

## When Great Trees Fall

*Maya Angelou*

When great trees fall, rocks on distant hills shudder,  
lions hunker down in tall grasses,  
and even elephants lumber after safety.  
When great trees fall in forests, small things recoil into silence,  
their senses eroded beyond fear.

When great souls die, the air around us becomes light, rare, sterile.  
We breathe, briefly. Our eyes, briefly, see with a hurtful clarity.  
Our memory, suddenly sharpened, examines,  
gnaws on kind words unsaid, promised walks never taken.

Great souls die and our reality, bound to them, takes leave of us.  
Our souls, dependent upon their nurture, now shrink, wizened.  
Our minds, formed and informed by their radiance, fall away.  
We are not so much maddened as reduced to the unutterable  
ignorance of dark, cold caves.

And when great souls die, after a period peace blooms,  
slowly and always irregularly.  
Spaces fill with a kind of soothing electric vibration.  
Our senses, restored, never to be the same, whisper to us.  
They existed. They existed. We can be.  
Be and be better. For they existed



In Loving Memory of

*Delores "Dee" Harner*

September 13, 1933 - August 13, 2023



In Loving Memory of

# Delores "Dee" Harner



## Memorial Service

Saturday, August 19, 2023- 2:00 PM  
Grace Lutheran Church  
Luverne, Minnesota

## Officiating

Pastor Mark Eliason

## Scripture

Psalm 23  
Psalm 121  
Ecclesiastes 3:1-8

## Organist

Beryl Haugen

## Congregational Hymns

"How Great Thou Art" - Hymn #856  
"On Eagle's Wings" - Hymn #787  
"Borning Cry" - Hymn #732

## Honorary Bearers

Tyler Helm      Greg Harner  
Max Helm      Chris Harner

## Inurnment

South Dakota Veterans Cemetery  
Sioux Falls, South Dakota

*Friends are invited to join the family for food and sharing  
after the service in the church fellowship hall.*

Arrangements By  
HARTQUIST FUNERAL HOME

**Delores "Dee" Ann Harner** was born September 13, 1933 to Edwin and Lottie (Willis) Schultz in Mason City, Iowa. She was baptized on January 7, 1934 at Trinity Lutheran Church in Mason City. She received her confirmation of faith on May 25, 1947 at Trinity Lutheran Church. She graduated from Mason City High School in 1951 and Mason City Junior College in 1953. From 1953 to 1960 she taught in Rockford, Iowa, Clear Lake, Iowa, and Albert Lea, Minnesota while continuing her education. She spent the summer of 1954 working at the horse racing track in Denver, Colorado. While taking classes at Upper Iowa University in Fayette, Iowa, she met Jim who was continuing his education. The summer of 1960 she received her Bachelor of Arts Degree from UIU. Dee and Jim were married August 6, 1960. She then went to teach in Grundy Center, Iowa where Jim was teaching. The summer of 1961, Dee and Jim spent three months traveling in Europe. She taught in Greeley, Colorado while Jim was completing his graduate studies. They then moved back to the midwest where Jim was a high school principal in Wykoff, Minnesota, and then Zumbrota, Minnesota before taking a high school principal position in Luverne, Minnesota (1971). Dee spent a number of years raising their family before taking a teaching position in the Hills-Beaver Creek, Minnesota schools. She also taught GED classes in Luverne. While teaching she continued her education receiving her Master's Degree (1981) in Special Education and in EBD (emotional-behavioral disorders) from the College of St. Thomas in St. Paul, Minnesota. She continued her post graduate work at Mankato State College in Early Childhood Special Education. She utilized this in establishing the Early Childhood Special Education program in HBC.

Dee was a member of Grace Lutheran Church in Luverne. She was active in Bible study, Circle, the knitting group, teaching Bible School and Sunday School, and held various church office positions. She was a member of the Tourist Club, a Girl Scout and 4H leader, and helped with Meals on Wheels. Dee enjoyed reading, book clubs, bridge clubs, gardening and flowers, crafts, sewing, knitting, crocheting, and needlework. She loved camping as a family. She cherished family time and made it a routine to read aloud (enumerable children's stories, books, and classics) to her children before bedtime. Sunday nights were set aside to relax by the fireplace eating popcorn and watching Disney on the television. Dee and Jim traveled extensively throughout their marriage, visiting all 50 states and many countries. Dee and Jim enjoyed catching "live theater" performances throughout their travels.

Dee is lovingly remembered by her children, Bradley Harner of Sioux Falls, South Dakota, Pamela (Joe) Van Erem of DePere, Wisconsin, and Cynthia Harner of St. Cloud, Minnesota; nine grandchildren, Elizabeth (Neal) Elms, Brittany (Derek) Schrock, Danielle Van Erem, Tyler, Max, and Tori Helm, Greg, Jennifer, and Chris Harner; five great-grandchildren, Violet Elms, Haddie Elms, Elia Schrock, Avery Schrock, and Mabel Schrock; and sisters, Beverly Hall of Sioux City, Iowa and Maxine Hull of Mason City. She was preceded in death by her husband, Jim; parents, Edwin and Lottie; brothers, Larry, Arden, Carroll, and Ronald Schultz; sister, Marjorie Miller; and brothers-in-law, George Hall and Perry Hull.

Memorials may be directed to the charity of your choice.