



Aileen A. Withnell

September 22, 1930 - November 3, 2015

Aileen A. Withnell was born on September 22, 1930 in Sioux City, Iowa the daughter of Magnus and Beth (Bullock) Abelson. She and her younger brother Gene grew up in Fargo, ND and graduated from Fargo Central High School in 1948. Upon graduation she attended NDSU in pursuit of a textile degree in clothing. During this time she met Robert Withnell, and they were married in November of 1950. Aileen and Robert made their home in Moorhead, MN where she enjoyed doing volunteer work. In the early 60's they moved the San Diego, CA area where she lived most of her life. Four years ago Aileen moved to Minnesota, for health reasons, to be closer to her niece Sue Thelen. Aileen worked for Stuards clothing store and later on as a receptionist for the large insurance companies Signal, Johnson & Higgins, and Marsh. She enjoyed people and had an incredible memory for names and details. With her welcoming warm personality, she was a natural for these jobs.

Simply put, Aileen loved Jesus and lived her Christian faith believing all the promises of the Bible. She will forever be remembered as a "prayer warrior" and a true evangelist.

Aileen was a long time member of La Jolla Lutheran church where she was actively involved over the years in Sunday school, on evangelical committees, with prayer groups, Bible studies, and other activities the church offered. Aileen LOVED the church members and their "family connections" to each other.

Aileen cherished the time she spent with her friends and family, giving them

lots of hugs and holding them close in prayer. She enjoyed celebrating birthdays, sharing meals and fellowship together, walking, BSF (Bible Study Fellowship), meeting with the " Covenant Church gals, reading scriptures, working for Billy Graham crusades, meeting with her high school potluck group ,and traveling. She especially looked forward to her "Minnesota visits" where she cherished spending time with her brother, Gene and his wife Barbara and their children's families.

Aileen A. Withnell went to be with her Lord on Tuesday, November 3, 2015 at Knute Nelson in Alexandria, MN at the age of 85 years old. She is survived by her brother, Gene (Barbara) Abelson of Deerwood, MN; nieces, Sue (Rick) Thelen of Alexandria/St. Cloud, Sandy Dokken of Richfield, and Cynthia (Jim) Paulson of Eden Prairie; nephews, Scott (Susie) Abelson of Andover, Kurt (Marielena) Withnell of Bellevue, WA, Robert (Betty) Drevik Colburn, ID, and Wesley Drevick of LaJolla, CA; and sisters-in-law, Bettie Withnell of Eden Prairie and Susanne Drevick of Sandpoint, ID. She is preceded in death by her parents, Beth and Magnus, former spouse Robert Withnell: brother-in-law Ralph Withnell: nephews, Glen Dokken and Todd Withnell.

Aileen's family would like to thank the wonderful staff of Knute Gables, Knute Care Center, and Hospice of Douglas County for the hugs, smiles, prayers, and loving care they provided.

Memorials are preferred in lieu of flowers and can be written to La Jolla Lutheran Church or Aileen's family. (Sue Thelen 3216 Cooper Ave So. St. Cloud, MN 56301)

A memorial service will be held on Saturday, November 21, 2015 at 10AM at Knute Nelson Care Center (420 12th Ave. East) in Alexandria, MN. A Celebration of Life and graveside service will follow this winter in La Jolla, CA. Arrangements are with the Anderson Funeral Home in Alexandria, MN.
www.andersonfuneral.net

Previous Events

Memorial Service

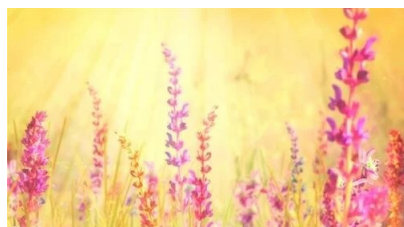
NOV **21**. 10:00 AM (CT)

Knute Nelson Chapel
420 12th Ave E
Alexandria, MN 56308

Tribute Wall



“ Anderson Funeral Home and Crematory created a Tribute Video in memory of Aileen A. Withnell



Anderson Funeral Home - November 06, 2015 at 02:23 PM

JT

This is just beautiful! I couldn't help but get a lump in my throat and a tear in my eye. What a blessing Aileen was to all that knew her. She truly made this world a better place. She was an angel on earth! Sending my sympathy, hugs and prayers. Judy Thielke

Judy Thielke - November 07, 2015 at 09:07 AM

DL

Always gracious, caring and dedicated, Aileen remains a one of a kind masterpiece of Jesus' heart. She will be so much missed. Papa's arms round all her family and friends. December Long

December Long - November 09, 2015 at 10:35 PM

RP

Aileen was a precious jewel. She always had a smile. She had a way of making my day seem brighter every time I spoke with her. My loss is Heaven's gain. I can't wait to see her again. Rebecca 'Popcorn Lady'

Rebecca Perdue - November 11, 2015 at 09:24 AM

JU

I will miss her smile, she was beautiful inside and out.

jo uhlenkamp - November 14, 2015 at 10:13 PM

CW

I'm SO GRATEFUL for having had the opportunity to meet and get to know Aileen. I volunteer with the Wellness programming at KNMH and when I first met her she was such a sport and tried to do everything with a smile on her face! She was so TICKLED when I'd act silly and wave like crazy at her in the dining room- I miss her smile and personality but am also sure that she's so happy to be "home". Now she can sing and dance and tell stories! Hugs AILEEN

Carole Westby - November 16, 2015 at 02:54 PM

RL

“ I will miss her smile....a beautiful soul, a very dear friend.....she touched my heart with her kindness, always concerned for others. Aileen had tremendous faith and knew the power of prayer, she prayed for others asking the Lord to bless those and keep them safe. I know Aileen is at peace and I believe she lived a beautiful life, devoted to her faith, friends, and family..... I miss youReanna Lynnes

Reanna Lynnes - November 19, 2015 at 02:58 AM

DR

“ Aileen was the first person I met at the Marsh San Diego office over fifteen years ago. To this day, I have yet to be greeted by someone more welcoming, caring, and sweet than Aileen. It did not take long for her to become the highlight of my regular visits to their office.

She loved Jesus, was a prayer warrior, and served the Lord well with her time, talents, and treasures.

I look forward to again celebrating Valentine's Day with her when we meet again.

Derek Robinson

Derek Robinson - November 16, 2015 at 02:35 PM

CD

“Aileen was a gentle soul. She loved people and being involved. Aileen kept our office at J&H and Marsh running smoothly. She was a pleasure to deal with and our clients loved her. I loved her. Rest in peace dear friend.

Cindy Dale - November 16, 2015 at 08:37 AM



“50 files added to the album LifeTributes



Anderson Funeral Home - November 06, 2015 at 01:03 PM



“A sympathy card was purchased for the family of Aileen A. Withnell.



November 06, 2015 at 11:51 AM