



Tekla J. Knutson

December 14, 1938 - March 24, 2025

Tekla Jacqueline (Moilien) Knutson, age 86, of Edina, Minnesota, passed away peacefully, surrounded by family, on Monday, March 24, 2025. Tekla graduated from Westby (WI) high school. She earned her nursing degree from the Swedish Hospital School of Nursing in Minneapolis, MN, 1960. There she created special lifelong friendships. Her generous spirit, strong work ethic and dedication to service were demonstrated in her many years as a registered nurse serving in hospitals, clinics and the MN Department of Health.

She married Paul Knutson in 1961, and they spent the next 56 years together raising a family, traveling, and serving their communities. Tekla was a loving mother to Linda and Brenda and a caring and devoted grandmother to Matt, Molly and Peter. Her family meant everything to her, and she found great joy in spending time with them. She also enjoyed the arts, the MN Arboretum, her church and volunteer groups, winters in Arizona, time with friends, and the North Shore.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Paul. Also preceded in death by parents, Jens and Theresa (Melby) Moilien, brother Wallace Moilien, sister Barbara (Gruendemann) Rutherford, and brothers-in-law Warren Rutherford, and Howard Knutson. Survived by daughters, Linda Knutson and Brenda (Tom) Dolan, and grandchildren, Matthew, Molly, and Peter Dolan. Also survived by brother-in-law Roald (Carole) Knutson, sisters-in-law Jerry

Knutson, Marilyn (Moilien) Engel, and many special nieces and nephews.

A memorial service to celebrate Tekla's life will be held at Mount Olivet Lutheran Church, 5025 Knox Avenue South, Minneapolis, on Friday, April 11, 2025, at 1:00pm. Visitation one hour prior to the service. In lieu of flowers, memorials are preferred to Mount Olivet Lutheran church, Cathedral of the Pines camp, or a charity of your choice.

Previous Events

Visitation

APR 11. 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM (CT)

Mount Olivet Lutheran Church (So. Mpls)
5025 Knox Avenue South
Minneapolis, MN 55419

Memorial Service

APR 11. 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM (CT)

Mount Olivet Lutheran Church (So. Mpls)
5025 Knox Avenue South
Minneapolis, MN 55419

Tribute Wall

MI

“ Tekla and Paul made a difference in my family’s life with their regular visits to my mother (another Swedish Hospital nursing graduate) who was isolated in her final years due to a disability. I was fortunate to meet up with Tekla years later helping with a move. Tekla was as kind as ever comforting me by sharing fond memories of my mother. Keeping the family in my thoughts - CELEBRATE Tekla during these next few weeks! Regards, Michelle Ingersoll

Michelle Ingersoll - March 30, 2025 at 11:28 AM

JK

“ Joel K. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Tekla J. Knutson.

Joel K. - March 27, 2025 at 03:27 PM