Classes of 1940-49

FALL 2011 NEWSLETTER

This Issue

- News Submitted to St. Olaf
- Class Newsletters, 1945 & 1949

Events

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Correspondents

LaVonne Ekholm Norum ’45
Norman L. Cadman ’49
~ CLASS OF 1940 ~

NEWS

Rusk Dalton Anderson and Arnold Anderson ’39, Minneapolis, were honored and recognized for their unwavering commitment to the Children's Hospital and Clinics of Minnesota community through the naming of the Arnold S. and Rusk D. Anderson Education Center at Children’s – Minneapolis. Rusk was recognized for her contributions by virtue of her language and writing skills which were significant in the creation of Minneapolis Children’s Hospital 1965-1975. Arne was CEO and Medical Director of the Children's Hospital Organization during those years as well. Together, they have both helped “to make Children’s what it is today.”

Ruth Dalton Anderson, Minneapolis, wrote about 170 poems exclusively for her own use between the ages of 9 and 19. She came to St. Olaf as a junior transfer student when she was 19.

A few of the poems were published in the 1939 fall “Campus” magazine. At that time, Dr. Spohn, chairman of the English department favorably commented on the poems in the Manitou Messenger. They had been lying undisturbed in a keepsake box until the fall of 2010, when they were printed up for family and friends. Though thought to be archaic, they were appreciated because she articulated the “fleeting visions” of childhood and adolescence.

The newly published book’s title is “Pilgrimage and Other Poems” by Ruth Rusk Dalton, contains all her poetry written from age 9 to 19. The response received from those who have read them has been very positive, and elementary and high school teachers who have received copies has been most appreciative.

PASSAGES

Margaret Donhowe Zabawa, from Olney, Md., passed away on Nov. 23, 2010.

“Peggy” was born on July 22, 1918 in Story City, Iowa and graduated from St. Olaf College in 1939 where she met her husband, the late Jule Zabawa ’39. They were musical partners at Reformation Lutheran Church, Washington, D.C. for 18 years. In 1974 she opened Mrs. Z’s, a restaurant in Columbia, Md.

Survivors include three daughters; Charlotte Zabawa, Mary Zabawa Taylor, and Kristin Zabawa; four grandchildren; and two siblings, Dr. John Donhowe ’49 and Dr. Shoonie Hartwig ’57.

Memorials may be sent to Winter Growth Montgomery Center, 18110 Prince Philip Drive, Olney, Md. 20832.

Eugene Fevold, a retired Luther Seminary Professor and Pastor from St. Paul, Minn., died on October 29, 2011. Eugene was a graduate of St. Olaf College, Luther Seminary, University of Chicago Divinity School and also completed post graduate studies at Harvard and Princeton. In 1954-55 he was a
Fulbright Scholar in Norway. Eugene was a recognized authority and author on religion in the U.S., particularly on Norwegian-American Lutheranism.

Eugene was preceded in death by his wife, Dorothea, a brother, Norman Fevold ’47; sister-in-law, Lolly; and brother-in-law, Lester Mikelson. He is survived by his children, Constance ’72 (William Durland), Karen ’76 (Harry) Maher, Carol (John) Koepke and David (Patricia Mapes); grandchildren, Andrew (Ivannia) and Allison Durland; Reid, Nate ’02 (Sarah Garb) and Dana Olson ’05, Hannah and Jonas Maher; Carson Koepke; Marissa Mallory; great-grandchildren, Sharon and Axel; sister, Doris Mikelson ’42; brothers, Richard ’50 (Judith ’51) and Joseph ’51 (Ardeth); many nieces, nephews and friends.

Memorials preferred to St. Olaf College, Luther Seminary, St. Anthony Park Lutheran Church (2323 Como Ave., St. Paul) or Lyngblomsten Care Center. www.holcombhenryboom.com

Helen Granum Lay, Edina, Minn., passed away March 9, 2011, at the home of her niece, Diane Anderson. Preceded in death by her husband, John Lay. In addition to her niece, Helen is survived by her brother, Jack Granum, sister, Kathryn Anderson, nephews, brother-in-law and his family and longtime special friends—like-family in Tacoma, Wash. In lieu of flowers, donations to Second Harvest Heartland.

Lorraine Kingstad, from Mabel, Minn., passed away on Oct. 23, 2011. Lorraine was born Sept. 4, 1918, in Minneapolis to Luther and Lisa (Amdahl) Kingstad. She graduated from the Mabel High School and St. Olaf College. She taught home economics in Elmore, Preston and Zumbrota before starting at Mabel High School in 1956. She taught there until 1982, when she retired and was awarded the Minnesota Home Economics Teacher of the Year.

Lorraine was an active member of the Mabel First Lutheran Church, Minnesota Education Association, Lions Club, Mabel Library Club and the Mabel-Canton Booster Club. She enjoyed her family, baking, playing cards, quilting and needlework.

Lorraine is survived by a daughter, Marcia (John) Omdahl of Northfield; three grandsons, Christopher (Nancy) of Eden Prairie, Timothy (Terri) of Minnetonka and Patrick (Pamela) of Richfield; five great-grandchildren, Eric, Lindsey, Nathan, Owen, and Isabel; and several cousins. She was preceded in death by her parents. Memorials are preferred to Mabel First Lutheran Church or American Diabetes Association.

Emilie Larson, a longtime resident of the Northfield Retirement Community, passed away in her sleep Saturday, Oct. 1, 2011. Emilie was born April 28, 1919, in Northfield to Melvin and Frieda (Christenson) Larson. The family soon moved to Port Wing, Wis., where her brother Harold and sister Margaret were born. Growing up on a dairy farm, she was given a purebred Holstein calf for her 10th birthday and named her Jesse Dandy Bess. Emilie learned to train her and they competed and won prizes together.

Besides her patience for nurturing, Emilie was also inspired by her father’s sisters, Agnes, Henrietta and Nora Larson, who all attended St. Olaf College and went on to have distinguished careers as educators and scholars. She followed the family tradition, attending St. Olaf, graduating in 1940. Later, she began to
study for a master's degree in the social sciences from the University of Chicago, where her interest in educational theory and psychology grew. She ultimately earned her masters degree in education from Harvard University in 1949. It was at the education school that she chose to pursue a career in guidance counseling, and was hired by the Newton Massachusetts Public School system to counsel at the junior high level. She worked there for the next 32 years. The school gained national recognition for the quality of public education they offered. One program, created by a team of teachers and counselors that Emilie helped organize, sought to study the impact of exposure to creative processes on students at the junior high level. The Creativity Project was funded by the Ford Foundation, and was an example of the advanced teaching that was being pioneered there.

