

Ruth Elizabeth Hedstrom was born April 18, 1925 to Ephriam and Agnes Sundgren Hedstrom near Kackley, KS. She was the second child of four children. Ruth attended Country School #99 and Kackley High School, where she was in a class of 2, with Agnes Olsen, the last class to graduate from the school, in 1943.

Ruth's first teaching job was when she was 18, teaching 8 children at the Red Top, near Scandia, KS. Ruth also taught one year at Oak Creek, 4 years at Courtland Elementary, and three years in Concordia before moving to Lindsborg, KS to attend Bethany College. Ruth graduated from Bethany in 1956 with her teaching degree. After graduation, Ruth taught at Gleniffer Hill Elementary School in Salina for 32 years, coming home every weekend to wash clothes, clean, and cook for her father and brother Herb, who still lived at home.

Ruth had thought that when her mother passed in 1958, that she would have to quit teaching and stay home to help the family, but her father told her if she would teach him how to make chocolate pudding, he thought he could manage the rest of the cooking during the week. Ruth was a long-time member of several professional associations and unions, including Salina City Teachers, KSTA, NEA, ACE, and Delta Kappa Gamma.

After her retirement from teaching a total of 42 years, she returned to the family farm home. She became the Ada Lutheran Church Secretary, sang in the choir, served on the Altar Guild, and was always ready to help in whatever capacity she could, to further the life of Ada Church. Ruth loved God, her Church, and family. She loved having a garden. She also loved music and enjoyed singing in the Bethany Messiah Chorus for 25 years.

She leaves to mourn, two sisters-in-law, Joyce Hedstrom (Walter Eugene), Phyllis Hedstrom (Herbert), nieces, nephews, and many friends. Ruth was preceded in death by her parents, brothers Harold, Herb, and Gene, sisters-in-law Arlene, Erna, and Viola, and niece Regina.

*To every thing there is a season,
and a time to every purpose
under the heaven:*

*A time to be born,
and a time to die....*

*A time to weep,
and a time to laugh;*

*a time to mourn,
and a time to dance.*

Ecclesiastes 3:1-2, 4





*God's finger touched her
and she slipped away.*

*From earth's dark shadows
to a brighter day;*

God saw the road was getting rough,

The hills were hard to climb;

He gently closed her weary eyes

And whispered, "Peace be thine."

To a beautiful garden

this friend has gone.

To a land of perfect rest.

Though she is gone,

she still lives on

in the Garden of Memory.

In Loving Memory Of

Ruth Elizabeth Hedstrom

Entered This Life

April 18, 1925

Departed This Life

October 6, 2019

94 years ~ 5 months ~ 18 days

Funeral Service

Friday, October 11, 2019 ~ 10:30 a.m.

Ada Lutheran Church ~ rural Courtland

Celebrants

Mr. Al Urich, PMA

Soloist

Mr. Lyle Bergstrom

Pianist

Mrs. Judy Blackburn

Special Musical Selections

"In The Garden" congregational hymn

"Children of the Heavenly Father" vocal solo

"Amazing Grace" congregational hymn

Casket Bearers

Gabe Hedstrom ~ Lance Hedstrom ~ James Hedstrom ~ Jason Hedstrom

Bruce Hedstrom ~ Mike Casagrande ~ Garith Simmons

Interment

Ada Lutheran Cemetery

*Tibbetts-Fischer Funeral Home
Belleville, Kansas*