



## Stella Ann Olson

September 29, 1929 - November 6, 2017

Stella Ann Olson, 88 of Cloquet passed away on Monday, November 6, 2017 in New Perspectives Assisted Living. She was born September 29, 1929 in Montevideo, Minnesota to Alfred and Stella (Stokke) Hamre. She graduated from Milan High School in 1947. Stella married Merlin Olson on July 10, 1951 in Baxter. They made their home in Esko and together raised three children. Stella taught 3rd Grade in Esko for 33 years. She is fondly remembered by her students for Mrs. Olson's pickle pins which students earned for learning their multiplication tables. After her retirement in 1991, the couple wintered in Mission, Texas.

She was a member of Our Savior's Lutheran Church, American Association of University Women and the Carlton County Retired Educators. She enjoyed working each year with her sister, Elaine at the little red schoolhouse at the Carlton County Fair. Stella also enjoyed quilting, reading, and traveling. Her greatest joy came from spending time with her grandchildren and great grandchildren.

Stella was preceded in death by her husband; son, Jeffrey; daughter-in-law, Marisa Olson; and granddaughter, Amy Olson.

She is survived by two children, Jane (Dennis) Comfort of Superior and James Olson of Wrenshall; sister, Elaine Huhta of Cromwell; brothers, James (Corrine) Hamre of St. Petersburg, FL, Paul (Carole) Hamre of Roseville, and John "Jack" (Laura) Hamre of St. Paul; seven grandchildren, Angela (Dan) Droen, Andrea (Gary) Soldwisch, Ryan (Amy) Calore, Brent (Anna) Calore, Eric (Ashley Rydberg) Calore, Tanya (Chris) Wosje, and Lindsey (David) Cadotte; 11 great grandchildren and one great great granddaughter.

Visitation: 5 to 7:00 p.m. Thursday, November 9, 2017 in the Atkins Northland Funeral Home, 801 14th St. in Cloquet. Visitation will continue from 10 until the 11:00 a.m. funeral service Friday, November 10th in Our Saviors Lutheran Church, 615 12th St. in Cloquet. A time of lunch and fellowship will follow in the Fireside Room of Atkins Northland Funeral Home. Burial will be in Sandy Lake Cemetery, Blackhoof Township. To sign the guest book

and offer an online tribute, see [www.atkinsnorthlandfuneralhome.com](http://www.atkinsnorthlandfuneralhome.com)

# Comments

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“ Your family have my condolences. Death is never easy, and it brings great sorrow. "Death is something that we cannot sever, but love and memories last forever". In God's word the Bible, he tells us about the wonderful promise of the resurrection. We have the hope of seeing our love ones again. John 5:28, 29.

December 17, 2017 at 12:00 AM

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“ WILL TEXT OR WRITE NEW ADDRESS!! JUST THOUGHT---DO. U TEXT?? HOPE U RECEIVE THIS!! IF U DO, PLEASE REPLY, SO I KNOW! WISH I COULD HAVE KNOWN STELLA ANN. I THINK OF U OFTEN, AS SALO GALS R STILL THERE.Y LOSS OF HAROLD HAS MADE TOUGH. YEAR, AS I'M SURE U CAN RELATE TO, NOT SO )ONGAGO!!! Thank you for your friendship!

November 18, 2017 at 12:00 AM

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“ When I remember Mrs. Olson, as I addressed her when I was young, I recall a myriad of little kindnesses that I treasure. She always made me feel welcome as one of Jane's school friends. A couple of little things that I remember are how she and my mom sewed almost all of robes for Our Savior's Sunbeam choir. ..so many fancy, yellow gowns! no easy task, for sure. She also made the most delicious sloppy joes (with chicken gumbo soup). In a culture that tends to celebrate mostly grand things, it really is the small, everyday moments of love and graciousness, care for family and friends, and love for one another that really matter. Stella Olson embodied those things. With love, Laurie Skau

November 09, 2017 at 12:00 AM

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“ To my dearest grandma.

**Candle of Memories** - November 08, 2017 at 12:00 AM

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“ As Stella's only daughter, the depth of my grief tonight is almost beyond measure. We shared so many fun times and I'd like to think I got my somewhat boisterous laugh from her! She was always fair...always told the truth..didn't have a mean bone in her little body. She loved teaching so much she almost felt guilty about drawing a paycheck..her 3rd graders were special and so were her colleagues. She loved her family so very much and absolutely made entertaining look effortless. Now I know

that's not the case! She so enjoyed having people over for coffee and conversation. Her church was very important to her as well. Dementia robbed her and us of so much as she lost the ability to speak these last 3 months. That was incredibly difficult for all. I want to say thank you to so very many people who have supported us through this very sad and trying time. I will close with a quick story. Back when Care Bears and Cabbage Patch Kids were extremely hard to get, she was determined to get them for her grandkids. Picture all five foot nothing Stella diving into a huge bin at Target...she probably said "Excuse me!"..and you'd better believe she came up with the toys. I will love and miss you always. ..Your devoted daughter Jane

November 08, 2017 at 12:00 AM

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“ "Love & peace to Stella's memory. I will cherish the visit we had over the last few yrs. Stella Loved Jesus & she would give me the biggest SMILE when I came to visit & Shared in Communion with her.  
"Thanks be to God "for Stella's friendship & Teaching , Amem

