

Myrna Arlene Schweitzer passed away Saturday, August 3, 2019, surrounded by family at Lydia's House, the memory care unit of Mennonite Village.

She was born to Roland and Marie (Stutzman) Schweitzer on November 24, 1940 near Kalona, Iowa. In 1943, the family moved from Iowa to operate the Oliver Schmucker Dairy, located southeast of Albany, where Mennonite Village is now located.

Myrna gave her heart to Jesus at a young age and was a lifelong member of Fairview Mennonite Church. She attended Grand Prairie Elementary and Crabtree schools. She earned her high school diploma through the America School Home Correspondence program.

She married Larry Allen Roth on September 29, 1959. As Larry was a conscientious objector, the two soon moved to Sturgis, Michigan so he could complete two years of alternate service working at Froh Brothers Homestead. There Myrna cooked, did laundry, and provided custodial service at the Homestead's nursing facility. They returned to Albany in 1962, taking over the Edward Roth family farm on Seven Mile Lane.

As a young mom, Myrna learned to sew out of necessity. Over time, her skills would cause her to become a sought-after seamstress. Myrna's gift for sewing is most noticeable during the Christmas season as she made almost every costume and accessory used during the Fairview Mennonite Church's annual Christmas pageant.

Myrna's creative skills were extensive: her musical talents also included playing and teaching piano and directing choirs. She also sang in two women's quartets: first with sister Mary and eventual sisters-in-law Lois Kropf and Ardys Miller. She later was a member of The Joy Belles with good friends Anna Grace Kauffman, Bernice (Kropf) Smucker, and Velma Ropp.

Myrna is survived by Larry, her husband of nearly 60 years; son Brian, and his wife Kelley, of Albany; daughter Lori, and her husband Dale Adams, of Sitka, Alaska; and daughter Brenda, of Albany. She also leaves behind five grandchildren, seven great-grandchildren, and siblings Jim Schweitzer and Ramona Headings, both of Albany. She was preceded in death by her parents, Roland and Marie Schweitzer, and her sister, Mary Lederman.

Memorial contributions can be made in Myrna's name to the Ladies Sewing at Fairview Mennonite Church.

Myrna Arlene Roth



November 24, 1940 - August 3, 2019

Fairview Mennonite Church
August 16, 2019

I needed the quiet so He drew me aside.
Into the shadows where we could confide.
Away from the bustle where all the day long
I hurried and worried when active and strong.

I needed the quiet tho at first I rebelled
But gently, so gently, my cross he upheld
And whispered so sweetly of spiritual things
Tho weakened in body, my spirit took wings
To heights never dreamed of when active and gay.

I needed the quiet. No prison my bed,
But a beautiful valley of blessing instead –
A place to grow richer in Jesus to hide.
I needed the quiet so He drew me aside.

Alice Hansche Mortenson
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Graveside Service

Committal Brandon Funk

Special Song Octet
"Hallelujah! We Shall Rise"

Casket Bearers

Brian Roth, Dale Adams, Benjamin Adams, Levi Adams
David Kemple, Kyle Cox, Duane Sherfy, and Dennis Stutzman

Memorial Service

Prelude Sarah Headings

Joy Bells Ringing The Joy Belles

Welcome and Prayer Phil Schrock

Congregational Songs Marlene Sherfy
"Savior Like a Shepherd Lead Us" The Hymnal No. 462
"I Shall Not Be Moved" Melodies of Praise No. 199

Message Phil Schrock

Obituary Brian Roth

Memories and Slideshow Brian Roth, Brenda Roth,
and Levi Adams

Special Song Octet
"In the Morning of Joy"

Closing Prayer Phil Schrock

Everyone is invited to a reception immediately following the service.