

IN LOVING MEMORY OF

Lois Jeanne Torgerson

WHO WAS BORN

September 27, 1936
Montevideo, Minnesota

AND CALLED TO HER ETERNAL HOME

May 26, 2025
Ortonville, Minnesota

FUNERAL SERVICE

Monday, June 2, 2025 - 11:00 a.m.
Trinity Lutheran Church
Clinton, Minnesota

OFFICIATING: Minister Jim Rach

READERS

Mark Torgerson | Dale Torgerson

MUSICIANS

Bonnie Stotesbery, Organist
Anna Torgerson, Vocalist
Beth Torgerson, Accompanist
Randy Stotesbery, Vocalist

CASKET BEARERS

All of Lois's Grandchildren:
Jason Gustafson | Jeremy Gustafson | Lindsee Ringsaker
Jacob Torgerson | Mitchell Torgerson | Rachel Lahlum
Anna Torgerson | Samantha Fischbach | Matthew Torgerson
Maxwell Torgerson | Tanner Teske | Tori Teske

HONORARY BEARERS

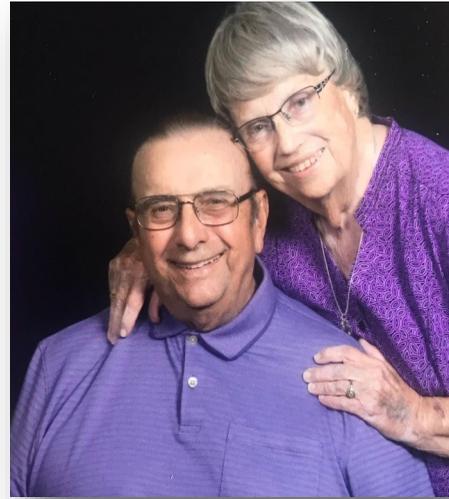
Northern Star and Ortonville Independent Employees
Clinton Women's Civic Club Members
Campbell-Williams Post #258 American Legion Auxiliary
VFW Big Stone Lake Post #3964 Auxiliary
September Birthday Club Members

INTERMENT

Clinton City Cemetery
Clinton, Minnesota

APPRECIATION

Lois's family is grateful for your attendance at this service.
Your many expressions of kindness and love are deeply appreciated. Following the service, please join the family for a time of food and fellowship in the church fellowship hall.



Living Life

*Life is not a race - but indeed a journey.
Be honest. Work hard. Be choosy. Say "thank you",
"I love you", and "great job" to someone each day.
Go to church, take time for prayer. The Lord giveth
and the Lord taketh. Let your handshake mean
more than pen and paper. Love your life and what
you've been given, it is not accidental - search for
your purpose and do it as best you can. Dreaming
does matter. It allows you to become that which you
inspire to be. Laugh often. Appreciate the little
things in life and enjoy them. Some of the best
things really are free. Do not worry, less wrinkles
are more becoming. Forgive, it frees the soul. Take
time for yourself - plan for longevity. Recognize
the special people you've been blessed to know.
Live for today, enjoy the moment.*

- Bonnie Mohr

IN
Loving
MEMORY



Lois Torgerson

1936 - 2025



Lois Jeanne (Hanson) Torgerson was born in Montevideo, MN, on September 27, 1936, to parents, Clarence M. Hanson and Marian O. (Kirkeby) Hanson, the eldest of three children. She was baptized and confirmed at Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Montevideo and graduated from Montevideo High School in 1954, where she

was active in choir and band - she especially enjoyed playing the trombone. She worked at a neighborhood grocery store and later at Northern States Power Company after graduation.

As a high school senior, Lois considered herself lucky to have won a 1953 Chevrolet in a Hospital Fundraiser, called "Wings Over Monte" - a story she loved to tell.

