



Gladys Blanchard age 88 of Detroit Lakes, MN passed away on October 12, 2021.

Gladys Rosetta Blanchard was born January 10, 1933, in Sioux Falls, SD to Tom and Bertha (Osse) Opsal. As a young girl the family moved to Kabekona Corners, MN, where she grew up and attended school, graduating as Valedictorian from LaPorte High School in 1951. On August 16, 1952, she was united in marriage to Kenneth Blanchard in LaPorte, MN. They made their home in

Minneapolis, MN for several years where she worked for the Eberhart company.

In 1967 they moved to Detroit Lakes, MN where she worked at Detroit Lakes Savings and Loan. From there, she worked for American Family Insurance Agency for 39 years until her retirement.

Gladys was very active at Community Alliance Church, participating in various women's activities, bible studies, and Awana. She enjoyed working in the kitchen and greeting visitors to ensure all felt welcome.

Gladys is survived by her daughter Sonja (Stephen) Grunlan, of Chanhassen, MN; her sisters Rosemary Dent and Twila Rudd and brother, Tillman (Dana) Opsal, sister-in-law Linda, Blanchard along with several nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her husband Ken Blanchard, several in-laws and both her parents.

We miss you deeply.

You are and will be forever be in our hearts.



Celebrating the Life of

Gladys Rosetta Blanchard

January 10, 1933-October 12, 2021

Mother's Hands

Hands that rocked the cradle
From the moment of my birth,
Their tender touch remembered
By those still here on Earth.
Soft as silk those hands
That taught me how to pray,
Banishing childhood fears;
They soothed each one away.
When I grew much older
And troubles came my way,
Those hands caressing mine
Did more than words could say.
Mother's hands were gentle,
They're missed so very much,
I'd give the world to feel once more
Their warm and tender touch.
Those hands were full of comfort
Now they lie at rest,
But memories hold them close
To the ones they served the best.

By Marian Jones

Gladys R. Blanchard

Funeral Service

Monday - October 25, 2021 - 11:00 a.m.
Community Alliance Church
Detroit Lakes, Minnesota

Officiated by

Pastor Matt McKenzie

Pianist

Debra Graves

Soloist

Kim Schnitzer

Song Leaders

Scott & Kathy Kallis

Pall Bearers

Matthew Hedstrom - Jerry Nelson
Fred Graves - Tom Rudd
Bill Rudd - Jerry Chelmo

Interment

Evergreen Cemetery
LaPorte, Minnesota

Arrangements by

West-Kjos Funeral Home & Cremation Services
Detroit Lakes, Minnesota