Her patience and faith in working with young people served her for many years, before and after retirement. Besides public education, she was active in American Association of University Women (AAUW), an international organization pursuing educational opportunities for women. She also served on the board of the Virginia Gildersleeve International Fund, an NGO of the United Nations founded to offer small grants representing economic empowerment to women and girls in developing countries.

Emilie returned to Northfield in 1981 to be with her aunts, Nora and Henrietta, and be also among many lifelong friends in the communities of St. Olaf, St. John's Church and the local AAUW chapter. She enjoyed corresponding regularly with the many friends, family and colleagues she didn’t see as often. Her last years brought her endless good spirits to her community at NRC. The many people whose lives she touched will miss her good heart.

Emilie is survived by niece Lise Kovar-Schneider, nephew George Kovar and other relatives including Carolyn Nitz ’69. She was preceded in death by her parents, brother and sister.

*Norris Nelson*, Cannon Falls, Minn., died peacefully on Aug. 8, 2010. Norris was born in 1916 in Stanton to Henry and Amelia (Youngberg) Nelson. The second of two children, he was baptized the following year. He attended country school in Stanton township, graduated from Cannon Falls High School in 1935 and from St. Olaf College in 1940 with majors in mathematics, chemistry, economics and biology.

Following college, Norris worked as a researcher at the Institute of Experimental Medicine, Mayo Clinic in Rochester and as an aircraft manufacturing inspector for Lockheed Aircraft in Burbank, Calif. In Feb. 1942 he joined the US Army where he built and maintained long-range radio communications equipment in South America, Africa, and Europe, including 10 months as General Eisenhower's personal radio technician. Following his discharge at the end of World War II, he worked as an electrician in South St. Paul, Two Harbors and Red Wing.

Norris and his wife, Kathe Zimmermann ’49, were married Oct. 2, 1948 at St. John’s Lutheran Church in Northfield. In fall of 1951, they moved to the farm in Stanton, where he resided ever since. Norris operated his dairy farm until 1990 and then converted to grain farming until his retirement in 1995. Following his retirement, he continued his lifelong interests in trees, birding and gardening.

Norris is survived by his children, Larry ’72 (Lynne ’75) Nelson, and Connie Nelson Blank ’77 (Ron). Grandchildren include Dr. Martha Growdon (Mark), Rachel (Ruben) Rodrigues and Aaron Nelson, Elyssa Kurz (Mike), Andrew (Bekah), and Matthew Blank. He was predeceased by his wife, Kathe, parents, stepmother Axeline, and brother Virgil.
Memorials are preferred to St. Ansgar’s Lutheran Church mission fund or your favorite nature or conservation organization. Like his wife before him, Norris’ final act of personal stewardship was to donate his body to Mayo Medical School for research and education.


~ Class of 1941 ~

**PASSAGES**

*Ruth Danielson Estrem*, Minneapolis, died April 27, 2011 at home surrounded by her family. She was born Nov. 9, 1920 in Madelia, Minn. Ruth graduated from St. Olaf, and then taught high school before training in the Army as a physical therapist. As a First Lieutenant, Ruth served in the Philippines and Korea during WWII.

She married Norman Estrem on June 15, 1948 and later worked at General Hospital in Minneapolis. They later moved to New York City, and she began homemaking and raising five children, as Norman completed his education. They moved again as Norman then served parishes in Pelican Rapids, Mabel, Minn., and Chinook, Mont. In 1972, they moved to Viroqua, Wis., and in 1982, to Faribault, Minn.

Ruth is survived by her husband, Rev. Norman Estrem, their five children; Mary, Peter, and Andrea Estrem, Rebecca Recks, and Kathryn Estrem Mao, and nine grandchildren.

Memorials are preferred to State Services for the Blind, 2200 University Ave., Suite 240, St. Paul, Minn. 55118

**Donald Gideon**, from Columbus, Ohio, died on February 11, 2011. Born April 26, 1920 in Fairmont, Minnesota, he grew up on a dairy farm near Northfield, Minnesota. He attended both public and parochial schools graduating from School District 94 in 1933 and Northfield High School in 1937. He attended St. Olaf College from 1937 to 1941, graduating cum laude with majors in physics, mathematics, and chemistry.

From September, 1941 until March, 1944 he taught in the Department of Physics while registered in the Graduate School of The Ohio State University. When the Army Specialized Training Program ended in March, 1944, he was employed at Battelle Memorial Institute where his duties were concerned chiefly with physical research for the Manhattan Project. From June, 1946 until June, 1947 he again served as teaching assistant in physics at OSU. He was awarded a Doctor of Philosophy Degree in Physics by The Ohio State University in 1948. He was Instructor of Physics at the University of Notre Dame 1947-1949 and Assistant Professor of Physics at Creighton University in Omaha, Nebraska 1949-1953. In 1953, he returned to Battelle Memorial Institute in Columbus advancing to Senior Research Physicist until his
retirement in 1985. He was a Member of Our Lady of Peace Catholic Church. In recent years Don enjoyed reading, classical music, visiting, and was always especially devoted to his family and children.

Preceded in death by his beloved wife of 53 years Mary L. (Maloney) Gideon, parents Nason E. and Mary T. (Mulligan) Gideon, sisters Margaret M. Devney and Ann M. Gideon, sisters-in-law Alice C. Schirtzinger, Helen J. Maloney, Sr. Patricia Maloney, R.G.S., Catherine A. Maloney, brothers-in-law Patrick L. Maloney, Rev. Francis M. Maloney, S. M., Robert W. Maloney, David D. Schirtzinger. He is survived by sons, Paul T. (Billie Shire), Rev. Peter M., John J., Mark R., and Daniel J.; daughters, Judith K., Carol G. (Daniel) Bunn, and Barbara J. (Steven) LaValle; eight grandchildren; six great-grandchildren; brother, Gerald W. Gideon; sisters-in-law, Vivian M. Gideon, Rita M. Versace, Margaret E. Maloney; brothers-in-law, Kenneth Devney, John Versace; many nieces; nephews; cousins; and dear friends. Please make contributions in Don’s memory to: Our Lady of Peace Catholic Church, 20 E. Dominion Blvd., Columbus, Ohio 43214-2796

