

Lena E. Evenson

Lena E. Evenson, 94, formerly of 3504 Prairie Drive, Grand Forks, died Thursday, Nov. 21, 2002, in Tri-County Nursing Home, Hatton, N.D.



Evenson

Lena Diseth was born Oct. 2, 1908, in Ambrose, N.D., the daughter of Ole and Carrie Diseth. She was one of the last representatives of the generation born and raised in sod houses on the Dakota prairie. Lena graduated from Crosby (N.D.) High School and went on to graduate from Minot Normal School (now Minot State University). She taught for two years in a one-room schoolhouse in Divide County, N.D.

On June 22, 1927, Lena married Martin Evenson in Crosby. They moved to Grand Forks in 1930, where Martin was a member of the Grand Forks Police Department for 35 years. They were blessed with 69 years of marriage, until Martin's death July 30, 1998. Their entire married life in Grand Forks was spent on the same block of Euclid Avenue, in homes built by Martin.

Lena enjoyed being a homemaker for a busy family and always had a warm welcome for everyone. She was especially known for her needlework, her Norwegian delicacies, her laughter, sense of humor and her love of children and dogs. She was one of the first members of United Lutheran Church. The family joined in 1930. She remained active in her beloved church as long as health permitted.

She will be sadly missed and lovingly remembered by family and friends alike.

She is survived by daughters, Alice (Allen) Syrstad and Debra Evenson, both of Grand Forks; sons, Mervin (Frances), Lancaster, Calif., Ron (Joanne), Manvel, N.D., Byron, Boulder, Colo., and Gerald, California; the family Australian Shepherd, "Randie Montana," Grand Forks; 15 grandchildren, including the following that live locally, Marty (Kathy) Syrstad, Karen Syrstad, Carmen (Ralph) Williams and Michelle (Steve) Ursoth; and 24 great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Martin; son, Martin Jr.; "Duke"; daughter, Alma; grandson, Todd; brother, Albert; and sister, Anna.

Casket bearers will be Byron Evenson, Ron Evenson, Allen Syrstad, Marty Syrstad, Doug Syrstad, Steven Syrstad, Randall Syrstad and Lowell Schweigert.

Services: 2 p.m. Monday, Nov. 25, in United Lutheran Church of Grand Forks.

Visitation: 5 to 7 p.m. Sun-

day, Nov. 24, in Amundson Funeral Home, Grand Forks and for the hour before the service in the church.

Burial: Memorial Park Cemetery, Grand Forks. Memorials are suggested to United Lutheran Church, Grand Forks.