

The LORD is my *Shepherd*;
I shall not want.
He maketh me
lie down in green pastures:
He leadeth me beside the still waters,
He restoreth my
soul:

He leadeth me in the paths of righteousness
for His name's sake. Yea though I walk through the
valley of the shadow of death.

*I will fear no evil:
for Thou art with me;*
Thy rod and Thy staff they comfort me.

Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies
Thou anointest my head with oil; My cup runneth over
Surely goodness & mercy shall follow me
all the days of my life;

And I will dwell in the house
of the LORD *forever*.
- Psalm 23



In Loving Memory
CELEBRATING A LIFE

Funeral Service

Andover Lutheran Church
Windom, Kansas

Saturday, March 18, 2023, at 1:30 PM

Final Resting Place

Andover Cemetery
Windom, KS

Saturday, March 18, 2023

A Celebration of Life

Gloria Dei Lutheran Church
Cedar Rapids, Iowa

Saturday, April 1, 2023, at 2:00 PM

Memorial Donations

The family suggests memorial donations be given
to Lutheran World Relief in loving memory of
Dorothea.

Appreciation

Dorothea's family wishes to express their sincere
appreciation for all your prayers and kindness,
evidenced in thought and deed, and for your
presence at this service.

Hope Strength

Stockham Family Funeral Home



A Celebration of Life

Dorothea Marie Johnson

August 1, 1933 - February 10, 2023



Memories

Dorothea Marie (Christiansen) Johnson, 89, of McFarland Wisconsin and more recently Cedar Rapids Iowa, passed peacefully on Feb 10, 2023, following a brief period of declining health.

Dorothea was born in 1933 to George Daniel Christiansen and Agnes Marie (Norem) Christiansen in St. Paul Minnesota where she grew up in a loving, creative, family-centered home. Dorothea loved to work in the yard and gardens that her father had established and would comment that the smile on his face when he came home from work was all the reward she needed. Dorothea loved the tropical fish her father raised in aquariums that he had constructed. Her mother was a wonderful cook and instilled that love within Dorothea, as well as imparting her culinary knowledge and skills. Family time was a priority.

Dorothea enjoyed history, geography, and especially art in school. The activity she enjoyed most through junior high and high school was Luther League. It was

at a Luther League convention in Colorado Springs following her graduation where Dorothea was introduced to a young man from Kansas who would eventually introduce Dorothea to Donald (Don) Johnson, the man she would marry and make a life with for 63 years.

Following more than a year of correspondence, Dorothea took the train from St. Paul to Seattle to visit Don where he was attending graduate school and where they became engaged. They were married in August of 1953. Don had joined the Air Force and was assigned to the Weather Corps in Europe. Dorothea joined Don in Germany in early 1954. Dorothea and Don embraced travel and other opportunities available to them during the 3-year assignment overseas.

Following a state-side assignment at Tinker Airforce Base in Oklahoma, the family relocated to Madison where Don pursued graduate degrees in meteorology at the University of Wisconsin. Then, moving to “the country” while the three children were young, Dorothea and Don began the process of rejuvenating a 100+ year-old farmhouse and turning the place into a hobby farm with a large garden, numerous pets, and eventually horses. There was an apple orchard along with numerous other fruit trees. Dorothea took up canning and, along with various jams and jellies, “put up” untold quantities of apple sauce and produce from the garden. Much family time was spent on the front screen porch during the warmer months, just as Dorothea had spent with her parents in her youth. Dorothea loved watching the butterflies and the occasional hummingbird come to her flower beds, and there were always fresh flowers from her gardens on the screen porch table where many meals were enjoyed.

Dorothea loved to travel and did so extensively through much of her life. Earlier on, that love of travel was cultivated within her children as they grew. Family

Honor Loving Memory

trips to Kansas to visit grandparents and extended family were especially looked forward to. Later, Dorothea would frequently accompany Don when traveling to domestic and international scientific meetings.

Dorothea loved art and was a prolific artist. She largely focused on oil painting and print making with favorite subjects including rugged natural landscapes, cottage gardens, and other floral displays. Dorothea also loved dancing, especially to live music. She and Don enjoyed dancing for over 25 years, following their favorite bands to local venues for these special nights out.

Over time, Dorothea and Don transitioned from Madison to Cedar Rapids – spending increasing amounts of time living with daughter Christine and her family, and where there was another screen porch for enjoying pleasant weather and spending time together. Many gatherings celebrating birthdays, holidays, and anniversaries as well as the occasional art project were hosted there.

Ultimately Dorothea forged a warm, fun, loving, creative home and life mirroring that of her parents – and at every turn sought to teach her children to do the same. She always shared her smile with everyone. She and her smile will be deeply missed.

Dorothea is preceded in death by husband Don, her parents, and sister Vivian Mansfield. She is survived by son Mark, grandchildren Michael and Sarah, and great-grandchildren Barrett and Mabel; son Bryan (wife Sheryl) and grandchildren Neil, Bridget, and Kevin; and daughter Christine (husband Dan) and grandchildren Katherine and Nichole.