**Butterfly** - November 07, 2017 at 12:00 AM

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“ When you think of a grandma you hope to have a caring, loving, and nice one. Bert was those plus some. She was someone that would listen and also had a great sense of humor. She was very generous as well. She made sure we all were all taken care of, whether financially or if we had enough coke, juice boxes or “ sauce”. The thing that is most impressive about her though is her patience and compassion for others. Those are traits I believe I have thanks to her and my mom. With those comes the bad sense of direction unfortunately. ( thank God for gps)  
One thing that grandpa told me as he lied on his proverbial death bed about grandma: As he muttered and was saying stuff that didn't make sense, he looked at me and said “ you and grandma are the 2 nicest people I know.” I don't say this to toot(sie) my own horn but to show you that the Bert everyone else saw, was the same lady at home too. Another thing which is very special is the fact that not once did I see her mad, down, or retaliate to Merl as he sat in his chair barking at her. So eat your “mott”, cheese wiz and bread, gather around a crowded hot living room with presents to give to the kids, write your bday cards, take your “Gordy's run” ask your grandkids over and over if they need a cookie. Be like Bert, this world would be a wonderful place if it were full of people just like her. Let's all rest easy knowing she is back to the grandma that we grew up knowing chatting away again, reading books, and probably getting yelled at by grandpa again! We love you guys! Brent, Anna, Caleb and Eva.

November 07, 2017 at 12:00 AM

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“ My father Paul shared some beautiful reflections on Aunt Tootsie's academic and professional career. He shared that she received a year of teacher training after high school, and then taught 8 grades in a one-room rural school. Later, she went on to earn her Bachelor's degree (he estimated in her 30s-40s). I feel so proud to be cut from a shared cloth, the cloth of a family of educators and especially women who worked so hard to receive and promote education. I will make a donation to the American Association of University Women in her honor.

November 07, 2017 at 12:00 AM

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“ So sorry for your loss! Stella was an inspiration to oh so many. She always tried to talk me into getting my degree and teaching, but I always told her that my job allowed me to quit whenever I saw fit, so was not going to invest in a degree! Well Stella, I should have listened, I'm still in education after 35 years! When I think of your mom, I see her smile! A true kindness flowed from her always! I am honored to call her my friend and colleague! Rest In Peace dear Stella!

November 07, 2017 at 12:00 AM

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“ My deepest Sympathy to you Jane and all the family.  
Words cannot express my sadness.  
Stella was a wonderful person! Stella was a 2nd mom to me, as I have been part of your family as a friend since we were in Kindergarten!  
I have lots of great memories of you mom's kindness, support, and generosity. Stella was such a gentle, kind and mostly soft spoken person.  
Memories of her taking us to the movies, the library, etc.- all while putting up with our young childish / silly behaviors! She never complained . Stella and my mom, Verna, were quite the team (taking turns carting us around) making sure we were able to experience life, and activities together. Now they are both gone- but I am sure they are sharing stories together in heaven and looking over us.  
Cherish your memories and share them often.  
In love and sympathy,  
Your Forever Friend,  
Trish Maki

November 06, 2017 at 12:00 AM

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“ There are so many wonderful memories of grandma that I will always keep close to my heart!! There were many fun things to do at grandma's house like snowmobiling, helping in the garden, snooping through all of her toys and knickknacks, daring the other grandkids to go in the spooky basement where "black bart" the black cat was plotting his next attack!!..I remember the time when my family and grandma/grandpa

went camping and grandma didn't know how to ride a bike. I was so shocked!! How could my grandma –a grown adult-not know how to ride a bike!! With pictures to prove it, She practiced on my pink bike w/white banana seat and...Even though she fell off a few times, she got back up and eventually learned how to ride that bike! She'd be sure to offer you food and something to drink and then a few more times until you politely either declined you'd already eaten or caved in...Although I did love her special silver dollar and mickey mouse pancakes the next morning of sleepovers..I also remember her letting me grade papers with a RED pen when I was in 2nd grade and feeling so special that I could help her with her class. For many years, I wanted to be a teacher just like her...that was until I realized that I don't have the patience to be one like her! She also always made us feel loved by spoiling us grandkids whenever we came over and on holidays..She always remembered us by sending cards on our birthdays and holidays. Even when some of us moved out of state!! This also carried on to her great grandkids in Arizona that she'd only seen a handful of times but had received many pictures. She was an amazing seamstress (she tried teaching me but my unfortunate lack of interest hindered her success) and made us grandkids and great-grandkids quilts that I've still got over 40 years later :) I loved that she traveled all over and hope that she continues that adventure with grandpa, my mom, all of her friends and family that are no longer here on earth. Grandma you will be considerably missed but your legacy will live on. Love to you always and until we meet again!!Granddaughter-Angela Droen (Olson), husband Dan Droen, great grandchildren Sydney and Aidan.

November 06, 2017 at 12:00 AM

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“ My deepest sympathies to the family. I am saddened by the loss of her. I was one of her 3rd grade students and loved her as a teacher. Even after I graduated when I'd run into her she had her smile and knew your name. Rest in peace Mrs. Olson.  
Sarah (Tillman) Soyring

**Candle of Peace** - November 06, 2017 at 12:00 AM