

Dorothea Caroline Nelson was born on July 11, 1924, on the family farm in Hayes Township, Swift County, Minnesota, the daughter of Walter and Elsie (Herrmann) Grothe. She grew up in the rural Murdock community, was baptized at St. John's Lutheran Church in Raymond and confirmed at St. Mark's Lutheran Church in Benson. She attended country school #62 in Pope County and graduated from Benson High School in 1943. On October 24, 1948, at Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Benson, she was united in marriage to Hjalmer Nelson. Born to this union were five children, Douglas, Linda, Louise, Marie and Jeanne. They made their home in the Kerkhoven area for a while before moving to a farm near Sunburg. They were members of Spring Creek Lutheran Church. In 1965, they moved into Sunburg and became members of Hope Lutheran. Dorothea was active as a Sunday School teacher, a member of WELCA and her church circle. She served as the church treasurer for over 25 years. She also worked as a bookkeeper for over 40 years at Benson Machine Company, Swift County A.S.C.S in Benson and the Christian Labor Association in Willmar. She was also treasurer and member of the Sunburg City Council for many years. She enjoyed gardening, both vegetables and flowers, baking and reading. Following the death of her husband Hjalmer in 2000, Dorothea moved to West View Village in Willmar. While living in Willmar, Dorothea worked part-time for the West Central Tribune delivering newspapers. She enjoyed baking goodies for "afternoon coffee hour". In 2022, Dorothea moved into the Bethesda Grand Nursing Home.

She is survived by four children, Douglas (and Mary) Nelson of Murdock, Linda Stein of Hutchinson, Marie Triden of Willmar and Jeanne (and Steven) Sondrol of Sunburg; fifteen grandchildren; thirty-one great grandchildren; one sister, Rosemarie Monson of Starbuck, and a sister-in-law, Harriet Erickson of Colorado, as well as numerous nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents; her husband, Hjalmer; one daughter, Louise and her husband, Larry Netland; one sister, Elsie Danielson (Edner); three brothers, Walter Grothe (Vi), Robert Grothe (Gwen) and August Grothe (Joanne); brother-in-law, James Monson; as well as Hjalmer's siblings, Rudy Nelson, Leif Nelson (Arlene), Ebba Falk (Wendell) and Marie Eisenreich (Francis); and sons-in-law, Arnie Stein and Will Triden.

## *Celebrating the Life of*



## *Dorothea C. Nelson*

*1924 - 2023*

## **"I'M FREE"**

*Don't grieve for me for now I'm free,  
I'm following the path God laid for me  
I took his hand when I heard him call,  
I turned my back and left it all  
I could not stay another day,  
To laugh, to love, to work or play  
Tasks left undone must stay that way,  
I've found that peace at the close of day  
If my parting has left a void,  
Then fill it with remembered joy  
A friendship shared, a laugh, a kiss,  
Ah yes, these things I too will miss  
Be not burdened with times of sorrow,  
I wish for you the sunshine of tomorrow  
My life's been full, I've savored much,  
Good friends, good times, my loved one's touch  
If my time seemed all too brief,  
Don't lengthen it now with undue grief  
Lift up your heart, rejoice with me,  
God wanted me now, He set me free.*

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

In Loving Memory Of

# *Dorothea C. Nelson*

July 11, 1924

Murdock, Minnesota

November 6, 2023

Willmar, Minnesota

### **Celebration of Life Service**

Wednesday, November 15, 2023 - 11:00 a.m.

Hope Lutheran Church

Sunburg, Minnesota

### **Officiating**

Pastor Jennifer Thul

### **Music**

Organist: Bonnie Magnuson

Congregational Hymns:

*"In The Garden"*

*"Amazing Grace"*

*"How Great Thou Art"*

### **Interment**

West Norway Lake Lutheran Cemetery

Sunburg, Minnesota