Sally Limanen, age 82, of Faribault, MN, formerly of Perham, MN, passed peacefully on Wednesday, March 12, 2025, from dementia. She is survived by her sister Rae Giovannelli (Sterling) as well as numerous nieces, nephews and other close relatives who will miss her dearly. Sally was preceded in death by her beloved husband, Robert Limanen in 2005; her father, Walter Sterling; mother, Maxine Sterling; and sisters, Jean Mahler (Sterling) and Carol Beaupre (Sterling).

Sally was born on July 3, 1942, in Faribault, MN and graduated from Faribault High School in 1960. On a double date in the twin cities, she met her soon-to-be husband, Robert Limanen (only he was not her date at the time!) They were married in 1963 and moved to Marquette, Michigan when Bob joined the Air Force. Bob then served a tour in Viet Nam and following his discharge from the service and a short stay in Minneapolis, he moved with Sally to Perham to be near lakes and his Finnish family. There they lived for many years until Bob died at an early age due to complications brought on from agent orange connected with his time in Viet Nam. Sally's sister, Rae, soon thereafter moved to Perham and the pair were almost inseparable, being active with friends, family, and church. The bond between sisters grew even deeper as Rae cared for Sally through all stages of her dementia, and it was so evident especially when Sal recognized Rae, even in her last days, with a loving smile.

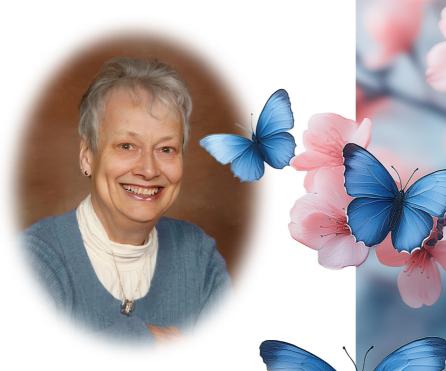
Sally truly loved family, fishing, feeding the birds and her flower garden. She was a great woman of faith and character, always with a smile on her face and up for a laugh and a good game of cards. Although a rare disease prevented her from having children of her own, her love for her dogs was unmatched and she adored each of her many nieces and nephews as well as all her extended family members. Sally was like a second mom to many, affectionately known as "Grandma Sal" to her great-nieces and nephews. She was grateful to live near some of her family who brought constant joy and invaluable support to both her and Rae, especially as Sally's disease progressed.

Sally was known in the small town of Perham as the "Butterfly Lady" as she loved butterflies and always had jewelry or clothing with butterflies; and her flamingo yard collection was legendary. Sally devoted years of service at White Drug store and volunteer work at St. Henry's Catholic Church.

Celebrating THE life OF



Sally Ann Limanen
July 3, 1942 - March 12, 2025



The butterfly emerges from its silken shell-Reborn, it arises, no longer bound to earth.

Free at last, the butterfly glides to heights unknown before.

So do our loved ones
find a beautiful release
as, earthbound no more,
they leave our sight
and joyfully rise
to a garden of matchless beauty,
a place of light and peace.

--Evelyn Phillips

Memorial Mass
Friday, March 28, 2025 at 11:00 a.m.
St. Henry's Catholic Church in Perham, Minnesota
Officiated by Father Omar Guanchez

Gathering Hymn 647 Lord of all Hopefulness

Eulogy Cindee Lundin (Niece)

Reading Hosea 14: 2-10

Anthony VonRuden (Great Nephew)

Psalm Shepherd me, O God, Beyond my wants, beyond my fears, from death into Life.

Gospel Acclamation Praise to You, Lord Jesus,

King of Endless Glory

Gospel Mark 12:28-34

Sermon

Gifts Hymn Lord, Let Your Servants Go in Peace

written by Great Nephew Michael Mahler

Gift Bearers Rae Giovannelli (Sister) Jill Rosett (Niece)

Amy Archambault (Niece) Perri Rosett (Nephew)

Mass of Creation Found in back of the Hymnbook

Communion Hymns 719 What Wondrous Love is This

671 On Eagles Wings

Song of Commendation over the blessing of the Urn

May The Angels Lead you into Paradise

Closing Hymn 680 Amazing Grace

Musicians David Mahler (Nephew)

Beth Hein

Server Piper VonRuden (Great-Great Niece)

Honorary Urn Bearers All of Sally's Nieces and Nephews

Graveside Service Minnesota State Veterans Cemetery Little Falls, Minnesota

Officiated by Father Joe Herzing