



Rev. Kenneth Roger Johnson was born April 28, 1927, in Iola, Wisconsin to the late Elmer and Pearl (Rollefson) Johnson. He grew up near Nelsonville, Wisconsin and graduated from Amherst High School. Following high school, Roger enlisted in the Army on June 5, 1945. He served in Germany and Italy. He was honorably discharged February 12, 1947. From 1947 to 1951 he attended Luther College in Decorah, Iowa earning a bachelor's degree.

Answering the call to ordained ministry, he entered Luther Seminary in St. Paul Minnesota in 1952. During his internship year at Victory Lutheran Church in Minneapolis, he met his future wife, Karen Larsen. They began their courtship in April of 1955 and were engaged in July 1955. They married on March 24, 1956.

Soon after Roger graduated from Luther Seminary in 1956, they moved to Ambrose North Dakota to serve five congregations from 1956-1961. During these years they were blessed with two sons, David and Paul. They moved to Harvey, North Dakota in 1961 to serve three congregations until 1966. While in Harvey they were blessed with the birth of their third son Mark. Accepting a third call, they moved to Caledonia, Minnesota, serving two congregations from 1966 to 1979. In the fall of 1979, Roger accepted his fourth and final call of ministry to Garretson, South Dakota serving one congregation from 1979 to his retirement in 1992. Following retirement, Roger and Karen moved to Brandon, South Dakota where they enjoyed the pleasures and opportunities of retirement for 32 years. Over the years he enjoyed fishing, cards, preparing for travel and reading maps, Norse Glee Club, wood working, reading Westerns, and visiting with friends, family and grandchildren. In August of 2024, they moved to Little Falls Minnesota to be closer to their children.

Roger is survived by his sons, David (Val) of Papillion, NE, Paul (Minette) of Starbuck, MN, and Mark (Sarah) of Pierz, MN; six grandchildren, Brittany and Kyle Johnson of Austin, TX, Marta (Michael) Hagan of Woodbury, MN, Lars Johnson of Starbuck, MN, Karena Johnson of Dallas, TX, and Isaac Johnson of Pierz, MN; and many nieces and nephews.

Roger was preceded in death by his wife Karen, parents, Elmer and Pearl, four brothers and two sisters.



Karen Ann Larsen was born on February 12, 1934, in Minneapolis to the late Alf and Esther (Tollefson) Larsen. She grew up in Minneapolis, where she attended and graduated from Patrick Henry High School with the class of 1952. Karen worked at Wool Worth's Store downtown, Minneapolis while in high school. She enrolled and attended the University of

Minnesota until 1956. She also worked for the credit bureau in downtown Minneapolis. She met her future husband, K. Roger Johnson while she was a junior attending the University of Minnesota. The couple started dating in April of 1955 and were engaged in July of 1955 and on, March 24, 1956, she was united in marriage to Rev. Roger Johnson. They were blessed with three sons, Paul, David and Mark. As a pastor's wife she was kept very busy from attending family night, couples' night teaching vacation Bible school, and serving and ministering on several committees for the church. She treasured her time as pastor's wife for 36 years. Karen worked for a short time as a substitute teacher in Minneapolis, Ambrose, ND, Harvey, ND, and Caledonia, MN. The couple ministered in the following cities throughout their lives: Ambrose, ND: 1956-1961, Harvey, ND: 1961-1966, Caledonia, MN: 1966-1979, Garretson, SD: 1979-1992, Brandon, SD: 1992 until August 2024. The couple moved to Little Falls in August of 2024 to be closer to family. Karen loved and cherished her 36 years as a pastor's wife, ministering to families and working side by side with her husband. She gives all thanks, glory and praise to the Heavenly Father for blessing her family.

Left to cherish her family are her loving husband, K. Roger Johnson of Little Falls; sons, David (Valerie) Johnson of Papillion, NE, Paul (Minette) Johnson of Starbuck, MN and Mark (Sarah) Johnson of Pierz, MN; grandchildren, Marta, Lars, Brittany, Kyle, Karena and Isaac Johnson.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Alf and Esther Larsen and a brother, Eugene Larsen.

In Memory Of Rev. K. Roger Johnson Karen Ann Johnson

Funeral Services
11:00 AM
Thursday, February 13, 2025
Spirit of Truth Lutheran Church
Brandon, South Dakota

Officiating
Rev. James Steen

Organist
Claudia Abraham

Congregational Hymn
"Day by Day"
"Borning Cry"
"Great is thy Faithfulness"

Pallbearers

David Johnson
Mark Johnson
Lars Johnson
Kyle Johnson

Paul Johnson
Marta Haugan
Brittany Johnson
Karena Johnson

Isaac Johnson

Interment
Zion Lutheran Cemetery
Garretson, South Dakota

In Memory Of



*Rev. K. Roger Johnson
Karen Ann Johnson*