



## Lynn Anne Zentner

February 15, 1947 - March 16, 2026

Lynn A. Zentner, 79, passed away peacefully in Minneapolis, Minnesota on March 16, 2026.

The youngest of four children, Lynn was born on February 15, 1947 in Rice Lake, Wisconsin.

Lynn grew up in a loving family, with a deep pride in her Swiss heritage. She lived in a variety of midwestern towns throughout her childhood as her family moved to follow her father's career. Graduating from Duluth East High School, Lynn went on to graduate with a bachelor's degree from the University of Minnesota, a master's degree from Temple University, and a Juris Doctor degree from William Mitchell College of Law.

Lynn's early career choice reflected her love of children, and she worked in Education for several years. Lynn then, with a deep sense of justice and purpose, went on to law school and spent her remaining professional years in a number of roles as an attorney, including roles in private practice, at the United States Attorneys Office in Minneapolis, at Medtronic, and finally as the Director of Institutional Compliance at the University of Minnesota, before taking her retirement.

Lynn was deeply committed to promoting justice and decency in the world. Her ethic of service, both in her professional life and in her involvement and support of numerous organizations and causes throughout her life, reflected these commitments.

Lynn's zest for life was reflected in her love of family, friends, gardening,

travel, classical music, antiques, ice cream, brie cheese, good wine and laughter, to name just a few.

Lynn was likely one of the most loving, generous, kind and gracious people that anyone that had the good fortune to know her had ever met. Even in the face of some difficult health challenges toward the latter part of her life, she met every challenge with grit and grace, met every person with love, and kept a twinkle in her eye and a smile for all that crossed her path, until the very end. Lynn's absence is deeply felt, and she is, and will forever be, dearly missed.

Lynn is survived by brother, David (Margo) Zentner; nieces and nephews, David (Cindy) Clegg, Julie Clegg, Laura Clegg, Tom (Carol) Clarke, Deborah Domalik, Eric Zentner, and Karen (Edward) Bacig; great nieces and nephews, Ellyse Bacig, Malia (Matthew) Lambrecht, Michelle McKinney, Stephanie (Mike) Servantez, Melissa McKinney, and Gregory Clarke; great great nieces and nephews, Mia Malget, Noah McKinney, Emma McKinney, Kian Reynolds, Jayden Servantez, Lillyanna Servantez, Briella Servantez, and Maya Lambrecht; and many special cousins.

Lynn was preceded in death by her parents Werner and Wilma Zentner; sisters, Gretchen (Leonard) Clegg and Barbara Clarke; two brothers that died in infancy; and niece, Vickie (Robert) McKinney.

CELEBRATION OF LIFE: A celebration of Lynn's life will be held on Friday, July 10 at 10 a.m. in the Sanctuary at Plymouth Congregational Church, 1919 LaSalle Avenue, Minneapolis, Minnesota, 55403. A reception at the church will follow. Location, directions and parking information can be found at: <http://www.plymouth.org/visit/location-directions/>

A private inurnment will take place at a later date at Forest Hill Cemetery, Duluth, Minnesota.

Memorials or donations in celebration and honor of Lynn's life may be made to an organization of your choice that supports the wellbeing of children, the pursuit of justice and civil liberties, or the shelter of the unhoused.



# Upcoming Events

## Church Service

JUL **10**. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

Plymouth Congregational Church  
1900 Nicollet Avenue  
Minneapolis, MN 55403

## Reception

JUL **10**. 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM (CT)

Plymouth Congregational Church  
1900 Nicollet Avenue  
Minneapolis, MN 55403

# Tribute Wall

SS

“Lynn was a sorority sister and my "Big Sister" at UMD. I was very nervous about leaving my small rural hometown in Minnesota to attend college, and wasn't sure if joining a sorority was the right thing for me. Lynn was so supportive and caring. She made my transition to higher education much easier and was a dear friend. I am not surprised to learn about her life of serving others through her professional and personal life. She made a difference in the lives of so many. My condolences to her family. Sue Sommer-Kresse, Charleston, SC

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**Sue Sommer-Kresse** - April 11 at 08:42 AM

AO

“ I knew Lynn at UMD, not just as a friend but as a Gamma Omicron Beta (GOB) sorority sister. Lynn was also elected the Secretary of our Sophomore class in 1966/67.

*Lynn was one of the sisters I made sure to contact when I moved back home to MN 13 years ago. I recall pretty clearly how we met at a Perkins near the Minneapolis U of M campus for lunch, and I had salmon. Why would I recall those details so long afterwards? Because this brave sister had a diagnosis we all would dread. She shared it with me that day to explain why we weren't going to be seeing each other regularly as I had envisioned on my way to meet her. Lynn knew she was going to lose her memories of the past and her ability to make more. So that first and last visit in some 50 years, we talked mostly about her garden and the remodeling she had done to her house—both of which she loved. I don't know if Lynn lived in that house enjoying her garden until her passing in March, but I hope she was able to enjoy it long after our lunch that day. I've kept her on my GOB Twin Cities group mailing list all this time, but eventually I knew to remove her before sending out the sorority news since she would reach some point when she wouldn't be reading emails.*

*My condolences to her family and other friends. I plan to be at the July 10th memorial to honor my sorority sister. I am contacting other GOBs encouraging them to join me. Some of us will be there wearing GOB red in Lynn's memory.*



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**Alta Oben** - April 09 at 10:25 PM

FB

“ *I'm so sorry that Lynne has passed away. She was a classmate at Duluth East High School. She was kind, she exuded high class and integrity, and, of course, she was just an excellent student. I wish I'd have known her better.*

*Frank Bolos, Duluth, Minnesota.*

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**Frank Bolos** - April 04 at 12:46 PM