*Curtis Hansen*, from Edina, Minn., passed away peacefully on Jan. 31, 2011. After graduating from Amery, Wis. High School and St. Olaf College, he earned a Master’s degree from the Mpls. College of Music. He began his teaching career in Luck, Wis., and went on to Brainerd, Minn. where he developed an outstanding choral department. His choirs performed at state and national music educator's conferences and conventions. He was one of the founders and a charter member, also national vice president of the American Choral Directors. He also served as president and vice president of the MMEA. Honors included FMC award for outstanding contributions to choral music, and an induction into the MMEA Hall of Fame. Curtis was a long time member of Bloomington Medalist Band, of the American Legion in Brainerd, and a member of the Bethlehem Lutheran Church since 1963. He became the editor of Schmitt Hall and McCreary in 1963, after which in 1977 he founded Curtis Music Press, which provided new music for school and church choirs. He served his country first as a member of the U.S. Navy Band, and later was commissioned as an officer in the amphibious forces with D Day landings at Omaha Beach in France and Okinawa in the Pacific.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Arthur and Lorena; sister, Bonnie Wolff. Survived by wife of 66 years, Muriel; daughters, Mary E. Farrell of Vienna, Austria and Jeanne (Chris) Rosauer of Girdwood, AK; sister, Helen Fuhs of Anchorage, AK; two grandsons, Jason (Jan) Splitt and Jake Rosauer; nieces and nephews.

Memorials preferred to FMC Endowment Fund, Bethlehem Church Capital Campaign Fund or donor’s choice.

*Paul Jacobson*, Northfield, Minn., passed away peacefully on Aug. 9, 2011. He was born on May 4, 1917 in Madison, Minn. The day before graduating from St. Olaf in 1941, Paul proposed marriage to his classmate Lillian “Dinky” Ingebrigtsen ’41 while on a stroll in what is now Lashbrook Park. In 2002, the couple came “full circle” by moving to the Northfield Retirement Community, which is adjacent to the Park. Paul and Dinky have been class agents for St. Olaf since 1998, motivating their class to be leaders in alumni donations to the college. They served on their class reunion committee for many reunions.

Paul also graduated from Harvard Business School and earned Chartered Life Underwriter distinction. His career centered on pensions and life insurance, mostly with Lutheran fraternal life companies. Paul’s success was built on his keen talent in math coupled with his ability to explain financial matters so
they made sense to others. Paul enjoyed many achievements in his personal and professional life; among his most cherished were almost 69 years of marriage with his wife, Lillian (“Dinky”) Ingebrigtsen ’41 of Red Wing, Minn., and their four children, eight grandchildren, and 3 great-grandchildren. Fulfilling the prophecy of a dream he had decades ago, Paul was a peacemaker, a great thinker, and a man of action.

Survivors include his wife, Lillian ’41; four children, Ann Wolfe ’67, Stan ’69 (and Janet ’69) Jacobson, C. J. Jacobson ’76 and Jan Jacobson ’76; and eight grandchildren including Maia Erickson ’15, Andrew Jacobson ’06, Rolf Jacobson ’01, Kaj Thompson ’06 and Maren Wolfe ’94.

Dorothea Larson Richardson, from Minneapolis, Minn., passed away peacefully on Jan. 4, 2011. She was a retired longtime employee of General Mills.

“Dode” was preceded in death by her husband, William, and is survived by a stepson, Michael “Skip” (Mary) Olson; 2 granddaughters, Jocelyn and Elizabeth; nieces, Corinne (Paul) Christensen, and Lynne Addison; nephew, Dean (Diane) Larson; numerous nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be given to North Memorial Residential Hospice.

Philip Rensvold, Aug. 11, 2011

*Elmer Romundstad, from Edina, Minn., died on March 17, 2011. A retired longtime employee of Lutheran Brotherhood and CPA, he was a founding member of Lutheran Brotherhood Singers, and active in many choirs throughout his life. Elmer served his Lord and church throughout his life. He also served in the U.S. Army at the Panama Canal.

He was preceded in death by his beloved wife, Astrid; his parents, Millard and Oline; and sister, Doris. He is survived by children, John (Elizabeth), Carol (special friend Doug Childs), and Rob (Sherée) Romundstad; grandchildren, Annie, Brandon (Sarah), Derek, Kayla, and Saylor; cousins, nieces, and nephews. Memorials are preferred to the Normandale Lutheran Church Foundation.

*Lyle Siverson, Gilroy, Calif., peacefully passed away May 22, 2010, with his wife of 70 years and his loving family at his bedside. Lyle was born in Tyler, Minn. in 1919. His loving life is noted for many accomplishments. He graduated from St. Olaf College in 1941. In WWII, he served in Hawaii in the Philippines as a Master Sergeant in the Army Air Corps. He received his doctorate in education from the University of Southern California, and served in school administration positions in several southern California communities before becoming Superintendent of the Morgan Hill School District in 1967. Subsequent to his superintendence of the Morgan Hill schools, he became executive director of the Western Association of Schools and Colleges, an American school accreditation commission with a territory that includes the Pacific and East Asian regions. He retired from WASC in 1984, and eventually settled in Gilroy with his wife, Ellen.

Lyle leaves behind his loving wife, Ellen and two of their sons, Allen and Erik, their wives Margie and Nancy, five grandchildren and four great-grandchildren. Lyle was predeceased by his sister, Marion Anderson, and by his son, John Siverson. Lyle and Ellen are founding members of Advent Lutheran
church, and the family requests that memorial donations be directed to Advent Lutheran at 16870 Murphy Ave. Morgan Hill, Calif. 95037

Gifford Skree, Houston, Minn., Feb. 25, 2011

Victoria Tangen Miller, from Long Prairie, Minn., died July 3, 2011, in West Branch, Iowa surrounded by her family. Born Edna Victoria Tangen (Vicki) on September 5, 1918 in New Prairie, Minn., as the youngest of 13 children, to Carl and Maria Tangen, she was the last of the family to leave this earth. She attended a one room school house in rural New Prairie and attended high school in Alexandria, MN. After graduating from St. Olaf in 1941, Vicki went on to teach English.

During WWII, she met a GI home on leave, Norman G. Miller. They married on June 8, 1946. She was a faithful member of University Lutheran Church of Hope. Her life was enriched by friendships at Hope and her southeast neighborhood, and with other lifelong friends and many relatives. She was an avid reader, music lover, and enjoyed meeting new people. She was a loving mother to daughters, Jane and Julie, carrying through with grace after the early loss of her husband Norm in 1971. She embraced her sons in law, and was a fun-loving grandmother to her six grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her husband, parents, brothers and sisters, and infant daughter, Maria. She is survived by two daughters and their husbands, Jane ’76 and Kirk Olson, and Julie and Joe Kearney; six grandchildren: Samuel Olson (Jessica), Andrew Olson (Anna), Matthew, Kate, Bridget, and Margaret Kearney, her brother-in-law, Karl Kolstad; and many cousins, nieces, and nephews.

