of AFRA (radio artists union), and life member of both Sigma Alpha Iota Music Fraternity and Lutheran Social Service Auxiliary. Preceded in death by her husband of 53 years, Oscar Theol Thompson. She is survived by her

daughter, Sandra (Robert) Munson of Maple Grove; grandchildren, Chris (Melissa and great-grandchild Sophie) Munson of Minneapolis; Kari Beth Munson of Brooklyn Park; and a sister, Emeline Helten of Tucson. Visitation will be Thursday, 5-8 PM at Washburn-McReavy DuSchane Chapel, 4239 W. Broadway, Robbinsdale. Funeral will be Friday, 11 AM at First Lutheran Church of Crystal, 7708 - 62nd Ave N., Brooklyn Park, with visitation one hour prior to service. Memorials to St. Olaf College Music Department. Washburn-McReavy 763-537-2333