



Irene Vaaler

December 6, 1923 - April 2, 2014

Irene N. Vaaler, age 90, of Spirit Lake, Ia, formerly of Edina , Minnesota , passed away Wednesday, April 2, 2014 at Hilltop Care Center in Spirit Lake. She was born on December 5, 1923 in Hayes Township, Swift County, Mn to Carl and Betsy (Ostby) Christenson.

Irene graduated from Kerkoven High School in Kerkhoven, MN in 1942. She moved to Minneapolis where she met and married the Rev. David R. Vaaler on September 8, 1950. Rev. David and Irene served at parishes in Houston, Texas; Fort Worth, Texas; Waukon, Iowa; Faribault, MN; and Red Wing, MN. Prior to getting married Irene worked for North American Life and Casualty Company for seven years. After getting married she was a homemaker, a teachers aide for several years in Faribault and a salesperson at a gift shop in Red Wing. She enjoyed reading, crosswords, quilting and gardening. Irene also had a true passion for Minnesota sports, including the Gophers, Vikings, Timberwolves and especially the Minnesota Twins.

Irene was preceded in death by her parents; her husband; sister, Marion; and three brothers, Clifford, Wilton and Lester.

Irene is survived by her three children, Mary (David) Halland of Sprit Lake, IA., Dr. Mark (Anita) Vaaler of Tampa, FL., and Ruth (Jon) Logar of Ely, MN; two sisters, Doris Miller and Mildred (Don) Egnell; a brother, Eldon (Cleo)

Christenson; five grandchildren, Erik, Brett, Christopher, Kelsey and Kara and two stepgrandchildren, Kim and Kathryn.

A memorial service and burial at Fort Snelling National Cemetery will be held at a later date.

The Schuchert Funeral Home is in charge of the arrangements.

Tribute Wall

LT

“ Ruth especially...your mothers grace and dignity welcoming our youthful teenage ways into her home in Faribault is treasured. My heart and prayers are with you as you grieve the loss of her physical self, while celebrating the freedom of her loving spirit. In Kindness,

Linda (Pankow) Trammell - April 09, 2014 at 12:15 AM

BL

“ Ruth, Mark and Mary and families, I'm so sorry to hear of your mom's death. I will always remember her gentle manners and welcoming smile. We had many fun times "in the neighborhood".
Bev Larson-Needham, Waukon

Bev Larson-Needham - April 08, 2014 at 10:05 AM

LE

“ Mary, Mark and Ruth, So Sorry to hear of your mom's passing. I have so many memories of hours spent at the St. John's parsonage with my bestie, Mary! I always hoped I would be invited to stay for supper - Irene was a wonderful cook and always made me feel welcome. I will treasure those memories...may your memories give you comfort in the difficult days ahead.

Lynn Ellefson - April 08, 2014 at 09:55 AM

RA

“ It was a pleasure to meet your Mother may you always have wonderful memories that you hold close to your heart that make you smile. Praying for peace and comfort as you prepare to celebrate her life on earth and her homecoming.

Respite Angels - April 06, 2014 at 04:13 PM

PT

“ *I am so sorry to hear this news but so grateful for having her in my life. She was very sweet to me and I so enjoyed her smile. God bless her and happy she is at peace. Pat Thomson, Keelson Harbour rm 219*

Pat Thomson - April 02, 2014 at 07:44 PM