

Emily W. Lunde

Emily W. Lunde, 89, died Friday, May 16, 2003 in 4000 Valley Square - Heartland Place, where she has resided for the past two years.



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Emily Wilhelmina Dufke was born to William and Augusta Dufke on April 30, 1914 at Newfalden, Minnesota. She attended school in the Newfalden area. She married Leonard E. Lunde on January 18, 1936 at Crookston, Minnesota. They resided in Grand Forks for most of their married life. Mr. Lunde died February 8, 1983.

Emily did work as a housekeeper, a homemaker, and a nursing assistant. She was a "late bloomer", becoming an artist during her mid-life years. She received national acclaim as a folk artist and has paintings in many museums around the country. She donated many of her paintings to the University of North Dakota and the North Dakota Museum of Art where they have been on display over the years. Each of her paintings tell a story of her Swedish heritage and her observations of life in rural Northern Minnesota. She also has art work in the Smithsonian Institution and had one of her paintings chosen for a commemorative plate for the North Dakota Centennial Celebration.

She loved to talk about her Swedish heritage and this culminated in her writing and illustrating two books on that subject, *Uif Da and Skol*. A video was also made featuring her paintings with narratives by Emily.

Emily was a longtime member of Augustana Lutheran Church. She had a heart for Women's Ministry and was Chairperson of the Women's Guild in the early 1980's. She was always available to give other women rides to meetings and bring food for any occasion. She had an impish sense of humor, which was demonstrated in numerous skits.

Emily did volunteer work with the Grand Forks Public Schools as an "Art Lady" going into elementary schools and sharing her love of art with the children. She assisted one class in which the children painted a mural in the hallway of the school. This helped children see their potential and creativity.

She is survived by her three sisters, Florence Eisner of Fort Benton, Montana, Ellen Haugen of Stephen, Minnesota, and Joyce (Earl) Hunstad of New Brighton, Minnesota; her son, Lyle (Cathy) Lunde of Coon Rapids, Minnesota; eight grandchildren, Timothy, Robert, and David Lunde, Suzanne Rice Zimmer, Brandon and Kelly Burke, Rachel and Elizabeth Lunde; ten great grandchildren, and one great great grandchild. She is also survived by many nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Leonard; three children; her daughters, Evonne Lunde and Sharon Rice Fleur; and her son, Meryl Lunde; her parents, and one sister.

Services: 2:00 p.m. Tuesday, May 20, 2003 in Augustana Lutheran Church, Grand Forks.

Visitation: one hour prior to the service in the church.

Interment: Memorial Park Cemetery, Grand Forks.

ARRANGEMENTS ARE WITH AMUNDSON FUNERAL HOME, GRAND FORKS, NORTH DAKOTA.