



Legacy OF Love

A wife, a mother, a grandma too,
This is the legacy we have from you.
You TAUGHT US LOVE and how to fight,
You gave us strength, you gave us might.
A stronger person would be hard to find,
And in your heart, you were ALWAYS KIND.
You fought for us all in one way or another,
Not just as a wife not just as a mother.
For all us you gave your best,
Now the time has come for you to rest.
So go in peace, you've earned your sleep,
Your love in our hearts, we'll
Eternally Keep.

Celebrating THE *Life* OF *Audrey C. Fincke*

DECEMBER 2, 1941 – MARCH 11, 2026

Services At:

Indherred Lutheran Church
Starbuck, Minnesota
Friday, March 20, 2026 - 10:00 a.m.

Celebrant:

Dewey Anderson

Organist:

Amy VanZee

Reader:

Al Gilbertson

Eulogy:

Neil Thielke

Duet:

Ruth Thielke and Pauline Hoffman

Pallbearers:

Jason Leonard, Kelly Erickson, Jeff Rosten
Curtis Reick, Mike Troen, Eric Danielson

Honorary Pallbearers:

David Braaten and Steven Dahlseng

Interment:

Indherred Lutheran Cemetery
Starbuck, Minnesota



Audrey Claire Fincke, daughter of Walter and Martha Gilbertson, passed away in Claremore, Oklahoma on Wednesday, March 11, 2026. Audrey was born in the Starbuck, Minnesota hospital on December 2, 1941, just a few days before the bombing of Pearl Harbor. Yes, there was a bit of family teasing that she was the cause of the attack. During her youth, Audrey greatly enjoyed vocal music. In addition to singing in the church and high school choirs, she wrote 3-part harmony of popular songs and gospel music for a trio consisting of Audrey as tenor, and her sisters Jeannie and Ruthie as alto and soprano.

After graduating from Glenwood High School in 1959, Audrey attended St. Cloud State University. In her senior year, she was invited to participate in the Student Project for Amity Among Nations (SPAN) study abroad program, where she was able to travel to Nigeria, Egypt, and then Europe. After her university graduation in 1963, Audrey chose to join the Peace Corps, where she met her beloved husband Lawrence, "Larry," Fincke. They were married June 5, 1964, and began their life together in Minneapolis. When Larry was sent to the Philippines during the Vietnam War, Audrey joined him for the last year of his tour, where they participated in missionary work during Larry's time off. Upon their return to the U.S., Audrey and Larry added their precious daughter Jeannie to the family.

Audrey spent most of her career as a computer programmer / analyst, where she predominantly worked in the oil and healthcare industries. As a devout Christian, much of her free time was spent in the Church, where she was a leader in the women's ministry. Additionally, she co-ran a bus ministry and team-taught Sunday school classes with Larry. In her later years, she enjoyed family time with her daughter Jeannie and granddaughter Abi.

Audrey is preceded in death by her parents, Walter and Martha, her brother, Peter, and her husband, Lawrence. She is survived by her daughter and son-in-law, Jeanine and Jason Leonard; her granddaughter Abigail Norris; her sister Jeannine Churchill; her sister and brother-in-law, Ruth and Neil Thielke; and her sister-in-law Karolyn Gilbertson and her husband, Dewey Anderson.

"And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are called according to His purpose." Romans 8:28 (NIV)



Please use this QR Code to access
Audrey's online guestbook and tribute video.

