

The Story of Leona

Leona Louise (Tempel) Barnes was born on May 25, 1929 and grew up in St. Paul and Roseville. She graduated from Wilson High School. She met and married the love of her life, Bob Barnes, in 1947. The early years of their married life proved to be a mixture of love and blessings as well as trials and grief. They were blessed with four children but lost their second child, Barbara, in infancy. Her husband, Bob, contracted polio in 1953. Leona bravely managed to care for two young children, a six-week-old baby, and an ill husband. She frequently drove Bob and the three children from North St. Paul to Sister Kenney Rehabilitation Clinic in Minneapolis for his physical therapy.

She worked many part-time jobs to help the family while the children were small. When the youngest began school, she entered the workplace full time and skillfully managed her home and work with the support of her husband. Her careers included being a proofreader at West Publishing Company, a school secretary, a credit collection professional for 3M and a call representative at State Farm Call Center.

Leona and Bob loved the Lord Jesus Christ and were active in their church in various ministries. Upon meeting some people with developmental disabilities in the community, they became friends. With the help of friends from a local church, they began a ministry of fellowship and Bible teaching with them. They were always available when their friends had needs.

During her years as a widow, she joined Bible Study Fellowship. While in her seventies, she became a discussion leader and made many good friends. Leona loved her family and friends. She encouraged and faithfully prayed for them. She always enjoyed having her grandchildren and great-grandchildren visit her, spend overnights, and go on outings with her. She enjoyed reading, fishing, traveling, hospitality, sharing her faith, cooking and baking, going out to lunch with friends, hosting family events and holidays. Leona especially enjoyed playing cribbage and other games. She loved to win!

Leona had a kind word for everyone. She was loved by her family, friends and caregivers. We especially want to thank the staff at Stonecrest Presbyterian Home and the hospice team from Optage Hospice Care for their kind and competent care of Leona during her journey home to heaven. Leona, age 92, went to be with her Lord on Dec. 13, 2021. She was buried at Sunset Memorial Cemetery in Minneapolis, MN on Dec. 28, 2021. Leona was preceded in death by her loving husband Robert and infant daughter Barbara, parents Mathew and Johannah Tempel, and her brothers Raymond, Russell, Donald, and Jerry. Leona is survived by loving sons Robert (Shari) Barnes, Gary (Debbie) Barnes, daughter Kristi (Donald) Schellhammer; grandchildren Joseph (Carole Lynn) Barnes, Christopher (Sheri) Barnes, Melissa Barnes, Michael Barnes, Matthew (Caroline) Barnes, Sarah (William) King; thirteen great-grandchildren, and many relatives and friends. Gifts in celebration of Leona's life may be given to the Union Gospel Mission or to Samaritan's Purse and Operation Christmas Child.



IN LOVING MEMORY OF

Leona Barnes

MAY 25, 1929 – DEC. 13, 2021





Safely Home

I am home in heaven, dear ones;
Oh so happy and so bright!
There is perfect joy and beauty
In this everlasting light.

All the pain and grief is over,
Every restless tossing passed;
I am now at peace forever,
Safely home in heaven at last.

Did you wonder how I so calmly
Trod the valley of the shade?
Oh, but Jesus' love illumined
Every dark and fearful glade.

And he came himself to meet me
In that way so hard to tread;
And with Jesus' arm to lean on,
Could I have one doubt or dread?

Then you must not grieve so sorely,
For I love you dearly still;
Try to look beyond earth's shadows,
Pray to trust our Father's will.

There is work still waiting for you,
So you must not idly stand;
Do it now, while life remains,
You shall rest in Jesus' land.

When that work is all completed,
He will gently call you home;
Oh, the rapture of that meeting,
Oh, the joy to see you come!

Memorial Service

Jan. 4, 2022 | First Evangelical Free Church | Maplewood, MN

Prelude

Welcome & Prayer

Hymn – "Blessed Assurance"

Leona's Life Story

Kristi Schellhammer (Daughter)

Family Memories

Don Schellhammer (Son-in-Law)

Matt Barnes (Grandson)

Open Sharing Time

Hymn – "Children of the Heavenly Father"

Scripture Readings

Isaiah 12:2

John 3:16-18

Message

Hymn – "He Hideth My Soul"

Closing Prayer & Benediction

Postlude

Lunch – Fellowship Hall (Lower Level)

Officiant & Worship Leader – Pastor Nathan Greenwalt
Pianist – Lynn Watts