~ CLASS OF 1942 ~

PASSAGES

Frank Andersen, from Richfield, Minn., went home to be with his Savior and Lord on Feb. 1, 2011. After graduating from St. Olaf College, Frank attended Luther Seminary, and served parishes in Veblen, S.D., Ruthton, Minn. and Newport, Minn. He is survived by wife of 66 years, Elizabeth; children, Norman, Janet Trompeter-Sehlieman (Doug), Gary (Diane); 6 grandchildren; and 8 great-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by granddaughter, Jolie Trompeter.

Vernon Anderson, from Amery, Wis., passed away April 19, 2011, at his son’s home in Wausau, Wis. He graduated from Roosevelt High School in Minneapolis and then attended St. Olaf and Luther Seminary. During his career, he was founding pastor of Hope Lutheran in Eau Claire and St. Timothy Lutheran in St. Paul, Minn. He also served English Lutheran of Bateman in Chippewa Falls and First Lutheran in Manitowoc. After parish ministry, he worked for the Synod, eventually becoming bishop of the Northern Wisconsin District of the American Lutheran Church from 1973 to 1984.

His wife, Anna, preceded him in death. Survivors include his four sons and their wives; Joel ’73 (Lynell ’73) Anderson, Mark ’67 (Sandra), Paul ’70 (Alice) and Philip ’69 (Mavis ’66) Anderson; and a
brother, John (Irene). He is preceded in death by his parents; wife, Anna; sister, Camilla; and brothers, Carroll and Curtis.

**Irene Anderson Snyder**, from Pocatello, Idaho, gently passed away in her sleep after a long struggle with Alzheimer’s disease on May 21, 2011. Born on Nov. 3, 1920, at the family home in Groton, South Dakota, to Oscar and Louise Anderson, she grew up there before leaving for college. In 1942, Irene was graduated cum laude from St. Olaf College with a bachelor’s degree. She married college sweetheart, Alvar “Sandy” Sandquist in September 1943, and they lived at Fort Sill, Oklahoma, where daughter, Christine, was born. While Sandy was stationed overseas Irene, her mother, Louise and Christine lived in DeSmet, South Dakota, where she taught high school English. After the war, Irene and Sandy settled in Minneapolis, where sons, Eric and David, and daughter, Ellen were born. In 1956, Irene and her family moved to Long Beach, Calif., and then Anaheim shortly before Sandy was killed in a plane crash.

Irene received new certification in elementary education and became a fifth-grade teacher. Introduced by the university president where Sandy taught, Irene married Idaho State University dean, Mel Schubert, in December 1960, and the family moved to a new home in Pocatello, Idaho. Irene loved Pocatello and enjoyed activities that included soaking at Lava Hot Springs, university events and world travel with Mel. She and her children made many new friends and built a happy life in this friendly community. Tragically, in 1970, Mel died of surgical complications and again Irene was a widow with children to care for. As the children grew and left home, Irene found happiness with Fred Snyder and they married in 1973. Fred died in 1977, and Irene continued living in Pocatello. Her life was filled with friends, travel, swimming, bridge and special times with her grandchildren, Scott Twito, Andrew and Sadie Sandquist.

Irene was preceded in death by her parents, Oscar Anderson and Louise Klabunde Anderson, her husband and father of her children, Alvar Sandquist ’39, husband, Mel Schubert, husband, Fred Snyder; and brother, Ben Anderson. She is survived by daughter, Christine Twito ’66; and son and daughter-in-law, Scott and Sammy Twito, and their children, Emma and Max; son and daughter-in-law, David and Stella Sandquist, and their children, Andrew, and Sadie; son, Eric Sandquist; and daughter and son-in-law, Ellen and Norm Morin; niece, Mary Allsop and husband, Jon; and nephew, Jon Anderson and wife, Janet.

In lieu of flowers you may make a contribution to the Irene Snyder Leadership Endowment at Idaho State University in care of K. C. Felt, Campus Stop 8033, Pocatello, Idaho 83209.

**Jean Christensen Ekblaw**, from Scottsdale, Ariz., passed away on May 31, 2011. Born December 13, 1919 in Beloit, Wisc., to Chester and Grace Christensen, she received her undergraduate degree from St. Olaf College in 1942 and her Masters degree in counseling from the University of Wisconsin in 1943.

Jean was a counselor for the Lutheran Council of Churches during WWII, then Dean of Women at Mills College and counselor and Dean of Students at Kansas City University, the University of Minnesota and University of Missouri at Kansas City. She married Dr. Sidney E. Ekblaw in 1952 and lived in Kansas City until retiring to Arizona with her husband in 1970 where she has been a longtime member of Bethany Lutheran Church.

She will be greatly missed by her children; Karen (Michael) Miller, Kroy (Laura Paty) Ekblaw, Karla Ekblaw, Linda Bruner ’63 and Keith Ekblaw; four grandchildren, Kristen Williams, Kristofer Miller,
Kroy Miller, and Daniel Ekblaw; three great grandchildren, Vincent Ekblaw, Sydney and Londyn Williams. Jean was preceded in death by her husband Sidney Ekblaw and a grandson Benjamin Ekblaw.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Ekblaw Educational Fund at Bethany Lutheran Church or to St. Olaf College, 1520 Saint Olaf Avenue, Northfield, MN 55057-9984

Kenneth Conlan, Preston, Minn., May 16, 2011

Dorothy Frey Plowman, Surprise, Ariz., April 7, 2011

Ruby Galstad Lestrud, from Menomonie, Wis., died on Nov. 17, 2010. Ruby was born in St. James, Minnesota, on January 20, 1921, to Elias and Mina (Tande) Galstad. She was raised on the family dairy farm near many of her friends and uncles. After Ruby graduated from high school, the family moved to Northfield, Minnesota, so Ruby could attend St. Olaf College where she majored in music and biology. She played tenor saxophone in the St. Olaf Band and enjoyed the concerts and touring the band.

Ruby met and fell in love with another student, Elmore Lestrud ’41. They were introduced by Elmore’s five year old nephew, Orville Hendrickson, who then served as ring bearer when they married on August 26, 1942, in a beautiful little chapel at St. Olaf. Ruby and Elmore moved to the Lestrud family farm between Menomonie and Colfax where they ran the dairy farm and raised two children, Kenneth and Karolynn. Ruby and Elmore joined Our Savior’s Lutheran Church in 1942, where Ruby was an active member until her death.

