

Ruth Agnes Sherwood was born on May 9, 1939, in Bird Island, Minnesota, the daughter of Andrew and Velma (Wittman) Swanson. She grew up in Willmar and graduated from Willmar High School in 1957. On June 8, 1957, Ruth was united in marriage to Gary Oliver Sherwood and they lived in Mankato. Ruth worked at the St. Peter State Hospital as a Mental Health Technician. In 1972, they moved to Willmar and began working at the Willmar State Hospital. She brought and taught new behavioral modifications to the developmentally disabled adults. She retired in 2007 after working several years as a chemical dependency program assistant.

Ruth enjoyed baking goodies, sewing and quilting. She made quilts for each of her grandchildren as their graduation gift. Ruth and Gary raised and bred Shar-Pei and English Bulldogs. They showed them throughout the central United States. They also enjoyed being foster parents for many years. Ruth enjoyed spending time with family at the cabin on Diamond Lake, having morning coffee while listening to the radio and cheering on the Minnesota Twins.

She is survived by her six children, Donald (and Laurie) Sherwood of Willmar, Dan (and Terri) Sherwood of Tempe, AZ., Doyen (and Allen) Hillenbrand of Willmar, Douglas Sherwood of Litchfield, Deena (and Warren) Ostendorf of Waite Park and David Sherwood (and Stacie Jacobs) of St. Cloud; sixteen grandchildren; twenty great grandchildren and one great great grandson. Also surviving is one brother, Andrew (and Connie) Swanson of New London, besides other relatives and many friends.

She was preceded in death by her parents; her husband, Gary in 2007; one granddaughter, Ella Paula; and one brother, Jim.

Celebrating the Life of



Ruth A. Sherwood

1939 - 2024

In Loving Memory Of

Ruth A. Sherwood

May 9, 1939

Bird Island, Minnesota

October 8, 2024

Willmar, Minnesota

*God grant me the Serenity
to accept the things
I cannot change...
Courage to change the
things I can
and Wisdom to know
the difference.*

Celebration of Life Service

Tuesday, October 15, 2024 - 11:00 a.m.

Calvary Lutheran Church

Willmar, Minnesota

Prelude		Naomi Powers-Baker
Gathering Rite		ELW p. 279
Thanksgiving for Baptism		p. 280
Opening Hymn	<i>"On Eagle's Wings"</i>	No. 787
Greeting and Prayer of the Day		p. 281
Reading of the Obituary		
Scripture Readings	Ecclesiastes 3:1-8, Psalm 121 & John 14:1-6	
Special Music	<i>"How Great Thou Art"</i>	Jaime Frank
Sermon		Rev. Wayne D. Kopitzke
Special Music	<i>"I Am"</i>	Jaime Frank
Apostle's Creed, Prayers & The Lord's Prayer		pp. 282-283
Commendation		
Table Prayer (spoken)		
Benediction		
Closing Hymn	<i>"Here I Am Lord"</i>	No. 574
Postlude		

Honorary Pallbearers

Ruth's Beloved Grandchildren, Great Grandchildren,
Great Great Grandson and
Best Friend & Bethesda Neighbor Ken

Interment

Oak Park Methodist Cemetery
Kandiyohi, Minnesota

*Peterson Brothers Funeral Home
"Celebrating A Life Remembered"*