

Marlene Adele Christensen was born on June 29, 1942, in Westbrook, Minnesota, the daughter of Archie and Mildred (Swenhaugen) Anderson. She grew up in in Westbrook and graduated from Westbrook High School in 1960. On August 14, 1960, Marlene was united in marriage to Robert “Bob” Christensen. They briefly lived in Windom and then in Westbrook while Marlene worked for Cottonwood County. They later moved to Dovray where Marlene worked as a bookkeeper for OCCO Feeds. She and Bob later operated the Dovray Manor for several years and then she started the Emaginary World gift shop. In 1980, they moved to New London and Marlene opened the Emaginary gift shop in downtown New London. She later moved the business to the Green Lake Mall and the store closed in 1988. Marlene was also self-employed as a home decorator and wedding florist in New London.

Marlene enjoyed flowers (inside and out) and scrapbooking. She cherished being a wife, mother, grandmother, friend, and homemaker. She never missed any of her grandchildren’s school activities or athletic events. Marlene was a woman of deep and unwavering faith. Her life was guided by her profound love of her Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

She is survived by her loving husband, Robert “Bob” Christensen of Willmar; one daughter, Andrea (and Jeff) Karnes of Sunburg; two grandchildren, Kayla (and Chad) Bonde of Redwood Falls and Zachary (and Amanda) Karnes of Sunburg; and four great grandchildren, Briar, Amelia, Weston and Tate. Also surviving is one brother, John (and Jan) Anderson of Roseau; and three sisters-in-law, Sheila (and Bob) Leonard of Dovray, Malo Scotting (and special friend, Jeff Krogh) of Big Lake and Alva (and John) Maeyaert of Walnut Grove, besides several nieces, nephews, other relatives, and friends.

She was preceded in death by her parents.

## *Celebrating the Life of*



*Marlene Christensen*

*1942 — 2026*

# I Am Held in His Light

Do not grieve as though I'm lost,  
For I am held in His embrace.  
The One who gave me life on earth  
Has called me to a brighter place.

My pain is gone, my soul is free,  
I rest where peace will never end.  
And in His love, I've found my home,  
Where broken hearts begin to mend.

Though you may weep and miss me still,  
Do not let sorrow dim your way.  
For God now holds me close in light,  
And walks beside you every day.

We are not parted, not for long,  
His promise keeps us, strong and true.  
And when He calls, we'll meet again—  
In endless love, made whole, made new.



In Loving Memory Of

*Marlene A. Christensen*

June 29, 1942

Westbrook, Minnesota

September 15, 2026

Willmar, Minnesota

## **Celebration of Life Service**

Friday, September 18, 2026 - 2:00 p.m.

Peterson Brothers Funeral Home

Willmar, Minnesota

Prelude

Welcome and Prayer

Opening Song      *"I Can Only Imagine"*      Mercy Me (cd)

Scripture

Message      Pastor Ron Johnson

Special Music      *"I Come To The Water"*      Karen Johnson

Prayer

Closing Song      *"How Great Tho Art"*      Alan Jackson (cd)

Commendation

Postlude

## **Casketbearers**

Grandchildren & Family Members

## **Interment**

Lake Andrew Township Cemetery

New London, Minnesota