Besides church work, dairy farming, vegetable and flower gardening, Ruby was active in 4-H, Homemakers, church work and snowmobiling. She was especially thrilled when grandchildren, Mandy, Andrew and Sarah joined the family. In addition to farm and volunteer work, Ruby loved to travel and took many cruises with family members. She and Elmore also loved to take long car trips out West. In 2008, Ruby and her cherished cat, Zorra, moved to White Pine Village where they made new friends and enjoyed life in town. She continued to be an active member of Our Savior’s.

She is survived by her son, Kenneth, his wife Mary and their children, Andrew and Mandy (Shane) Kassa, and by her daughter Karolynn, her husband Jim Steinberg and their daughter Sarah, and by many nephews, nieces, great-nephews and great-nieces. Ruby was preceded in death by her husband, Elmore Lestrud ’41 and her nephew Ellwyn Hendrickson.

Ruth Garlid Bailey, from Lake Forest, Ill., died on Sept. 8, 2010. She was preceded in death by her husband, Robert R. Bailey, Jr.

Warren Gehrman, Woodhaven, Mich., died on Nov. 30, 2006. He was preceded in death by his wife, Helen, and is loved and survived by 2 children, Dale (Laura) Gehrman and Cheryl Schoen. He was the cherished grandfather of seven, and great-grandfather of six.
Memorial contributions may be made to Emmanuel Lutheran Church, Arbor Hospice of Finnish Center Association. www.thayer-rock.com

Irene Johnson, from Lanesboro, Minn., died on Jan. 31, 2011. Irene Benite Johnson was born in Fillmore County in rural Lanesboro on April 25, 1918, to Isaac and Bertha (Anderson) Johnson, and graduated from Lanesboro High School. After attending St. Olaf College, Irene taught in several high schools, and was a secretary in Lanesboro Public School for 30 years. She was a member of First Lutheran Church of Highland her whole life, and held offices in WELCA, was a Sunday School superintendent and on the church council. Irene had been in the Harmony Community Health care since June 2010. Survivors include one sister, Doris (Ed) Griffin; and several nieces and nephews. Irene was preceded in death by her parents and three brothers.

Clarence Nicklasson, Buffalo Lake, Minn., Nov. 22, 2010

Neola Lower Nixon, Anacortes, Wash., Oct. 29, 2010

*Neal Pearson, from Edina, Minn., passed away on Oct. 20, 2010. He was the only child born to Blanche and Neal Pearson of Rockford, Ill., on July 22, 1919. He finished high school there, intending to follow in his father’s footsteps as a wood pattern maker, a highly skilled job. God had different plans for his life. His mother had faithfully brought him to church as a young boy. After graduation from high school, he met a visiting pastor, Rev. Maynard Force, who was giving Bible studies at their church. This resulted in a beautiful friendship leading Neal to obey the call to the ministry.

Neal entered St. Olaf College, and in his senior year he met a young freshman from Chicago, Geraldine Lois Smith ’45. He could hardly believe this could be true! They bonded quickly, each one sure this was the Lord’s leading. He went on to the Augustana Seminary, Rock Island, Illinois and Jerry finished St. Olaf — and they married! Neal entered the U.S. Navy as a chaplain. Training was at Williamsburg, Virginia — a beautiful place for a honeymoon!

After his discharge from the Navy, Neal spent his remaining years serving churches in Berkley, Mich. (4 years), Turlock, Calif. (7 years), Alexandria, Minn. (8 years), Minneapolis (18 years) and Augustana Home (20 years) in his retirement. He was blessed when they moved to Edina, Minn. — exactly 3 years ago. God had blessed them in so many lovely ways. Neal was a “gentle man” in every sense of the word. He loved the Lord dearly and ran the race well.

Neal was preceded in death by son, Brian Pearson; and parents, Neal and Blanche Pearson. He is survived by his wife, Geraldine (Jerry) Smith Pearson ’45; daughters, Kathy ’68 (Jonathan) Pederson, and Jeanne Pearson; sons, Jack (Nancy) Pearson, and Randy (Shirl) Pearson; 12 grandchildren; 7 great-grandchildren; sister-in-law, Mary (Dave) Vail; and many other relatives and friends. Memorials are preferred to: Rev. Pearson’s favorite mission projects.

Evvard Roe, Grand Island, Neb., Nov. 19, 2010
Mary Ulland Erlandson, Marion, Iowa, Oct. 4, 2010

~ CLASS OF 1943 ~

NEWS

Jeanette Higgins Dahl, St. Cloud, Minn., writes: I am writing a book, “Views from an Empty Nest,” at age 89!! Having had a second career following college and subsequent teaching in Minnesota, my few remaining 1943 classmates may find it interesting.

PASSAGES

Rosemarie Alley Nesse, from Westminster, Colo., died on Feb. 17, 2011.

Rosemarie was born Oct. 11, 1921, to Alma Lee and Archie Alley. She attended Roseau High School and went to St. Olaf College where she received her B.A. Rosemarie was involved in college concert choir, the Austin Choraliers, St. John Lutheran Choir. She played piano, enjoyed watercolor painting and board games.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Dr. James Nesse ’41, and a son, David. Survivors include four children, Mark Nesse ’72, Paul Nesse, Jeanne Ruiz and Karin Williams ’69; nine grandchildren; four great-grandchildren.

Memorials may be sent to Covenant Village of Colorado Benevolent Fund, 9153 Yarrow St., Westminster, Colo. 80021.

John Durnam, Keene, N.H., Feb. 22, 2011

Hans Halverson, Fargo, N.D., Dec. 21, 2010

Charlotte Olson Malahy, from Cape Girardeau, Mo., died Oct. 17, 2011. She was born Oct. 3, 1922, in Echols, Minn., to Gilbert and Mathilde Olsen Olson. She and Robert C. Malahy were married Jan. 4, 1947, in St. James, Minn. After graduating from St. Olaf in 1943, Charlotte was an airline hostess and taught Latin and English in Minnesota, Oklahoma and Cape Girardeau public schools. She was a member of Centenary United Methodist Church.

Survivors include two sons, Robert C. Malahy Jr. and wife Mary Anne, Barry K. Malahy; five grandsons; a great-granddaughter; and two great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her parents and husband, Robert.
Loren Thompson, from Pinehurst, N.C., died on Feb. 25, 2011. He was born on April 6, 1921 in Madison, Minn. Loren was the oldest of 11 children: Elda, Ardell, Phyllis, Joyce, Dale, Eloise, Dwain, Deanne, Paul, and Linda and was preceded in death by his sister Phyllis. Loren graduated from St. Olaf in 1943, and Marquette Medical School in Milwaukee, Wis. in 1946. He lived in Green Bay, Wis. from 1958-1988, and worked as a radiologist at St. Vincent’s Hospital. He served as President of the Wisconsin Radiological Society in 1978, and retired to Pinehurst, N.C. in 1988, where he lived for 23 years.

