



Elaine Seal

May 5, 2008

Seal, Elaine "Lannie" passed away on May 2, 2008 after suffering a fall during an outing with friends. She died at 1:30 AM in the Intensive Care Unit of Abbott Northwestern Hospital surrounded by 3 sons, 3 daughters-in-law and 4 grandchildren. Lannie was an active personality at "The Kenwood" retirement community in Minneapolis and an enthusiastic participant in her church of 72 years, Bethlehem Lutheran of South Minneapolis. Born on May 12, 1920 in Big Stone County, she was the second child of Carl Olson and Pearl (Torgerson) Olson. Her older brother, Dr. C. Kent Olson was a decorated surgeon who fought with the Marines on Iwo Jima and later had a successful brain surgery practice in Minneapolis. The Olsons moved to Minneapolis in 1936 where Lannie attended Central High School and where she and her family began their long relationship with Bethlehem. Lannie sang with the church choir and often would solo or sing duets with her mother. She attended St. Olaf College and graduated in 1942 with a major in English and a minor in French. After World War II, she married her college sweetheart, Joseph Orval Seal of Sisseton, South Dakota and together they made a substantial contribution to the baby boom by producing 5 boys over the next 10 years. While her husband worked as an executive for the Dayton-Hudson Company, Lannie stayed home on a two- acre spread in Minnetonka where she smothered her boys in homemade sweaters and fresh baked goods from her kitchen. In 1964 and with all the offspring in school, Lannie renewed her teaching license and for the next 20 years, taught English and French in the

Hopkins School district. In 1984, Joe and Lannie began taking their winters in Tucson, Arizona where they purchased a second residence. They were also effusive travelers, taking trips to the Middle East, Mediterranean and some 20 trips to Europe. Lannie was a personality, making friends and being involved on an executive level in any organization that would interest her. Her appeal was not diluted by time, her intensity not diverted by severity. She was a constant and a force; she was a Pearl. She is survived by sons, David of Tacoma, Washington, Bruce (Renee) of Falcon Heights and Gary, Scott (Patti) and Dean (Kirsten) all of South Minneapolis; 5 grandchildren and one great-grandchild. A memorial service will be held Wednesday, May 7, at 11 AM at Bethlehem Lutheran Church, 4100 Lyndale Avenue South, Minneapolis. Memorials in her name may be directed to Interact Center of Minneapolis, 212 3rd Ave. N., Mpls, MN 55401 or Wingspan Life Resources, 4737 16th Ave. S., Mpls, MN 55409. Washburn-McReavy Davies Chapel 612-377-2203