Life Story

Gudrun "Sissa" Watt, born on January 29, 1926, in Bolungarvik, Iceland, peacefully departed this world on December 19, 2023, in Tulsa, Oklahoma. Sissa's journey through life took her from a remote fishing village near the Arctic Circle to the big cities and warm beaches of America.

Raised in Bolungarvik, Sissa was the daughter of the town's baker, Jon Karl Eyolfsson, and her mother Gunjonna Jonsdottir. Growing up with two brothers and three sisters in this isolated village created tight family and community bonds, but after her Father's death, when she was 18, her Mother had to relocate the family to the country's capital city Reykjavik.

Sissa met Dick Watt after WWII...a serviceman stationed at the American military base in Keflavik....romance led to marriage in Iceland. They welcomed their first child Katrin while still in Iceland, but then headed to her very new life in America.

The family first lived in Dick's home state of New Jersey, before heading to Miami, Florida, where their second child Margo was born. After three years in Florida, they moved to Tulsa and five years later welcomed their third daughter Nancy.

Sissa embraced her new American life. Dick introduced her to tennis, a sport she enjoyed well into her 70's. Card games like bridge and canasta and the game of mahjong became cherished pastimes, and she reveled in solving daily word puzzles in the newspaper. She also enjoyed working as an election poll worker remarkably until the age of 90. She had a long, full life here in America, and the family was able to make many trips to see all her relatives back in her beloved Iceland over the years.

She is preceded in death by her husband Richard "Dick" Watt, her daughter Katrin Watt Sumpter; her parents and two brothers and one sister. She is survived by her daughters Margo Slyter and Nancy Brown, sisters Katrin Karlsdottir and Halldora Karlsdottir, as well as numerous beloved nieces, nephews, 4 grandchildren, and 7 great-grandchildren. Sissa's strong spirit, love and laughter, and a life well-lived will be missed and cherished by all who knew her.

## A CELEBRATION



Gudrun "Sissa" Watt January 29, 1926 - December 19, 2023

Heyr, Himna Smiour is a haunting 3-minute choral hymn by 20th-century Icelandic composer, Borkell Sigurbjornsson. It is one of the best-known works in the Icelandic repertoire and is sung at weddings and funerals, as well as choral concerts. Setting a text written upon his deathbed by 12th-century Icelandic chieftain Kolbeinn Tumason, it is the oldest surviving Scandinavian religious poem in existence.

Translation: Hear, heaven's maker what the poet bids, bring soft to me your mercy, I beg of you; for you created me. I am your servant; You are my Lord.

God, I beg of you, heal me; remember how great our need of thee. Almighty God, Heaven's king, clear away human sorrow, take it from our hearts. Let your grace protect me in my sore need every moment on this earth. Sweet Jesus, Mary's son, put in my heart beautiful thoughts, for all help comes from thee.



# Celebrating The Life of

### Gudrun K Watt

January 19, 2024 1:00 P.M.

Pastor Brandon McCombs Officiating

### Order of Service Opening / Prayer

#### **Obituary**

**Poem -** "Amma in the Afterlife"

David Huemer

Special - Francesca Kelly "Heyr Himna Smidur"

Speakers - Adam Slyter & Anna Helgadottir

Message

**Video Presentation** 

Song - "What a Wonderful World"

**Dismissal**