

Helen Danielson – BS 1966 Textiles and Clothing, MS 1985 Child Development and Family Science

Age 79 – Fargo, ND

How do you encapsulate a life? Helen Marie (Leland) Danielson accomplished many things during her 79 years, but her legacy is best defined by the person she was. She was a devoted daughter, a spunky younger sister, a loving wife to Russ, a caring mother to daughters Karla and Beth, a fun-loving Nanna to Vaughn, Luke, Brock and Riley, and a master relationship-builder with her extended family and friends. She was a humble disciple and steward of the Lord, a trusted confidant to many and a friend to all; a gracious entertainer who used food to build fellowship. She was a Child of God.

She shared her heart, tackled challenges, prayed for friends and strangers and found joy in simple things like the beauty of a flower or the uniqueness of a rock. She listened; she loved. She was a Child of God. She had an aura that drew people to her and a gift for knowing how to support those in need. God worked in her and through her and despite leaving this earth, her light continues to shine. Even in her passing, she softly encourages others to grow and strengthen their faith through her deeds and actions. She was a Child of God.

We love the memory of her smile and her hilarious Nanna-isms. We appreciate the patience she showed when teaching us how to make family favorites like lefse and krumkake. We'll miss her competitive spirit when playing games. We cherish her encouraging and loving notes (often accompanied by a newspaper clipping she thought we'd enjoy) and phone calls full of questions about our lives. We'll miss hearing about the interactions she had with others and the joy she found caring for and connecting with people. Throughout her 15-month battle with pancreatic cancer, Helen was an inspiration to all who followed her journey. She died without fear or regret, only anticipation and excitement for God's promise of eternal life. She was welcomed to heaven on Monday, November 18, 2024.

In lieu of flowers, please consider a memorial to Helen's preferred organizations: Bible Study Fellowship, Pulse Ministry, and Salem Evangelical Church, Moorhead. A visitation will be held at Salem Evangelical Church in Moorhead, MN, from 5:30–7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, December 17, with a time of prayer and remembrance from 7:00–8:00 p.m. A Celebration of Life will be held at Salem on Wednesday, December 18, at 11:00 a.m., with visitation one hour prior to the service. Funeral arrangements have been entrusted to the care of West Funeral Home, West Fargo, ND.