



Rachel Edwards

January 7, 1942 - May 26, 2009

Rachel Edwards, 67, died Tuesday, May 26, 2009, at the Lakewood Care Center in Staples, Minnesota, with cancer and heart failure. She was born in Eau Claire, Wisconsin, January 7, 1942, the second-oldest in a family of eight children, to Rev. Alexander and Mrs. Ruth Thompson. Her given first name was the same as her mother's so she always went by her middle name. Her father was a Lutheran pastor, serving parishes in Wisconsin, North Dakota and Minnesota, moving the family several times during her childhood. She graduated from Moorhead High School and Moorhead State College, and taught second grade for a short time in Fargo, North Dakota, until she began her own family. While attending Moorhead State, she met and married Staples, MN native Don Edwards. He taught in Fargo after their marriage until they moved with their growing family to Staples where he taught at the vocational school, now Central Lakes College. Their seven children all attended Lincoln Model School and were graduated from Staples High School. They are Jathan (Kimberly) Edwards, Afton, MN; Deanna Edwards, Moorhead, MN; Lisa (Larry) Sandberg, Staples, MN; Kathryn Edwards, Staples, MN; Kara Edwards, St. Paul, MN; Justin Edwards, Somerset, WI; and Rayme Edwards, Brainerd, MN. There are 26 grandchildren: Jessica, Heather, Kelly, Rebecca, Rachel, Hannah, Laurie, Jonathan, David, Joshua, Sarah, Hope, & Cherish Edwards; Allegra & Daniela Edwards; Malyk Edwards; Ariana, Sienna, Josiah, Tahlia, Kiarra, Ashley, & Elliott Sandberg; and Megan, Noah & Rose Han, and a great-granddaughter, Evelyn. Rachel was preceded

in death by a daughter, Lisa, and is survived by five brothers and two sisters: Edythe (Howard) Johnson, Minneapolis, MN; Naomi (Scott) Carlon, Ramsey, MN; Philip (Judy) Thompson, Duluth, MN; Joel (Patty) Thompson, Robbinsdale, MN; Michael (Mary) Thompson, Alexandria, MN; Peter Thompson, Wadena, MN; and Paul Thompson, Golden Valley, MN. A sister-in-law Rose (Ernie) Grossman lives in Baxter, MN. At the request of the deceased, there was a direct burial at the Evergreen Cemetery in Staples, MN. Memorial services will be held on Saturday, June 6, 2009 at 1:00 p.m. at the Faith Lutheran Church in Staples, MN. In lieu of flowers, memorials to Living Legacy Garden, MCCL, or another charity.

Tribute Wall

CS

“ So sorry for your loss, but Rachel's gain is greater with her heavenly Father!

Cheryl St.Claire - May 26, 2009 at 12:00 AM

MB

“ Rachel was the one cousin I did not have the opportunity to meet in person. I do know that she was very precious to all that loved her; in particular her brother Lanky has told me how important Rachel has been in his life. Jesus promised the constant presence of the Holy Spirit, the comforter; and it is in this promise that I affirm comfort enveloping Rachel's family in the time of loss. I write this on June 7th, the one year anniversary of my mother's death. I affirm our ongoing loving connections with the souls that we have shared our earthly life with.

May the Lord Bless You and Keep You

May the Lord Lift up His Eyes and Give You Peace.

Love to each of you from Seattle.

Marita

Marita Berg - May 26, 2009 at 12:00 AM

EJ

“ We mourn the empty chair. At the same time, we rejoice that our sister is at home with the Lord, enjoying the family reunion that we look forward to joining, someday.

Take comfort, Don, children and grandchildren! We are one in Christ Jesus, so we are not so very far apart from Rachel, after all!

Edy T Johnson - May 26, 2009 at 12:00 AM

BC

“ *Don, Kathryn and families,
I am so sad to hear of the passing of your wife and mother. I just
happened past this website when referred to it by a friend.*

*I pray that God will bring comfort to you and your family during this
very sad time.*

*God bless
Barb Cline*

Barb & Dave Cline - May 26, 2009 at 12:00 AM