On April 23, 1955, she married David Torgerson of Watson, MN, at her home church. Together, they began a lifelong career of community journalism, starting at The Watson Journal and later working at the Redwood Falls Gazette before purchasing The Clinton Advocate. In 1965, they sold the paper to Kaercher Publications, who also owned the Graceville Enterprise. The two publications were combined and named The Northern Star by the late publisher, Lem Kaercher, noting it was located for the north end of Big Stone County. Dave and Lois served as editors for many years and were both proud members of the Half Century Club of the Minnesota Newspaper Association. They also volunteered at the Minnesota State Fair where they demonstrated how a weekly small-town paper "used to be printed".



A 'self-taught journalist and newspaper editor', Lois could interview someone, take a few notes and put together a feature article in a very short amount of time. She read nearly 20 weekly newspapers, gathering items from other communities to share in The Northern Star. The technology and changes in publishing a newspaper in the past 60+ years, were never really that much of a challenge to her, she just did it. She also shared her reflections and wit in her weekly column, "This 'n That" by Mrs. T", a beloved feature that became one of the highlights of The Northern Star.

Dave and Lois raised five children: Denese, Mark, Dale, Eric (who passed away in 2016), and Janine. Lois was deeply involved in church and community. She served as a Sunday School teacher and Superintendent at Trinity Lutheran Church, was a member of the American Legion Auxiliary, Clinton Commercial Club, Clinton School Board, Clinton Community Clinic Board, and a Rice Hospice board member. She was proud to be Charter Member of the Clinton Women's Civic Club.

Lois was proud to be a member of the Clinton September Club, a group of 12 women whose birthdays were in September and met yearly, keeping the number at 12 through generations.

Lois was her family's greatest supporter, rarely missing a concert, game, or event. She loved all sports - especially high school athletics, amateur baseball, softball, and even college rugby. Whether cheering from the stands, tuning in on the radio, or watching from home, she was a true fan!



Please use this QR code to view Lois's tribute video, obituary, & online guest book.



Lois was the heart of her family, and nothing brought her more joy than gathering loved ones around the table. Whether it was happy hour, coffee hour, popcorn, or her brownies - there was always fun, and laughter, and memories created. She was known for her Sunday dinners and had a gift for planning. She was a driving force behind family reunions, holiday gatherings, and impromptu events. Lois and Dave truly cherished their lifelong friendships with their 'bowling club'.

Lois is survived by her children: Denese (Todd) Gustafson of Clinton, MN; Mark (Cindy) Torgerson of Morris, MN; Dale (Beth) Torgerson of Sunburg, MN; and Janine (Jim) Teske of Clinton, MN; daughter-in-law, Heidi Torgerson of Clinton, MN; grandchildren: Jason (Jen) Gustafson, Jeremy (Regena) Gustafson, Lindsee (Jim) Ringsaker, Jacob Torgerson (Grace Atkinson), Mitchell Torgerson (Ariel Garvey), Rachel (Nick) Lahlum, Anna Torgerson (Charles McClung), Samantha (Adam) Fischbach, Matthew (Kelsey) Torgerson, Maxwell (Samantha) Torgerson, Tanner Teske (Julie Drobny), and Tori Teske; great-grandchildren: Shayni, Reese, Everlie, Ellesyn, Griffin, Blakely, Piper, Lola, Maci, Briggs, Gwen, and Orrin; step-great-grandchildren: Cody Ringsaker (Amber Landowski); and Dustin (Kelsey) Ringsaker; and step-great-great-grandchildren: Reagan, Casper, Mattie, and Rhiley Ringsaker. She is also survived by her sisters-in-law: Amelia Hanson and Maryann Torgerson; as well as many nieces, nephews, cousins, and friends.

She was preceded in death by husband, David; son, Eric; parents: Clarence and Marian Hanson; siblings: Kathryn Hart and Terry Lee Hanson; mother and father-in-law, Aane and Delores Torgerson; brothers and sisters-in-law: Robert (Virginia) Torgerson, Dean (LaVonne) Torgerson, John Paul Torgerson, Lowell (Lina) Torgerson, Phyllis (Charles) Peterson, and Joan (Allen) Olson.