He is survived by his wife, Janet R. Thompson; four children and their spouses: Karen, Gail (husband, Don), Loren (wife, Charlotte), and Jim (wife, Lana); six grandchildren, Sarah, Matt, Alissa, Lucas, Conor, and Regan.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to First Health Hospice, 150 Applecross Rd., Pinehurst, NC 28374, or North Carolina Library for the Blind, 1841 Capital Blvd., Raleigh, N.C. 27604

Mary Wolff Paper, from Denver, passed away on Oct. 7, 2011. She was born Sept. 22, 1921 in Buffalo, Minn. Her parents were Henry and Mabel Wolff. She graduated from the University of Minnesota with a B.A. in Speech Education. She attended St. Olaf and the University of Denver. She was married to Frederick Paper on Dec. 22, 1950 at St. Paul’s Lutheran Church in Denver. Mary has been a member of Christ the King since 1957.

Mary held various leadership roles in the church, including Dorcas Circle and Women of the ELCA. She was the Communion Registrar for eight years. She visited shut-ins for the church for 30 years. She worked as a teacher in the Denver Public Schools both as a tenured teacher and a substitute for 28 years. In her younger days, she taught Sunday school and was a church-sponsored Boy Scout den mother. She was also active in the American Association of University Women and her sorority, Delta Zeta. She enjoyed the Widows and Widowers group, especially their duplicate bridge group. She loved traveling with her family and later alone in Europe, on cruises and in the heartland of America. She enjoyed doing many slide presentations for friends and organizations.

Mary is survived by: her son, Fritz Paper (Patricia and step-son Kenneth Ray Payne II and godson Keith Wall); her son-in-law, Terrance Cruz; her granddaughter, Valerie Cruz; and her sister, Ruth Tufigno. She was preceded in death by her husband, Frederick Paper, and a daughter, Ruth Cruz.

Donald Worden, Feb. 7, 2011

~ CLASS OF 1944 ~

NEWS

Jeannette Rynning Bey, Holmen, Wis., is a 53 year breast cancer survivor. When Jeannette has gone to cancer survivor events in the La Crosse area, she is always recognized as the longest living cancer patient.
She said she had a good surgeon from Whitehall, and she had a lot of people praying for her. But most of all, she feels she was one of the lucky ones. “It’s hard for me to relate to other breast cancer survivors,” said Jeannette, who celebrated her 89th birthday Sunday on Halloween. “I didn't have any complications and I healed well - and I didn't have to go through radiation or chemotherapy.”

Surgery and high-dose radiation were Jeannette’s only options when she was diagnosed with breast cancer in 1957. Jeannette had her left breast removed during surgery and marked her 36th birthday during a 10-day hospital stay. Dr. Joe Durst, then a Franciscan Skemp obstetrician-gynecologist, checked to make sure the cancer had not spread. “It is amazing that she is still alive, but the surgery got the whole thing,” said Durst, now senior vice president of the Franciscan Skemp Foundation. “Back then we could do surgery, and that was about it,” he said. “We did some radiation, but often quite severe burns came with it. Cancer treatment wasn’t as finely tuned as it is today.”

Jeannette said she found a hard lump in her left breast when she rolled over in bed one night. She had no family history of breast cancer. "I was floored when I was diagnosed," Jeannette said. “Doctors felt I had a better than a 50-50 chance of surviving, but all I thought about was my kids. I wanted to see my kids grow up.”

Jeannette's four children are still living. Myron is 64 years old, Warren is 63, Jeanne 60 and Esther 57. She was married to her husband, David, a Lutheran minister, for more than 50 years, and he died in 1999. She was born and raised in La Crosse. She graduated from La Crosse Central High School in 1939 and majored in psychology and religion at St. Olaf College, graduating in 1944. She married her husband, David, a Luther College graduate, in 1945. Jeannette said she and her husband grew up eight blocks apart on the South Side of La Crosse, and their families knew each other. But they didn’t start dating until after college. Her husband served several parishes, including the Pigeon Falls Lutheran Church from 1955 to 1964. She has held various jobs, including church secretary and welfare case worker.

Jeannette moved from Evansville, Ind., back to the La Crosse area more than 10 years ago, and now lives in an assisted living facility in Holmen. She said her doctors have referred to her as a “tough old bird.” She has been healthy most of her life until the last year or so when she had hip replacement surgery and two bowel resection operations.

“Jeannette had breast cancer when it was a death sentence,” said Dr. Jim Richardson, her family medicine physician in Holmen. “Today, the survival rate is excellent. She is a good patient who works hard at taking care of herself and maintaining a level of independence as much as she can,” he said. “She looks at the up side of things, like the glass is half-full.” Jeannette has had annual mammograms since her cancer diagnosis, and they all have come back negative. She said she might have chosen breast reconstruction surgery today, but it was not an option 50 years ago. “I never felt like half of a woman, like some women felt,” Jeannette said. “I am thankful that I lived through this. I got to see my kids grow up and live a long life.”

PASSAGES

*Edwin Brown, passed away in Minneapolis on Oct. 28, 2010, after a brief illness. Born February 25, 1922 in Northfield, Minnesota , he was the son of Chauncey Lewis Brown and Mary Louise Skogerson
Brown. Through his father he was a descendent of Mary Chilton, one of the passengers on the Mayflower.

After attending St. Olaf College, “Ned” graduated from the University of Minnesota with B.S. and D.D.S. degrees. He married Elizabeth Lee, also of Northfield, in June of 1945. After serving as a captain in the dental corps of the U.S. army in Japan from 1946 to 1948, he returned to Northfield, where he established a dental practice. In 1959, he moved to Edina, where Ned practiced dentistry at the Southdale Medical Building for over 3 decades. He was active in the American Dental Association, St. Olaf Alumni Association, and several other community organizations.

In 1960, he and his wife were a part of a small group of charter members of Lutheran Church of the Master, where they were active members for more than thirty years. Ned and Elizabeth spent many happy times at their cabin on the North Shore of Lake Superior and traveled extensively, especially to Maui, their favorite island. He will be greatly missed for his gentle spirit, wonderful humor, and deep faith.

