



Mrs. Phyllis Norma Cleys

February 23, 1927 - May 20, 2018

Phyllis Norma (Rood) Cleys died peacefully at her residence of Sunrise of Minnetonka on Sunday, May 20th at the age of 92. Phyllis was born to Alice (Asleson) and Paul Rood in Waterville Township, Iowa, on February 23, 1927. She attended Waterville School and Luther College in Decorah, Iowa. As a college student she taught undergrad math classes and met Ted Cleys. They were married after graduation. Phyllis taught math and music in Middle River, Minnesota. She and Ted moved to the Chicago area where she taught at St. John's Lutheran School. In 1968 the family moved to Ely, Minnesota and owned a resort. Phyllis began a second career in life insurance at North American Life and Casualty in Minneapolis and later Great West Insurance Company in Winnipeg, Canada and Denver, Colorado. She retired in 1995 and lived in Denver until 2006 when she moved to Minnesota to be closer to family.

Music and her church were very important to Phyllis where she played the organ, directed and played in instrumental groups and choirs. She loved to travel and take pictures of her beloved flowers and Colorado mountains. Phyllis was known as a consummate optimist with a cheery smile and eagerness to chat.

Phyllis is survived by her daughter Cathy and son-in-law Curt Tryggestad of Eden Prairie, granddaughters Jamie Rank of Farmington and Nikolene

Tryggestad (Sam Benson) of Eden Prairie, grandsons Tony (Heather) Rank of Pine City, and Nels Tryggestad of Apple Valley, great-grandson TJ of Pine City, brother and sister-in-law Klete and Lois Rood of Albuquerque, New Mexico, niece Laura Hoberg and nephew Andy Rood of Albuquerque and great-nephews, Erik, Jerry, Christopher, and Steven.

She is preceded in death by her parents, Paul and Alice Rood, and husband, Ted Cleys.

Visitation 10 to 11 AM Friday, May 25th with Funeral Service at 11 AM at St. Andrew Lutheran Church, 13600 Technology Drive, Eden Prairie, MN. Private interment West Paint Creek Lutheran Cemetery, Waukon, IA. Washburn-McReavy Eden Prairie Chapel, 952-975-0400

Previous Events

Visitation

MAY **25**. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

St. Andrew Lutheran Church (Eden Prairie)
13600 Technology Drive
Eden Prairie, MN

church service

MAY **25**. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (CT)

St. Andrew Lutheran Church (Eden Prairie)
13600 Technology Drive
Eden Prairie, MN

Tribute Wall

RS

“ I did not know Phyllis, but my Aunt Corky Shiffer was a good friend of hers at Luther. Corky died in September, and I have found many pictures of her with Phyllis at Luther, as well as this wedding photo with Corky next to Phyllis.
Both of them were wonderful ladies, I am sure.

Ray Shiffer - November 21, 2022 at 05:50 PM

RS

“ 1 file added to the album Wedding album



Ray Shiffer - November 21, 2022 at 05:49 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum* was purchased for the family of Mrs. Phyllis Norma Cleys.



May 24, 2018 at 03:09 PM



“ *Fairest of All* was purchased for the family of Mrs. Phyllis Norma Cleys.



May 23, 2018 at 09:35 PM



“ *Eagle Ridge Academy Gryphons purchased the Heartwarming Thoughts Boston Fern for the family of Mrs. Phyllis Norma Cleys.*



Eagle Ridge Academy Gryphons - May 23, 2018 at 11:36 AM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Mrs. Phyllis Norma Cleys.*



May 22, 2018 at 09:17 PM