



## Madeleine Marie Sorensen

August 2, 1926 - December 28, 2022

Madeleine Sorensen (nee Craighead) passed away peacefully on December 28 at Waverly Gardens in North Oaks, MN. She was 96. Preceded in death by her parents (Madeleine Rose and Samuel Judson Craighead) and brothers, Robert and Jack, Madeleine is survived by her husband, Eric; sons, Peter (Gail) and Robert (Agata); daughter, Anne; grandchildren, Lydia, Ted (Estela), Madeleine, and Nick; and great-grandson, Eric.

Madeleine was born August 2, 1924 in Pennsylvania. Her father was a coal mining engineer whose work took the family to mining towns throughout the United States. Her paternal ancestors emigrated from Scotland in the early 1700s, fought in the Revolutionary War, and included a long line of Presbyterian ministers. Her maternal ancestors emigrated from Germany to New Jersey in the early 1900s and founded a successful bakery that later became the Continental Baking Company. One of Madeleine's childhood playmates was Fred Rogers, who went on to become the well-known host of public television's "Mr. Rogers' Neighborhood."

Madeleine graduated from Vassar College in 1947 and was working as a reporter in Salt Lake City, Utah, when she met Eric Sorensen. They married in 1953. Eric's work took them and their children across the country as well across the Atlantic to France, where they lived for four years before re-settling in New Jersey. Later in life, Madeleine and Eric moved to Minneapolis to be

closer to family and then to North Oaks in 2016.

Madeleine was thoughtful, kind, and always a good listener. She liked spending time with her family and family pets, reading, gardening, traveling, and helping people. During her years in Minnesota, she enjoyed attending performances at the Guthrie Theatre and concerts at Orchestra Hall with family and friends-and even developed a fondness for the Minnesota State Fair.

Special thanks to the caring staff of Waverly Gardens, whose kindness to Madeleine was much appreciated, especially in her final days. A family memorial service is presently planned for May 6, with interment at Lakewood Cemetery in Minneapolis. Memorials in lieu of flowers may be made to the Cure Alzheimer's Fund.

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