

Kathryn Sophie Honebrink Mellema, 85
Sauk Rapids, MN
July 26, 1932 - June 6, 2018



Kathy Mellema passed away in her home in Damascus, Ore. June 6, 2018. She will be laid to rest with family Sept. 8 at 11 a.m. at the Trinity Lutheran Cemetery in Sauk Rapids.

Kathryn was born July 26, 1932 in Sauk Rapids to William and Gudrun (Nord) Honebrink. She was the fifth sibling of six, in the Honebrink family. Kathy graduated from Sauk Rapids High School, class of 1950. She was active in band, glee club president, photography, debate club, press club president, active on student council and elected snow queen. After graduation, Kathy moved to San Francisco and shortly after moving there, she met and married Lawrence "Larry" C. Mellema to whom she was married for almost 60 years.

Kathy worked at a hospital, while Larry finished school. Kathy was a devout and endearing wife, mother, grandmother and friend. She was a talented seamstress and could make almost anything with her hands, from baking cookies to

making stained glass planters. She loved to read crime and suspense novels. She also relished her local libraries. Kathy volunteered at Trinity Lutheran in Walnut Creek, making sure the elderly got to the church at the senior center where she was also a volunteer. She was a band mom for Half Moon Bay High School and served as vicepresident and board member with the Diablo Figure Skating Club.

Kathy worked at First Benefit Services, Crocker Bank, Honeywell, The Nuclear Regulatory Commission and Wells Fargo Bank. The highlight of her career life was being the proud co-owner of the James E. Howard Printing Co. with her sister, Carol.

Kathy's family was always the most important to her. The attention to every single family member could never be paralleled. Whether you were a relative, or not, you were always treated like family around Kathy.

Kathy's favorite celebrities included: Barbra Streisand, Karen Carpenter, Whoopi Goldberg and Katherine Hepburn. One of her favorite quotes was from Hepburn, "Never complain, never explain."

Her husband, Lawrence C. Mellema in 2013, her parents and brothers Asher, John, Ernest and Erik preceded Kathy in death. She is survived by her sons, Jan, Eric and Greg Mellema, her daughter, Laurie Mellema-Haun, her sister, Carol Honebrink Geerdes, six grandchildren, two great-grandchildren and many nephews and nieces.

In lieu of flowers, contributions can be made, in her name, to: your local libraries; Trinity Lutheran Church, c/o Pastor Tim Carnahan 507 West Powell Blvd., Gresham, OR 97030; OHSU Knight Cancer Institute, Dr. Cetnar c/o OHSU Foundation, Mail Stop 45, PO Box 4000, Portland, OR 97208.