He was preceded in death by his beloved wife of fifty-four years, Elizabeth Lee Brown ’44, his siblings, Richard and Robert Brown and Ruthella “Bonnie” McDonald; his nephews Archie McDonald and Lawrence Brown, and beloved relative Frederick Glasoe. He is survived by his daughters, Susan Brown Schendel ’69, Nancy Johnson (Dean), Heidi Bauer (Jerry), and Melissa Brown ’81, his grandchildren Elliott and Melisande Schendel; Mark ’00 (Kami) Johnson; Michael Johnson; Andrea (Ryan) Hollingsworth; Brent Johnson and Cristian Tomus; his great grandchildren Magnus Johnson, Gavin Jackson, and Hailey and Hayden; and his nieces and nephews Mary McDonald, Tom Brown, Judy Brown, Barb Brown, Beth Glasoe, Carolyn, Chris and Matson Bailey, Lila, Dines and Fliss Francese. Memorials preferred to St. Olaf College or the donation of your choice.

Virginia Peterson Gangsei, from San Diego, died peacefully on Nov. 26, 2010, following a prolonged illness.

She was born Virginia Peterson on Dec. 22, 1920, in Madison and raised in the Midwest, mostly in the small town of Roscoe, S.D. She was working at Augsburg Publishing House in Minneapolis when her bosses arranged a scholarship to St. Olaf College where she graduated with a degree in English.

She was married to Lyle Gangsei, St. Olaf Class of 1942, at St. John’s Lutheran Church in Northfield and shared 52 years together until his passing. Lyle was a Lutheran minister and the couple served churches in Madison, Wisc.; Rockford, Ill; Redondo Beach, Calif. and Perth Amboy, N.J. before moving to Thousand Oaks, Calif., in 1963, where they stayed until 1996 when Lyle died. Virginia returned to Northfield from 1998 to 2006 and briefly in 2010.

A lively and energetic woman with many passions, Virginia amply filled the roles of life partner to Lyle, mother of four boys and a girl, grandmother of six girls, high school English teacher and department chairperson, pastor’s wife, antique dealer and community leader. She earned her master’s degree in English at Valley State College (now Cal State Northridge). Virginia loved poetry and writing and had a special gift for inspiring creative expression in her high school students.
With Lyle she traveled the world and made friends everywhere. She kept a beautiful home and was a
talented gardener, floral arranger, seamstress and hostess. An active senior, Virginia taught English
literature in Slovakia for a summer in her late 70s and volunteered for a month at a Brazilian orphanage
after turning 80. She moved back to Northfield in 1998 where she avidly reconnected with St. Olaf and
the congregation at St. John’s. She met and married Loring Knecht, a St. Olaf emeritus professor of
French who passed away in 2001. Suffering from declining health due to dementia, Virginia spent her last
year in San Diego, near her son David. Although she gradually faded away, her humor, passionate social
nature and love of beauty remained visible even to those meeting her for the first time.

She was preceded in death by her first husband, Dr. Lyle Gangsei ’42, and after her second husband, Dr.
Loring Knecht ’47, died, she resumed Gangsei for her surname. Survivors include her five children, Dr.
David Gangsei ’67, Paul Gangsei ’67, Peter Gangsei ’69, Karthia Grotey ’79, and Stephen Gansei; and
her six granddaughters Erica, Kira, Kharis, Chelsey, Shayna and Emily.

The Gangsei family asks that contributions to the Virginia Gangsei Memorial be made to the Manna
Conejo Valley Food Bank, P.O. Box 1114, Thousand Oaks, CA 91358. (www.mannaconejo.org), which
the Gangseis helped found in 1971, providing food to migrant farm workers and others in need.

Carol Youngquist Fredrickson, from Brooklyn Center, Minn., died on Dec. 19, 2010. She was born
July 23, 1922, in Northfield, Minn., the daughter of Oscar Youngquist and Clara Berth (Lieder)
Youngquist. Carol grew up in Faribault, graduated from St. Olaf, was dedicated to education and taught
in the St. Paul Public Schools for over 40 years. She and her husband, Ralph spent their retirement in
Florida and a number of years of summers in the Minnesota lakes area before moving to the Lake Shore
around 1998. Carol shared her lifelong love of music with family and friends. In college she was in the St.
Olaf Choir and later directed church choirs. During her years in Florida she directed a dedicated group of
volunteers called the “Del Tura Choralaires.” She enjoyed keeping in touch with family and cherished
friends through cards and letters. Playing the piano, reading a good book, playing a round of golf or
traveling to over 40 states by car, Carol was always busy enjoying life to its fullest.

Carol will be missed by her stepsons; 1) Alan Fredrickson, her ex-daughter-in-law, DeeJay Fredrickson,
their daughter, Laura, and her partner, Marisol Morales; 2) Eric (Barb) Fredrickson and their sons, Kirk,
Christian and Tommy; and her daughter, Mary (Herb) Greenberg and their children, Emily and Andrew.
She was preceded in death by her first husband, Gorden Oldenberg; and her second husband, Ralph
Fredrickson.

Jack Young, Minneapolis, Jan. 20, 2011

~ CLASS OF 1945 ~

Dear Classmates of ’45,

It is so great to hear from so many of you. So glad to see so many doing so well. By the time you get
this I should be able to say Happy Holidays! I haven’t been on campus since my grandson graduated last
spring, but I get the weekly newsletters as I hope many of you do. I am amazed at all the exciting things going on, not only for the students, but also the reaching out to us Alumni. If you do not get it, you should try to do so. But let’s get on with the news.

I am happy to report that I see Dorie Grimsvedt Larsen on facebook, and she is doing fine in her tower overlooking the beautiful San Francisco area. She has transportation wherever she wants to go, three meals a day, and entertainment. She gave her car to her grandson at Christmas, and doesn’t even miss it. Annie Reitman DiGennaro visited her in April and they spent one afternoon on Lake Merritt in an authentic Venetian Gondola complete with a singing gondlier. She was looking forward to visiting her oldest grandson, a senior at San Diego State.

Annie is just as active as ever, but has moved to a lovely senior complex, independent living with one meal a day, on the 9th floor overlooking the mountains. The sunsets are glorious. She has joined another book club (her 4th), a creative writing group, and does WII bowling. She exercises at the Y and is active at her church. She was in Alaska in July for a granddaughter’s wedding and in San Diego for another granddaughter’s wedding, both brides were lovely. She also flew to Missouri to visit son Bill, and walked across the Missouri River on the new pedestrian bridge. Her life goes happily on, and she is thankful for good health.

