



*Celebrating* THE *Life* OF  
*Rose Ellen Kaley*

SEPTEMBER 21, 1955 – APRIL 13, 2025

**Services At:**

Pedersen Funeral Home - Morris, Minnesota  
Saturday - June 14, 2025 - 11:30 a.m.

**Officiating Clergy:**

Minister Minette Stalheim - Johnson

**Scripture Readers:**

Lyndsay Tubbs  
Tyler Tubbs

**Special Readings & Tributes:**

Sandy Tubbs  
Ann Kaley Benson

**Urnbearers:**

Lyndsay Tubbs  
Tyler Tubbs

**Honorary Urnbearers:**

Kaley Johnsen, Sadie Maubet  
Erik Bjornsen

**Interment:**

St. Mary's Catholic Cemetery  
rural Chokio, Minnesota

With no dark clouds surrounding me, I only see sunshine ahead.

Although I will miss you all so terribly,  
I do regret what has been left unsaid.

If I could have said goodbye to you all,  
especially those I loved so much;

I would have, but I had to leave without a loved one's touch.

We may never understand the reasons why I had to go,

What breaks my heart is that you are hurting; I wish it wasn't so.

I loved you all beyond limits, there aren't enough words to say.  
But I get that I'm not there, so it doesn't matter at the end of the day.

Yet the words that I leave you with now ,  
are ones that mean the most you see.

I ask you to remember all the good times,  
this is really important to me.

Live your lives to the fullest, look after those I love, I beg you from afar.

Then look up to the night sky,

I'll be there shining brightly from a star.

I'll be the biggest and brightest thing in the sky,

I'll shine - you'll see me for sure.

So when the heartache comes, just go for a walk,

I'll be right outside your door.

My light and my love will never dim, on this you can rely.

No matter where in the world you are,  
you'll see me as the brightest star in the sky.

After several near-death experiences and health challenges through the years, Rose Ellen Kaley was finally called home on April 13, 2025. Her courageous fight demonstrates her strength, resilience, grit, and the sheer stubbornness those who knew her well have been privy to experience. For, like her namesake flower, Rose could be a little thorny – an attribute she was proud of – but also withstood life’s challenges and triumphs with grace and beauty of spirit.

Born Sept. 21, 1955, the third of five daughters, to William and Lenore (Ole) Kaley in Chokio, Minn., she grew up in the Midwestern farmlands among a close-knit family and community. Following high school, she earned a business degree at the College of St. Catherine in St. Paul, Minn.

Rose moved to Sanibel Island, Fla., in 1980, where she rose to the position of bar manager at the legendary McT’s Shrimphouse and later continued in the hospitality business until her return to school to study for a degree in Respiratory Therapy at Edison State College. She graduated at the top of her class with honors. During those school years, her classmates recognized her for her keen mind and willingness to always help others with their learning.

Rose worked as a Respiratory Therapist for 25 years (1994-2019) at Gulf Coast Medical Center until her retirement due to health complications. During her work years, she enjoyed traveling with friends and family – mostly to sunny locales, where she loved the beach. Her time living on Sanibel Island and in the Fort Myers area afforded her many hours enjoying her happy place whenever she could. Her family came often to visit from their cold homelands and revel in the warmth of Florida sunshine and sisterly love.

Rose passed away peacefully in her home near Sanibel two-and-a-half years after she also had survived the monstrous Hurricane Ian, which deeply flooded her first-floor condo while she sheltered there. Rose was a survivor in every sense of the word. She was a leader, sharp-witted, unafraid to express her opinions, fun, and kind-hearted despite hurdles and challenges.

Rose is preceded in death by her parents and survived by all four sisters: Ann (Bob) Benson of Stillwater, Minn.; Sandy (David Robley) Tubbs of Alexandria, Minn.; Barbara (Joe Staebler) Kaley of Winthrop, Washington; and Mary (Tom) Bjornsen of Winthrop, Washington. She found great joy in spending time with her nieces, nephews, grand-nieces, and grand-nephews. Her sisters’ children stayed very close to “Aunt Rose,” including Lyndsay Tubbs, Tyler Tubbs, Kaley Johnsen, Sadie Maubet, and Erik Bjornsen. Rose dearly loved her grand-nieces Sawyer Tubbs and Lena Bjornsen; and grand-nephews Cayson Tubbs, Carter and Brody Johnsen, and Emil and Leo Maubet.



Please use this QR Code to access  
Rose’s online guestbook and tribute video.

**Pedersen**   
Funeral & Cremation Service

