



Helen Johnson

Helen's service can be viewed here: <https://vimeo.com/681907212/79fceb71f>

Helen Johnson passed away at the age of 74 after a brief illness, with the love of her husband by her side.

Helen was born to Palmer Sr. and Olive. She grew up with her siblings Karen and Palmer Jr. in the Fargo area. While attending college, Helen met Thomas Johnson while student teaching in Western North Dakota. They happily embraced their love for one another and married. Helen and Tom welcomed the birth of their daughter, Mardel, became grandparents and enjoyed 50 plus years of marriage, all here in the Fargo area. Helen loved being near family, her home and work.

She was a beloved wife of Thomas, cherished mother and mother-in-law of Mardel and Wade, and proud grandma to Alixandra and Amber.

Helen enjoyed being an educator and homemaker while also being a dignified career woman. She loved sharing her family traditions, crafting and recipes with her daughter and granddaughters. Helen was compassionate about caring for family and those in need. She was a strong individual that encouraged the growth of knowledge through continued education. Helen had pride in her career and education accomplishments.

Helen was preceded in death by her parents, favorite aunt and namesake, and her siblings.

Arrangements entrusted to Hanson-Runsvold Funeral Home, Fargo, ND.

Previous Events

Private Family Service

FEB **26.** 2:00 PM (CT)

Hanson-Runsvold Funeral Home
215 7th Street South
Fargo, ND 58103

Tribute Wall



“ *Hanson-Runsvold Funeral Home created a Webcast in memory of Helen Johnson*



Hanson-Runsvold Funeral Home - February 25 at 10:05 AM

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Thank you for the lovely service for Helen. It was beautiful. Very special. My daughter, Sara, and I appreciate having been there in spirit and also via Zoom from Fergus Falls. The stories about Helen's life were very interesting and good to hear. God's peace be with you today and every day.

Ilene Iverson-Olson

Ilene Iverson-Olson - February 26 at 03:43 PM

LS

“ *Many people have said wonderful things about Aunt Helen. It is difficult to pick and choose the memories I have of her. From the time I met her she brought fascination and hope into my life. She seemed to see me as no different from others because I had diabetes. She also gave me hope that even though I was a girl I could do professional things. So whether or not I realized it then, she lead the way for me to pursue my dream of becoming a Psychologist and being able to help children who had diabetes as well as children and adults and families who were hurting emotionally. She opened the door to new things like Chinese food, making krumkake, and entertaining others. She was so classy. When I was in college at NDSU she and Uncle Tom invited me to many special occasions and sent food back with me to the dorm. What a treat. We started putting puzzles together on Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays and I hope to keep that tradition alive in my family. In more recent years we talked on the phone more and I felt the emotional attachment grow deeper yet. We were Birthday buddies and I will always share that day with her in my heart. She knew that she wanted to travel and she did. Her spirit of going after what she wanted and believing she could do it will always be inspiring to me. She will always be a part of me as she has been for so many.*

Lorraine Schafer - March 02 at 01:23 PM

LH

“ I love the photo of Helen's beautiful smile which is how I will remember her. I would tag along with my sister Lee and brother-in-law Jerry at various lunches, suppers or celebrations. She always smiled as she talked about her family and noted her one granddaughter and I share a love of plants. I will remember Helen and her family in my nightly prayers. My deepest sympathy.

Lila Hlebichuk - February 27 at 01:47 PM

DE

“ Helen was one wonderful, happy, fun person to be around. So fun to play cards with and she had her sneaky little ways that we still all talk about and laugh about. Tom would show up at cards with an oxygen tank for Helen and often showed up with treats and coffee for all of us..Helen and Tom were a great loving couple. She was so proud of family. She will be greatly missed. Certainly was great to have as a friend.

Dee - February 25 at 09:03 PM

LF

“ Lorraine,Dave And Family purchased the Crystal Cross Bouquet for the family of Helen Johnson.



Lorraine,Dave And Family - February 25 at 08:31 PM

BF

“ Ben, Maylene and family purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Helen Johnson.



Ben, Maylene and family - February 25 at 06:46 PM

EG

“ My sympathy to Tom, Mardel and Wade, and granddaughters Ali and Amber! I knew Cousin Helen better as a teenager than as an adult. She, her dad, and her siblings would visit our farm in Hawley, usually several times each summer. She was always interested in the activities happening on the farm, but I remember her warm smile the most. In recent years, we'd become somewhat reacquainted through a daily email shared among a group of cousins and siblings. Most frequently, Helen would write about her granddaughters and their achievements. Helen was very proud of the girls, and rightly so! Helen will be missed! Cousin Evelyn

Evelyn (Guttromson) Gedde - February 25 at 05:34 PM

BK

“ Helen was a fun gal. She loved to play cards. She always had a twinkle in eye when she was winning. She mastered the art of kindness, loving, caring for her family and friends. World would be a better place if there were more Helens in the world. We will all miss her, but beautiful memories.

Bev Knudson - February 25 at 11:15 AM

JK

So sorry for your loss. She was a second mom to me growing up. She will be missed. Tom and Mardel you are in my thoughts and prayers love you guys

jeri klinger - February 25 at 06:51 PM

JK

When I was 14 years old, I needed a major operation. My mother and father brought me to Fargo from Beach, ND. I was in the hospital close to 10 days and Helen and Tom allowed my mom and dad to stay with them. The day I was released from the hospital I also stayed at their house. Helen took great care of us during that difficult time. I am thankful that Helen and Tom were able to help my parents through a tough time.

JoAnn (Chaska) Kocher - February 25 at 07:15 PM

NN

Thank you Helen for being a wonderful cousin. All your Guttromson cousins will miss you. May you rest in peace and may God comfort your family.

Nadine Nelson

Nadine Nelson - February 26 at 12:37 AM

SA

Such a fun beautiful lady. We talk about her often at cards. I would call to ask her to play and always in the background Tom said yes! We enjoyed her so much her smile and twinkle in her eyes! She was an excellent player and often won the game! May you all find peace and share memories.

sandy - February 26 at 02:12 PM

SW

Tom, Mardel, and Wade. I just found out today about Helen's passing. I am very sorry for your loss and I am lifting you all up in my thoughts and prayers. It was such a privilege to work with Helen for many years at Pepsi during the late 80's and 90's. She always kept me on my toes with her quick wit and can do spirit. We really enjoyed talking about western ND as my bride grew up just south of Beach in Golva, ND. Although our interactions after I moved away from Fargo were primarily Christmas greetings, I always enjoyed catching up with Helen and your family's updates. May God comfort you and give you peace during this difficult time.

Blessings,

Steve Whetter

Steve Whetter - March 03 at 12:28 PM