



Eleanora Elizabeth Brendalen

October 24, 1919 - May 10, 2020

Eleanora Elizabeth (Bauer) Brendalen was born in Cold Spring, MN. On October 24, 1919. She was the fifth of ten children born to Frank and Agatha Bauer. She attended a country school for eight years and was raised on the family farm by her hard-working German parents. Eleanora worked side-by-side with her seven sisters and two older brothers clearing the land with a two-man cross cut saw, then hooking up chains to the horses to pull out stumps. After the timber was cleared, they burned the field and then tilled the ground with a plow drawn by horses. Planting was a tedious job, as well as harvesting. Everything was accomplished by hand. Back in that day there wasn't electricity or tractors available to everybody! Their garden sustained them; along with the canning of meat, vegetables and fruit, which was done by teamwork from this industrious family. But it wasn't all work for this fun-loving folk. Eleanora recalls many good times of midnight sleigh riding parties, and making candy and cookies. The barn dances were especially lively times, as her family was very musical and could play about any instrument by ear. Eleanora played polkas on her accordion as well, and could speak and sing in German.

When Eleanora was 19, she and two of her sisters, Alma and Tillie, moved to Minneapolis, MN. To find employment during the tail end of the Great Depression. She worked first at Foley's as a spot welder. While she was in the Twin Cities she was approached by a young Navy man, who was heading

back home to Clearbrook, MN. After his tour of duty in the Pacific theater of WWII. He had been pick-pocketed and had no money for the final bus ticket home. So, Eleanora loaned him \$20, never expecting to hear from him again. But, she did! Hans Brendalen, true to his word, sent her the money and they continued to correspond with each other.

On September 27, 1947, they were married and lived in Milwaukee, WI. Where she was employed at Allis Chalmers. Two sons, Arnold and Edward were both born in Milwaukee. After a few years of living in the hustle and bustle of the city, they decided to move to a small farm in Glidden, WI. There they welcomed three more children into their lives, David, Donna, and Michael.

Eleanora loved her family, her God and her life in the country. She was a blessing and a joy to all who knew her. She was kind and very helpful and very good natured. She was an excellent cook, baker, gardener, and farmer. She loved people, animals, flowers and especially her children.

Left to cherish her memory are her children: Arnold (Margie) of Appleton, Edward (Leanne) of Butternut, Dave of Ashland, WI., Donna (Mark) LaDue of Canton, SD. And Michael of Boston, KY., nine grandchildren, ten great-grandchildren and two great-great grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her husband, her parents, two brothers and six of her sisters, only Leona (Larry) Hahn of Cottage Grove, MN. Is left of all her siblings.

A private family memorial service will be held at a later date.

The Birch Street Funeral Service is assisting the family.
www.birchstreetfuneralservice.com

Tribute Wall



“ *Eleanora Elizabeth Brendalen*

October 05, 2023 at 02:07 PM



“ *I'd like to send condolences to Donna and Mark Brendalen. So sorry for your pain at this time. Also that it was double since your Dad just moved to heaven too. I know exactly how that feels since my Mom and Dad did that in 2005. Stick close to Jesus, it's the best remedy and know that I am praying for you both.....Janet (Bucheger) Rosen*

Janet Rosen - May 18, 2020 at 06:12 PM



“ *I was saddened to hear that my Aunt Eleanor has passed away. She was a good woman with a heart of gold. She always cared about other people. She was always nice to me. A real classy lady. Wishing the family love and strength during this difficult time.*

Gregory Strande - May 13, 2020 at 06:37 PM



“ *Eleanora was not a tall lady, but she was a real great one. A real good wife to my cousin Hans, and a lady to trust. Thank you! Torbjørn in Norway*

Torbjorn Enget - May 12, 2020 at 08:58 AM

KW

“ Oh how I loved spending time with Eleanora when I was a caretaker at Waterford. Such a sweet loving woman. She and Hans were such a wonderful couple - I loved the hugs she gave me. Now you and Hans are back together. Love to both of you. My thoughts and prayers are with the Brendalen family. God Bless you all.
Kathy Wilson

Kathleen Wilson - May 11, 2020 at 10:22 PM

MM

We met Eleanora when my Mom became a resident at The Waterford. She was such a delight to talk with. I remember our last conversation when she said, “Look at him, isn’t he so cute walking down the hall?” Of course she was referring to her husband. My Mom , Lorraine Tobisch, is really going to miss her as they just seemed to click!
Our thoughts and prayers are with your family.
Marilyn Mattson (Tobisch)

Marilyn Mattson - May 13, 2020 at 08:27 AM

DL

My mom was the picture of love. She was always mindful of other's needs, and put them first. She had a servant's heart, and was the most humble and unselfish person I ever knew. I'm so thankful for having her for my mother and my best friend!

Donna LaDue - May 13, 2020 at 10:57 AM