Georgene Francis Gunderson, the daughter of George and Francis (Losey) Sickler, was born on October 28, 1937 near Sherburn, MN. She graduated from Sherburn High School in 1955 and then moved to Texas to live with relatives. While she was living in Texas, she met the love of her life, Ralph Gunderson. After a short engagement they were united in marriage on February 19, 1956 in Sherburn, MN. After Ralph completed his time with the Army, they made their home in Shoreview, MN and raised three daughters, Lori, Pam, and Julie. Georgene and Ralph moved to Brooklyn Center in 1979 and then moved back to Ralph's hometown of Kensington in 1995.

Singing was an important part of Georgene's life. She sang in the choir at Incarnation Lutheran Church in Shoreview, MN and also started the choir at First Lutheran Church in Kensington. She sang and competed for 42 years in choruses with White Bear Lake, Roseville, City of Lakes, and Alexandria Chapters of Sweet Adeline's. However, reading and singing hours upon hours to her grandchildren and great grandchildren while they sat in her lap, was always Georgene's most favorite performance.

Family was very important to Georgene. She made every holiday special, by baking holiday cookies, decorating, and cooking wonderful meals. Some memories of her children are spending summers at their cabin on Lake Ida, fishing, gardening, canning vegetables, swimming and tubing. Other memories will be Georgene's love of color, her crafts and needle work and her kind, polite, and warm sense of grace she had about herself. Georgene was able to make everyone she met feel warm and welcome in her home. She will be dearly missed by her family and friends.

Georgene F. Gunderson died on Wednesday, May 15, 2019 at Alomere Health in Alexandria at the age of 81 years old. She is survived by her loving husband of 63 years, Ralph Gunderson of Kensington; daughters, Lori (Aaron) Carlson of Roseville, Pam Gunderson (Nigel Eccleston) of North East Minneapolis, and Julie (Courtney) Smith of Kensington; seven grandchildren, Brian (Britt Brady) Gunderson of Denver, CO, Katie (Nick) Rudek of North East Minneapolis, Michael (Nicole) Gunderson of St. Paul, Joseph Carlson of Monterey, CA, Kimberly Carlson of Roseville, Nicole (Eric) Peery of Kensington, and Benjamin (Molly) Smith of Cold Spring; five great grandchildren, Everett, Brayden, and Ensley Peery of Kensington and Eleanor and Rose Smith of Cold Spring; sisters, Zelda Christian of St. Paul and Terri (Greg) Envey of Sarasota, FL; brother-in-law, Elder Rose of Fairmont, MN; many nieces, nephews, and cousins.

She was preceded in death by her parents, brother George Sickler and sister DeElda Rose.

Footprints In The Sand

One night a woman had a dream. She dreamed she was walking along the beach with the Lord. Across the sky flashed scenes from her life. For each scene, she noticed two sets of footprints in the sand; one belonging to her, and the other to the Lord. When the last scene of her life flashed before her, she looked back at the footprints in the sand. She noticed that many times along the path of her life there was one set of footprints. She also noticed that it happened at the very lowest and saddest times in her life. This really bothered her and she questioned the Lord about it. "Lord, you said that once I decided to follow you, you'd walk with me all the way. But I have noticed that during the most troublesome times in my life, there is only one set of footprints. I don't understand why when I needed you most you would leave me." The Lord replied, "My precious, precious child, I love you and I would never leave you. During the times of trial and suffering, when you see only one set of footprints, it was then that I carried you."

In Loving Memory



Georgene F. Gunderson 1937 - 2019

In Memory of

Georgene F. Gunderson

October 28, 1937

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May 20, 2019

Funeral Service

First Lutheran Church Kensington, Minnesota Monday, May 20, 2019 10:30 AM

Officiant

Reverend Dorothy Hedlin

Organist

Tricia Saulsbury

Casket Bearers

Brian Gunderson Michael Gunderson Kimberly Carlson Katie Radek Joseph Carlson Nicole Peery

Benjamin Smith

Interment

First Lutheran Church Cemetery Kensington, Minnesota

