



Elsie Martha Midtling

December 4, 2011

Midtling, Elsie Anna Martha passed away on November 15, 2011 in Minneapolis, Minnesota. She was 87 years old. She was born in Sauk Rapids, Minnesota on December 14, 1923 to Rev. Berthold Fredrich Hein and Anna Caroline Besler. She graduated from Sauk Rapids High School and attended St. Cloud Business School. She was an accomplished soprano vocalist and was recognized for her outstanding forensic debate skills. Following college she moved to Minneapolis to work for Squibb Pharmaceuticals. It was there that she met her future husband John through World War II correspondence. Following his discharge from the Army, she married Rev. John Edward Midtling on August 27, 1949. She shared in the Christian ministry with her husband in various churches throughout Wisconsin. In 1959 they founded Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Sun Prairie, Wisconsin which grew from a few families to more than 2000 members. Following retirement in 1985, they served in a visitation ministry at Zion Lutheran Church in Minneapolis and she was an active member of Mt. Olivet Lutheran Church, Minneapolis. She was faithful to the Word of God in leadership, teaching and through life example. She was a faithful and loving wife, mother, grandmother, and great grandmother. Her unconditional love for her husband John, her compassion for those less fortunate, and her commitment to excellence were an inspiration to many. She was preceded in death by her parents; her husband; her siblings, George, Theodore, Orville, and Adelaide; and her son, Stephen. She is survived by her siblings, Rev. Harold (June), Irma (Dr. Harold), and Arlene;

son, Dr. John (Linda); grandchildren, Dr. Anna (Nicholas), Emilie, Natasha, Colby; great-grandchild, Zander; and son, Dr. James; grandchildren, Matthew, Jennifer, Christopher, Stephanie, Micaela, and Olivia. She will be greatly missed. Memorials preferred to Mt. Olivet Lutheran Church in Elsie Midtling's name. Visitation will be held Tuesday, December 6, 2011 at 10 am with the Funeral Service at 11 am at Mt. Olivet Lutheran Church, 5025 Knox Avenue South, Minneapolis. Pastor Stephen Cornils officiating. The Committal Service will be held at Cokato Lutheran Cemetery, Cokato, Minnesota at 2 pm. Online condolences can be left at www.startribune.com/obituaries. Washburn-McReavy Swanson Chapel 612-529-9691