



Lavon Ann Engen

November 5, 1931 - August 3, 2020

Lavon Engen passed peacefully into eternal life on August 3, 2020 at age 88. Lavon was unfailingly kind and caring. To the end she made every effort to add cheer into the day of anyone she encountered.

Lavon was born on November 5, 1931 to Lars and Lillie Grasdalen. Lavon grew up on her family's farm in Freeborn, Co. MN, an experience she treasured. She attended Albert Lea High School, where she met her future husband Jim, graduating in 1949. After receiving a two-year education degree from Winona State, Lavon taught in a one-room schoolhouse in District 58 before attending the University of Minnesota, Twin Cities, where she earned an Education degree in 1954. Lavon married James Madson Engen on August 22, 1954. She taught 4th grade while Jim finished his degree at the "U."

Lavon and Jim were an active, social couple with a large circle of friends wherever they went, be it their home in Minneapolis, the cabin at St. Olaf Lake or their winter home in Naples, FL. Lavon had a strong Christian faith, was active in her three churches and served as a Stephen minister. Lavon's interests were traveling, reading, birds, music, being on the water, church, and family – especially her grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Lavon is preceded in death by her parents, brother Gary Grasdalen, husband

of 50 years Jim Engen, daughter Julie Hedstrom and great-grandson Zaiden David Engen Ness. She is survived by sister Janet Stadheim, sons Scott (Denise) Engen and Stuart (Mary) Engen; grandchildren Natasha Hedstrom (Jeremy Hemmelgarn), Alicia (Jessie) Treseler and Kassie (Zach) Nelson; Clara and Carl-Lars Engen; Mikkel Buckmier (Mikel), and Alyse, Tierza and E.J. Engen; and great-grandchildren Addie, Lily, Elias and Eva.

A small family service is planned. Memorials to the Conservancy of Southwest Florida.

Tribute Wall



“ *Florist Choice Bouquet was purchased for the family of Lavon Ann Engen.*



August 18, 2020 at 03:09 PM



“ *Lavon Engen was a wonderful friend and neighbor at St. Olaf Lake. She would frequently come for coffee visits with my late wife, who was a first cousin of my mother-in-law and was Lavon and Jim's flower girl. We often discussed family history, genealogy or the topics of the day. She was loved by all the "lake people" who knew her and celebrated her 80th birthday. May she rest in peace and join her beloved Jim with all the angels.*

Dr. Dennis D Knutson - August 10, 2020 at 05:52 PM



Dennis, Thank you for your kind words. Lavon was a lovely lady. She treasured having you and Marianne as lake neighbors. You also just cleared up a mystery for me. I was looking at Jim and Lavon's wedding album last night and was wondering who the pretty little flower girl was! I hope that you are well.

Best, Denise Engen

Denise Engen - August 17, 2020 at 01:34 PM