

Marcella Rosalind (Friberg) Mikelson, age 101, much-loved mother, grandmother, and great-grandmother, passed away peacefully the morning of May 24, 2022, at her home in Rochester, MN. Marcella was born March 26, 1921, to Swen and Amanda (Willander) Friberg in Clarkfield, Minnesota.

Marcella was the 8th of nine living children born to Swen and Amanda, noted by her full name: Marcella Rosalind Octavia Friberg. By the time of Marcella's birth, Amanda and Swen had lost one child, John Arthur, at the age of 3 to the flu epidemic.

Marcella grew up in Clarkfield, Minnesota, attending Clarkfield Public Schools. She graduated from high school in 1938 and then attended Business Training at Clarkfield High School in 1939. Marcella served as the Secretary for the Yellow Medicine County Welfare Office for three years.

On December 25, 1943, Marcella married Sgt. Milo (Mike) L. Mikelson. As Milo experienced military training for World War II, Marcella moved with him to Staten Island, New York and to Hattiesburg, Mississippi. When Milo left for overseas duty on December 25, 1944, Marcella moved to Seattle, Washington and worked for the Reconstruction Finance Corporation. Upon Milo's homecoming from WWII, Marcella and Milo returned to Minnesota, ultimately settling in St. Peter, Minnesota with their three beloved children: Elizabeth Ann, David Milo, and Steven Mark.

Marcella worked at Gustavus Adolphus College in St. Peter for 27 years, retiring in 1986. In 1994, Marcella and Milo moved to Mesa, Arizona, often spending summers traveling to visit their children and grandchildren in Colorado and Minnesota. Milo passed away on April 15, 2003; Marcella remained in Arizona until moving to Colorado in 2008. Through the following years, Marcella fully experienced life in Colorado, Minnesota, Washington, and Arizona. Marcella lived the final year of her life with family in Rochester, MN, supported by compassionate home health aides and incredible members of her team from Mayo Clinic Hospice.

Proud to have lived during the agriculture, mechanical, and technical years, Marcella observed and experienced 101 years of inventions, energy innovations, and educational advancements. Her various interests included music, travel, reading, U.S. history, golfing, and gin rummy. Reading and travel kept Marcella mindful of the marvels of the past and infinitely curious about what is yet to come. Travel also fueled Marcella's love for the plains and mountains, oceans and desert, forests and fields. Her youth and adult life in Minnesota inspired her love for all four seasons, and time living in Seattle, Colorado, Arizona, and Minnesota satisfied her great appreciation of eagles and hawks soaring in the currents, birds of the lakes and sea, and the tiniest of yard birds.

Marcella is survived by son David (Kathi) of San Tan Valley, Arizona, son Steven (Nancy) Mikelson of St. Peter, MN, son-in-law Steven (Zehnder) of Truman, MN; seven cherished grandchildren: Staci Bonin, Stefanie (Jeff) Whitney, Alisa (Brandon) Hoffmaster, Katie Beth (Brandon) Kauffman, Jeff (Lauren) Mikelson, Adam Mikelson and Benjamin (Courtney) Mikelson; 10 dear great-grandchildren: Tyler and Shelby Hoffmaster, Taylor (Jaron) King, CJ and Tyson Bonin, Carter, Ethan, and Christian Kauffman, Alex and Max Whitney. Already-loved by Marcella, a great-granddaughter arrives in October and a great-great granddaughter arrives in July. She is also survived by much-loved nieces and nephews and extended family.

Marcella is preceded in death by husband, Milo, an infant baby boy; daughter, Elizabeth Ann Zehnder; grandson, Paul Steven Zehnder, her parents and siblings.



In Loving Memory

Marcella "Marcy" Mikelson
1921 ~ 2022

***For Those I Love,
For Those Who Love Me...***

*When I am gone, release me, let me go...
I have so many things to see and do.
You mustn't tie yourself to me with tears,
But let my spirit calm your fears,
I gave you my love. You can only guess
How much you gave me in happiness.
I thank you for the love you have shown,
But now it's time I traveled on alone!*

*So grieve a while for me, if grieve you must,
Then let your grief be comforted by trust.
It's only for a while that we must part,
So bless the memories that lie within your heart.
I won't be far away, for life goes on.
So if you need me, call and I will come.
Though you can't see me or touch me, I'll be near,
And if you listen with your heart, you'll hear
All of my love around you soft and clear.*

*And then, when you must come this way alone...
I'll greet you with a smile and say,
"Welcome Home."*



In Memory of
Marcella Rosalind Octavia Mikelson

March 26, 1921



May 24, 2022

Memorial Service
Augustana Lutheran Church
Clarkfield, Minnesota
Friday, July 15th, 2022
11 AM



Officiant

Vicar Mort Meyenburg

Pianist

Dana Larson

Soloist

Jennifer Weick

Urnbearer

Ben Mikelson

Honorary Urnbearers

Staci Bonin

Katie Beth Kauffman

Stefanie Whitney

Jeff Mikelson

Alisa Hoffmaster

Adam Mikelson

Interment

Fridhem Cemetery
Rural Clarkfield, Minnesota