



Mrs. Margaret Alice Ruckdaschel

January 21, 1934 - February 13, 2019

Margaret Alice Ruckdaschel, better known as “Tootie”, age 85, passed away peacefully Wednesday, February 13, 2019, at home in Hopkins, MN surrounded by family.

Tootie, the oldest of three daughters of Edward and Hedwig (“Hattie”) Klicker, was born and raised on a farm near Wolsey, SD. After graduating valedictorian from Wolsey High School in 1952, she earned a teaching certificate from Huron College. In 1972 she earned her BA degree in elementary education and English from Dakota State University, and later earned special education credits from St. John’s University.

While at Huron College Tootie met the love of her life, Jay Ruckdaschel. They married June 5, 1955, after Jay returned from the Korean War. Together they had three children: Karla, Kaye and Kim. Through the years Tootie and Jay, both educators, lived in several towns in South Dakota and Minnesota, before moving to Hopkins. Tootie was always an advocate for the most vulnerable and spent the majority of her 26 years as a teacher helping special education students. A dedicated teacher, Tootie missed only one day of work in these years to attend her father’s funeral. After retirement, Tootie continued to be an active volunteer for many heartfelt causes.

Tootie truly lived life to the fullest through simple pleasures: coffee with family

and friends; crafting; cooking; baking; canning; gardening; attending her grandchildren's sports, band and other activities; and nightly phone calls with her sister, Molly. Tootie was a great host and is known for her large family Christmas parties. She had a gift for making everyone she met feel loved and special.

Tootie also loved adventures with Jay, and they spent much of their retirement years traveling to new places and visiting family. Just four months before her death Tootie traveled to watch her granddaughter, Sophia, play rugby at Dartmouth College against Harvard — a “bucket list” item.

Grateful to have shared her life is her husband of 63 years, Jay, and daughters Karla Hauk; Kaye (Todd) Eckstaine; and Kim (Kevin Haley) Ruckdaschel-Haley; sister Marlys “Molly” (Robert) Barker; seven grandchildren; and six great grandchildren. Preceding her in death are her parents, Edward & Hattie (Sibbers) Klicker, infant daughter, Lonna, and beloved sister, Elaine Loesch.

Tootie taught us all how to live each day, love, laugh, be strong, stay humble, be positive, and forgive. Until we meet again, Tootie, we love you and know you live in our hearts.

A funeral service will be held on Saturday, March 2, at 11:00 at the Gethsemane Lutheran Church in Hopkins, MN (715 Minnetonka Mills Road, Hopkins, MN) with pastor Sarah Moat officiating. The family welcomes family and friends to an informal open house on Friday, March 1, from 5 to 9 p.m. at Sheraton Minneapolis West Hotel (12201 Ridgedale Drive, Minnetonka, MN 55305) to celebrate Tootie's life. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to Gethsemane Lutheran Church or the Minnesota Ovarian Cancer Alliance.

www.Washburn-McReavy.com
Strobeck Johnson 952-938-9020
1400 Mainstreet, Hopkins

Previous Events

Reception

MAR 1. 5:00 PM - 9:00 PM (CT)

Sheraton Minneapolis West Hotel
12201 Ridgedale Drive
Minnetonka, MN 55305

Visitation

MAR 2. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

Gethsemane Lutheran Church (Hopkins)
715 Minnetonka Mills Road
Hopkins, MN 55343

Memorial Service

MAR 2. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (CT)

Gethsemane Lutheran Church (Hopkins)
715 Minnetonka Mills Road
Hopkins, MN 55343

Graveside Service

MAR 2. 12:15 PM - 12:45 PM (CT)

Gethsemane Lutheran Church Columbarium
715 Minnetonka Mills Road
Hopkins, MN 55343

Tribute Wall



“ You have done a wonderful job of describing her life in the obituary and I agree with all you have said. It breaks my heart not to be able to attend and show my support but I know you understand. While she will be missed by many she deserves the pain free time now. Take comfort that you did everything you could but now she is resting peacefully until we all meet in heaven. Lovingly, Joy Johnson

Joy Johnson - February 28, 2019 at 07:32 PM



“ New Hope staff and church family purchased the Emerald Garden Basket for the family of Mrs. Margaret Alice Ruckdaschel.



New Hope staff and church family - February 27, 2019 at 04:14 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Mrs. Margaret Alice Ruckdaschel.



February 25, 2019 at 07:50 PM



“ *Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Mrs. Margaret Alice Ruckdaschel.*



February 23, 2019 at 07:31 PM



“ *She was such a special woman. I will miss her so much. she was truly a sister of my heart.*

Lyla Harris - February 21, 2019 at 06:51 PM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Mrs. Margaret Alice Ruckdaschel.*



February 21, 2019 at 12:06 PM



“ *Karla and family,
There are no words to express our sincere sympathy in the passing of your dear mom. I have many good memories of our high school days stopping at your parents home and your mom always welcoming us as another daughter. May the Lord fill the empty place in your hearts and homes as only He can.*

*Take care,
Norm (Vander Wal) Van Den Berg*

Norma Van Den Berg - February 21, 2019 at 09:42 AM

MB

Dear Uncle Jay, cousins Karla, Kaye, and Kim and families, I send you my love and deep sympathy for the passing of Aunt Tootie, who will always hold a very special place in my heart. You all remain in my prayers. In His peace, cousin Mark.

Mark Bettermann - February 28, 2019 at 10:59 AM

KR

“ 7 files added to the album Memories Album



Kim Ruckdaschel-Haley - February 20, 2019 at 05:35 PM

MB

Thank you for sharing such wonderful pictures! Cousin Mark Bettermann

Mark Bettermann - February 28, 2019 at 11:06 AM

KR

“ 13 files added to the album Mom



Kim Ruckdaschel-Haley - February 20, 2019 at 05:12 PM