

Joanne Lea Peterson was born on June 6, 1937, in Margaritaville, New York, the daughter of Rev. Russell and Stella (Harris) Young and grew up in various places throughout Minnesota. She graduated from Brownton High School in 1955 and earned her bachelor's degree from Asbury College in Wilmore, Kentucky in 1960. In 1961, Joanne began studying French in France to prepare for Missionary work in Algiers. Since there was too much conflict in that country, she attended Garrett Theological Seminary in Evanston, IL.

On August 24, 1963, Joanne was united in marriage to Paul Alvin Peterson and to this union they were blessed with four children, Kathryn, Kristine, Paul "Andrew" and David. They lived in various communities in Minnesota, Illinois and Wisconsin, where Paul served as a Minister. Throughout her working life, Joanne managed bookstores, worked as a Certified Nursing Assistant and homemaker.

In 2000, they retired and moved to Raymond community and Paul continued to serve in the ministry throughout West Central Minnesota. Joanne enjoyed reading, making quilts, singing, and visiting with family and friends.

Joanne passed away Wednesday morning, December 11, 2024, at the Sterling Park Senior Living Campus in Waite Park, MN.

She is survived by her four children, Kathryn (and Clifton) Butler of Clearwater, MN., Kristine Kindall (and fiancé, Robert Williams) of Dover, TN., P. Andrew (and Joleen) Peterson of Belgrade, MT., and David (and Dawn) Peterson of Isanti, MN.; twelve grandchildren; sixteen great grandchildren; a sister-in-law, Mary Cady of Willmar; besides other relatives and friends.

She was preceded in death by her parents; her husband, Rev. Paul in 2022; her brother and sister-in-law, Ronald and Nova Young; a brother-in-law, Robert "Bob" Cady; and a great granddaughter, Lainey Larae Burkenpas.

Celebrating the Life of



Joanne Lea Peterson

1937 - 2024

Footprints

One night I had a dream. I was walking along the beach with the Lord, and across the skies flashed scenes from my life. In each scene I noticed two sets of footprints in the sand. One was mine, and one was the Lord's.

When the last scene of my life appeared before me, I looked back at the footprints in the sand, and to my surprise I noticed that many times along the path of my life there was only one set of footprints. And I noticed that it was at the lowest and saddest times in my life.

I asked the Lord about it. "Lord, you said that once I decided to follow you, you would walk with me all the way. But I notice that during the most troublesome times in my life there is only one set of footprints. I don't understand why you left my side when I needed you most."

The Lord replied, "My precious child, I love you and would never leave you. During your times of trial and suffering, where you see only one set of footprints, I was carrying you."

In Loving Memory Of

Joanne Lea Peterson

June 6, 1937

Margaritaville, New York

December 11, 2024

Waite Park, Minnesota

Celebration of Life Service

Friday, June 27, 2025 - 11:00 a.m.

First Covenant Church

Willmar, Minnesota

Prelude			Sherilyn Honken
Call to Worship			
Invocation			
Congregational Hymn	"How Great Thou Art"		Hymn # 8
Reading of the Obituary			Andy
Reading of Scripture			Kathy, Cliff & David
	Isaiah 26:1-4, 7-8	John 11:25-27	John 14:1-6
Pastoral Prayer			
Congregational Hymn	"Great Is Thy Faithfulness"		Hymn #78
Message			Pastor Chris Pappenfus
Call to Confession			
Affirmation of Faith			
Congregational Hymn	"When We All Get To Heaven"		Hymn #755
Benediction			
Postlude			

Interment

Cloverleaf Memorial Park Cemetery

Willmar, Minnesota