



## LaVerne Tollefson

May 27, 1947 - February 14, 2024

LaVerne (Anderson) Tollefson, 76

LaVerne was born on May 27th, 1947 to Ted and Harriet (Nygaard) Anderson in Alexandria, Minnesota. Her childhood was spent on the family farm in Farwell, Minnesota, where she enjoyed playing outside with her four siblings and many cousins. She attended church every Sunday and Luther League events at Norunga Lutheran Church in Lowry, Minnesota.

In 1964, at the age of 17, LaVerne met her future husband Duane Tollefson at the Pope County Fair while taking care of her sheep. Duane offered to help her and the rest was history. After graduating from Glenwood High School in 1965, LaVerne moved to Minneapolis where she worked at Marquette Bank and later the Campbell Mithun advertising agency. LaVerne and Duane were married on October 26th, 1967, and celebrated 55 years of marriage in 2023.

Duane's work for Sears, Roebuck and Co. took the family to Iowa, Montana, South Dakota, Wisconsin, and Minnesota. Throughout their lives, LaVerne was a loving mom to Sara and Erik, perfected the art of celebrating special occasions, upheld Scandinavian traditions, and created new family traditions along the way. In later years, LaVerne never missed an event where her grandchildren Annika and Tollef presented, played, acted, or sang; she was their most enthusiastic fan.

LaVerne made friends easily everywhere she went. She was quick to smile and loved to start up a conversation. After Sara and Erik went to college, she found that working at clothing stores was a perfect way to combine her talent for connecting with people with her love for fashion.

LaVerne was called home on February 14th, 2024. She is preceded in death by her parents Ted and Harriet Anderson and her sister Jerdis Thornton. She is survived by her husband, Duane Tollefson; children Sara (Dan) Currell and Erik Tollefson (Tungyi Chang); grandchildren Annika and Tollef Currell; siblings Annie (Donald) Hurley, Myron Anderson (Dianne DePree), and Leon (Lisa) Anderson; and Jerdis's husband Lonnie Thornton, along with many beloved nieces and nephews.

LaVerne's memorial service will be held on Monday, February 26th at 11:00 a.m. at Mount Olivet Lutheran Church in Minneapolis, with visitation beginning at 10:00 a.m. There will be a reception lunch after the service. In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations be made to Mount Olivet Careview Home, where LaVerne was well cared for in the final months of her life.

# Cemetery Details

**Norunga Lutheran Church Cemetery**

## Previous Events

### Visitation

FEB 26. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

Mount Olivet Lutheran Church (So. Mpls)  
5025 Knox Avenue South  
Minneapolis, MN 55419

### Memorial Service

FEB 26. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (CT)

Mount Olivet Lutheran Church (So. Mpls)  
5025 Knox Avenue South  
Minneapolis, MN 55419

### Reception

FEB 26. 11:45 AM - 12:45 PM (CT)

Mount Olivet Lutheran Church (So. Mpls)  
5025 Knox Avenue South  
Minneapolis, MN 55419

# Tribute Wall

SD

“ Steve & Hallie DeVries purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of LaVerne Tollefson.



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**Steve & Hallie DeVries** - February 23, 2024 at 11:02 AM

SD

“ Steve & Hallie DeVries planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of LaVerne Tollefson.

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**Steve & Hallie DeVries** - February 23, 2024 at 11:02 AM

LF

“ I will always consider LaVerne as my best friend. We met as working girls in Minneapolis when we were 18 years old and became roommates and lifelong friends. We were somewhat naive farm girls back then but we always had each other's back. My life was enhanced by her friendship and love. My heart goes out to all who loved her. She is with our Lord. Lucy Flessner

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**Lucy Flessner** - February 19, 2024 at 05:18 PM