



Lois Elaine Engstrom

July 21, 1938 - January 16, 2020

Engstrom (Ratz), Lois Elaine,

of Golden Valley, MN, was born July 21, 1938 in Detroit Lakes, MN and died peacefully on January 16, 2020.

She will be deeply missed by her children, Beth (Bruce) O'Brien, Kim (Andrew) Marceau, Michael Engstrom; grandchildren, Michaela, Tyler, Emma and William; siblings Jim (Becky), Eileen, David (Judy); dear friend, Mr. Gayle Anderson and many nieces, nephews and friends.

She was known for her passion for children and education and was instrumental in the development and statewide expansion of the Early Childhood Family Education (ECFE) programs along with other family and early learning initiatives during her 25 years with the Minnesota Department of Education. After retirement she was a founding member of Minnesota Association for Family and Early Education (MNAFEE) serving as Executive Director and helped build it into the organization it is today.

The family wishes to thank the staff of Sunrise Senior Living who have been amazing throughout her five years as a resident, as well as Brighton Hospice for their compassionate care.

Funeral service will take place Friday, January 24, 11 a.m. at Golden Valley Lutheran Church, 5501 Glenwood Avenue with visitation beginning at 10 a.m. Memorials preferred to the Alzheimer's Association.

www.Washburn-McReavy.com

Glen Haven Chapel 763-533-8643

Previous Events

Visitation

JAN 24. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

Golden Valley Lutheran Church (Golden Valley - Glenwood Ave.)
5501 Glenwood Avenue
Golden Valley, MN 55422

Memorial Service

JAN 24. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (CT)

Golden Valley Lutheran Church (Golden Valley - Glenwood Ave.)
5501 Glenwood Avenue
Golden Valley, MN 55422

Tribute Wall

RS

“ *Every memory I have of Lois makes me happy. She was a talented, caring person who made the world around her better by being in it. All my love and condolences to you!* ”

Renee Samuelson - January 23, 2020 at 08:17 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Lois Elaine Engstrom.* ”



January 22, 2020 at 06:22 PM



Kimberly
Marceau

“ *Kimberly Marceau purchased the Pink Potpourri Bouquet for the family of Lois Elaine Engstrom.* ”



Kimberly Marceau - January 22, 2020 at 10:52 AM



“ *Gary Bunker purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Lois Elaine Engstrom.* ”



Gary Bunker - January 20, 2020 at 09:03 PM



“ Aunt Lois was the most thoughtful and generous person I've ever known. The world is immeasurably diminished by the loss of her wisdom and intelligence.

Gary Bunker - January 20, 2020 at 09:00 PM



Thank you for your kind words Gary. She will be missed!
Kim

Kimberly Marceau - January 21, 2020 at 11:39 AM

KL

“ Kristin Ratz and Adam Li purchased the Country Basket Blooms for the family of Lois Elaine Engstrom.



Kristin Ratz and Adam Li - January 20, 2020 at 08:47 PM

JE

“ Jim & Becky, David & Judy and Eileen purchased the Sweet Tenderness for the family of Lois Elaine Engstrom.



Jim & Becky, David & Judy and Eileen - January 20, 2020 at 04:54 PM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Lois Elaine Engstrom.*



January 20, 2020 at 04:31 PM



“ *I was too young to remember much of Lois, but my fondest memories of my childhood is going next door to the Ratz's and playing dress up with the grown-up girls "can-cans"! I had to find similar slips when I had daughters and enjoyed sharing my the stories of seeing Lois and Eileen in their pretty dresses and petticoats with them. My father, Don Engberg, spoke of Lois' accomplishments often. Wonderful family, wonderful memories!*
Lauri (Engberg) Koole

Lauri Koole - January 17, 2020 at 10:46 PM



*Lauri,
Thank you for sharing that story, I can just picture it! I remember visiting my grandparents and visiting the treehouse in your backyard. As I recall they were neighbors for a long time! Thank you For sharing your memories!*
Kim (Lois's daughter)

Kimberly Marceau - January 18, 2020 at 09:15 AM



Beth and I had already been months long friends in college as dorm neighbors at the U of M when we discovered that your mom and my dad worked together on the same floor at the MN Dept of Education. To top it off, we discovered we had Detroit Lakes connections!! The similarities did not stop there & we've been friends for almost 40 years now. Your mom did a fantastic job raising my friend. I am very sad for your family's great loss. May she live on forever in your hearts. 💕

Mia Olson - January 18, 2020 at 07:38 PM

NS

Lois was a beautiful, accomplished woman, always positive and gracious. I remember Spencer saying that at church meetings when Lois spoke people listened because she had worthwhile things to say. Her contributions to the board of the Loving Shepherd Early Learning Center were invaluable. The Engstrom and Schuldt families had lots of good history at GVLC. Though we are saddened at the loss of Lois we know that she is with her Lord. Our heartfelt sympathy goes out to her family. N

Norma Schuldt - January 19, 2020 at 06:49 PM



“ *Enchanted Cottage was purchased for the family of Lois Elaine Engstrom.*



January 17, 2020 at 10:01 PM