

Phyllis Mae Anderson was born on December 31, 1940, to Jalmer Odin and Alice Elizabeth (Jacobson) Anderson in Moorhead, MN. She grew up in Moorhead where she attended school and graduated from Moorhead High School in 1958. During her years of high school, she was active with the school newspaper. She went on to Concordia College in Moorhead obtaining a degree in social work. She worked in Minneapolis, MN at General Hospital as a social worker.

She was united in marriage to Nick Smilonich on September 1, 1962. They lived in a few places around the globe including Pennsylvania, California, and England. As the children were born, she changed her focus to raising her three children: Jill, Michael, and Stefani. In 1976, Phyllis moved to Barnesville where she would continue to raise her children. For many years, Phyllis worked at the State Hospital in Fergus Falls, MN in Christian education and the Chaplain's department. Following retirement, Phyllis moved to Moorhead.

Phyllis was a dedicated member of Our Saviors Lutheran Church in Barnesville. She served as President of the Women of the ELCA, and spent many hours quilting with the quilter's group at the church for more than 40 years. In 2019, WELCA honored Phyllis with the Mary Magdalene Award. She also was active in a book club and the Home Owners Association. Phyllis was always a generous caring person who made many lasting friendships over the years.

She is survived by her husband, Nick Smilonich of Rancho Santa Margarita, CA; her children: Michael (Melissa) Smilonich of Columbus, OH; and Stefani (David) Anderson of Olympia, WA; four grandchildren: Elizabeth, Nickolas, Marianna and Marshall; two siblings: Stephen (Mary) Anderson of Barnesville, MN and Jeanne (Humberto) Rodriguez of Moorhead, MN; a sister-in-law, Daria Anderson of Perham, MN; and several nieces, nephews and cousins.

Phyllis was preceded in death by one daughter, Dr. Jill Miller; her parents, Jalmer and Alice Anderson; 2 brothers, Bryce and Eugene Anderson; and niece, Jessica Anderson.

Phyllis M. Smilonich passed away on Tuesday, June 14, 2022, at Essentia Health in Fargo, North Dakota, at the age of 81 years, 5 months and 14 days.

May Her Memory Be Blessed

In Celebration for the Life of



Phyllis Mae Smilonich
December 31, 1940 ~ June 14, 2022

*My Life is but a weaving
between my Lord and me;
I cannot choose the colors
He worketh steadily.*

*Oft times He weaveth sorrow
And I, in foolish pride,
Forget He sees the upper,
And I the under side.*

*Not til the loom is silent
And the shuttles cease to fly,
Shall God unroll the canvas
And explain the reason why.*

*The dark threads are as needful
In the Weaver's skillful hand,
As the threads of gold and silver
In the pattern He has planned.*

*He knows, He loves, He cares,
Nothing this truth can dim.
He gives His very best to those
Who leave the choice with Him.*

*In Loving Memory of
Phyllis M. Smilonich*

FUNERAL SERVICE

Thursday, June 30, 2022 at 11:00 AM
Our Savior's Lutheran Church
Barnesville, Minnesota

Reverend Chris Leach ~ **OFFICIATING**
Shelley Holmstrom ~ **ORGANIST**
Tom Houghlum ~ **SOLOIST**
"I Was There To Hear Your Borneing Cry"
"The Lord's Prayer"

CONGREGATIONAL HYMNS

"Spirit of Gentleness"
"Just A Closer Walk With Thee"
"Weave Us Together"

HONORARY PALLBEARERS

All of Phyllis' Nieces & Nephews
Our Savior's Quilters & Ruth Circle

PALLBEARERS

Marshall Smilonich Christopher Anderson Tony Anderson
Eric Rodriguez Cameron Nibbe Samuel Nibbe

INTERMENT

Comstock Cemetery, Comstock, Minnesota

APPRECIATION

On behalf of Phyllis' family, thank you for your
love and support throughout her life. We appreciate
your prayers and your time as her life is honored. Please join
us for a time of food and fellowship following the funeral service.
Interment will be following the luncheon.

*Unless otherwise specified, all memorials will be donated
to Our Savior's Lutheran Church for continued ministry.*

**Arrangements Entrusted to Dobmeier Funeral Home
Barnesville, Minnesota**