

Darlene Fresonke, age 91 of Perham, MN died in her home Friday, December 25, 2020. A private, family graveside service will be held at St. Paul's Lutheran Church Cemetery in Perham.

Darlene Ardis Illg was born July 29, 1929 to Robert H. and Leona L. (Kadolph) Illg in Silver Leaf Township near Frazee, MN. She attended rural grade school and graduated from Frazee High School in 1949. Darlene married Elmer A. Fresonke April 22, 1953 in Frazee. Together they had three children Richard (Sue), Robert, and Paul (Kathy); three grandchildren Mark, Patty (Zach), and Tim (Maggie); and one great-grandson Oliver. Elmer died November 21, 2013 and son Robert "Bob" died November 27, 2014.

Also surviving Darlene are her two sisters Betty Olson and Joyce Stephenson-Severson, both of Detroit Lakes, MN. Preceding Darlene in death were her parents; and her siblings Ruth Rethwisch, Lavern "Tiny" Illg, Helen Nelson, and Robert "Sonny" Illg.

Many will remember Darlene for what she called her "Garage Boutique" on Third Avenue SE in Perham. She loved buying, selling, and shopping local garage sales. She also enjoyed the social aspect of sales. She gained numerous friendships over the years as one of these friendships even brought Darlene daily meals. Darlene liked to stay busy in her vegetable and flower gardens. Her family and friends will remember her dill pickles and pickled beets, both pickled and canned when small. Darlene also liked pickling fish and putting together puzzles.

In Darlene's words, "nobody make a big fuss, no funeral is planned."

# *Celebrating* T H E L I F E O F



## **Darlene Ardis Fresonke**

July 29, 1929 - December 25, 2020



### THESE HANDS

I'm proud of them – these hands of mine; So many things they've done.  
They've planted flowers, and pulled the weeds, and worked out in the sun.  
They've kneaded bread and cooked the meals more times than I can say.  
They've washed a ton of clothes, I guess, and put them all away.  
They've soothed a small child's fevered brow and rubbed an aching head.  
And when the evening shadows fell, they put the brood to bed.  
They've borne the bite of winter's cold and felt the warmth of spring.  
And on one finger long ago was put a wedding ring.  
And when my journey here is o'er, I still shall thankful be  
That these old worn-worn hands of mine have done so much for me.

- Vivian Merriman

## Graveside Service

Saturday, January 2, 2021 at 10:00 a.m.

St. Paul's Lutheran Church Cemetery - Perham, Minnesota

### Officiant

Pastor Del Stohs

### Music

"Old Rugged Cross"

