



Elaine Kruse, age 89, of Rochester, Minnesota, passed away peacefully at the Lake City Care Center on Wednesday October 2, 2024.

Born July 16, 1935, and raised in Hoffman, MN, Elaine lived a life filled with music, faith, and dedication to her family.

Elaine graduated from Hoffman High School. Following graduation, she attended MacPhail School of Music in Minneapolis.

She was an active member of her church choir well into the late 2000's, and enjoyed sharing her beautiful voice with her community for decades. Elaine's talent extended beyond the choir, as she often performed solos for weddings, funerals, and church services.

In addition to her musical pursuits, her early work included being a bookkeeper for Liemandt Men's Store, a switchboard operator at Methodist Hospital, and a typesetter at the Buffalo, MN newspaper. She went on to various secretarial jobs until moving to Rochester, MN, in 1981. Where she worked for State Farm Insurance until her retirement. After retiring, Elaine stayed active by working in childcare settings and grandparenting children at home.

She is survived by her daughters, Linda Jones and Michelle Kruse-Crocker(Darrell); four grandchildren, Cassie Jones, Hunter Jones, Brandon Crocker, and Chase Crocker; and one great-grandchild, Haze Suazo. She is also survived by her three siblings: Harry Olson, Harlen Olson (Judy), and JeAnn Sperr(Gail). She is preceded in death by her parents, Myrtle and Harold, and five siblings, Muriel, Carmen, Allen, Vernal, and her son-in-law, Troy Jones.

A memorial service celebrating Elaine's life will be held at Mount Olive Lutheran Church in Rochester, MN, on October 26. Visitation will be at 1:30 p.m., and the service will follow at 2 p.m. Following the service, a dessert and coffee reception will be held to celebrate her love for cookies, cakes, bars, and various. In lieu of flowers, the family requests houseplants and donations be made to Mount Olive Lutheran Church.

The Serenity Prayer

God grant me the serenity
To accept the things I cannot change;
Courage to change the things I can;
And wisdom to know the difference.

Living one day at a time;
Enjoying one moment at a time;
Accepting hardships as the pathway to peace;
Taking, as He did, this sinful world
As it is, not as I would have it;
Trusting that He will make all things right
If I surrender to His Will;
So that I may be reasonably happy in this life
And supremely happy with Him
Forever and ever in the next.
Amen.

A prayer attributed to Reinhold Neibuhr (1892-1971)