I talk to Jerry Smith Pearson online and phone. She is most happy with her home at 7500 York, the lovely Lutheran Home right in downtown Minneapolis, especially since losing her Neil. There is so much support and love there, many activities, and dinner if she wishes. She often plays the piano for services. She is proud of all her children, but especially of her grandson and his wife, who are missionaries with their young family in Paris. God is using the whole family in exciting ways, and their young son wants to be a minister like his great grandfather Neil.

I finally heard from my friend Lois Ann Swanberg Smith, back from her summer at West Glacier where most of her family is. She had a great summer and rejoices in the fact that her children and grandchildren are busy and enjoying life. She says, “I love moving into the GREAT grandma era and watching another generation learn to talk and walk, it gives me great hope for the future of this great nation.” After giving me that bit of philosophy, she was off to her regular breakfast date with friends. She keeps very busy when she returns to Minnesota for the winter.....I also see Tulla Froiland Hansen on facebook, who we know is very busy with many activities in Northfield. She just returned from a trip to a wedding in Vermont and seeing a brand new great grandson in Connecticut.

I received a note from the daughter of Sylvia Mac Olson Anderson with an update on her Mother. Silvia has moved to Eskaton Skilled Nursing facility in Carmichael, California, after a fall resulting in a compression fracture of a vertebra. Sylvia says, “I have my Roland electric keyboard with me in my room here. Occasionally I play for our Chaplains Bible Study.” She gets her mail at her daughter’s address: Sue Bartholomew, 8209 Summerplace Drive, Citrus heights CA 95621.

…I also heard from Lois Johnson Bergsjo, who has just moved to The Augustana Regent Home in Burnsville. She says, “I have Macular Degeneration and do not seem to write well. It is a bummer, but it is a nice building, good food, and nice people. There are no Oles here. I hope you can read this. I hope all is well with you. Greetings to all the class.” Her address is 14500 Regent Lane #304, Burnsville, MN 55306. Thank you for writing, Lois. I hope you will hear from some Oles.

Margaret Molberg Pederson is living at 1045 Alta Vista Road in Louisville KY 40205. She has
resurrected her love for piano and celebrated her 90th birthday on Oct 1st with a piano recital for about seventy guests. Much of her time is spent on a research project with two University of Louisville professors on preferences of older persons for late life medical care. She says, “I always take at least one college or grad course each year to keep learning. Life begins at 90.” She can be reached at margolivekent1045@gmail.com.

Nancy Gronna Peterson is happy at her very nice Becketwood where she has a lot of good new friends, some from St Olaf. But there are no classmates. She is lucky to be able to have her Molly, her big black Scotch Terrier at her side most of the time. He attracts a lot of attention. For several years she has volunteered in the library, but this year she enjoyed helping with the yard work on their beautiful 32 acres. The big excitement there was a very special guest. One of their active Oles invited President Anderson for dinner one night in their dining room.

Gudrun Harstead enjoyed seeing all the classmates at the reunion, especially eating together and talking about their activities. She is a very active volunteer in Mayville ND. She helps in her church with Communion, the church paper, “Branches,” and is chairman of the quilters. She attends Bible Study and is chairman of the WELCA Women’s organization. She was a delegate to the Synod Convention in Fargo. She also helps at the Senior Center in town supervising Bingo, selling tickets, and delivering telephone books. She is Secretary Treasure of the Pioneer Daughters, and works in the Museum in the old Historic Depot. She and her sister Edith drove her 15 year old Oldsmobile 1500 miles one weekend to North Branch MN. Otherwise her driving is at a standstill and she takes the county bus. She is busy with the garden at her house, front and back, plus a few tomatoes, parsley, and chives to flavor her food. She sends Best Regards to the class.

I have several complete letters…

Dear Classmates,
It is a joy to read of my classmates, therefore I write to you with fond greetings but little news. My only travel this year was in Minnesota. I was on the St. Olaf campus several times. I attended a great reunion with my other class of 1946. It was also the 100th reunion of the St Olaf Choir. This meant a concert of the current choir and the huge reunion choir; both excellent of course. I stayed in a dorm and enjoyed many activities and renewed friendships. With a son and his family, I enjoyed a stay on Superior’s North Shore and another at a YMCA camp. I do the normal volunteering for good works and my fun volunteer work is as a fossil preparator at the Science Museum of Minnesota.

Love, Kay Winger Blair

Dear Classmates of 45,
I thank Vonnie for keeping us informed where each of us is in the Golden Years. There are many advantages that help overcome the fact that our bodies just don’t work as well anymore. Arthritis seems to be my main problem, so I cannot walk, cook, or bake as I once did. All those good Home Economic courses are going to waste. However, I love living in my senior apartment complex called Pine Glen.

Our manager plans special Birthday Bashes, Garden parties, a Luau, and of course a Packer party. We are starting a Book Club. Our first book will be The Glass Castle by Jeannette Walls, a memoir.

I spend trips in Northern WI with family and numerous grand and great grandchildren so my life is full.
My years at St Olaf were special to me and always bring back good memories.
Greetings to all my classmates,

Verda Oemoen McFarlane

Dear Vonnie,
You may remember me as a roommate to Muriel Hegstrom Nelson and Signe Solander Lindahl in Agnes Mellby. I haven’t heard from either of them for quite a while.

I have lived in LaSata Heights senior apartments, Cedarberg WI, for the past two years. My husband, Rev. Robert, passed on to Glory three years ago, and now I live closer to my four sons and families.

I am busy here playing the piano for Sing-Alongs and helping with a Bible Study. Arthritis, hearing, walking, and speaking continue to be a challenge, but I feel truly blessed. Greetings to you and fellow Oles!
Love in Christ,

Ruth Schuchardt Maschke

Dear Vonnie,
The most vivid memories of my life at St Olaf were my freshman year, maybe because it was a great change for me, coming from a small community in central Minnesota, just recovering from the great depression, a country church, and taking a school bus to high school. St Olaf was the college on the hill, beautiful, serene, and with an atmosphere of academia. I was impressed. The students were happy, typical young people full of energy and enthusiasm and mostly blond and blue eyed Scandinavians like me, and most of them were from Minnesota, and most were Lutherans. Some of the same professors were still teaching since my father was a student, who graduated in 1916. Christianson was just taking over as music director from his father.

How times have changed! Now when I have been back on campus there are so many new buildings I hardly recognize it. I kept looking for the buildings as I remembered them. The students are from everywhere in the world, and I imagine they are getting an entirely different education than we did. With their computers they have all the information and knowledge right at their fingertips, but I fear they won’t know how to read or write in cursive like we did and still do. Professors may become obsolete. Maybe not. I hope not. We never dreamed of such a thing as a cell phone, but now everyone uses them. I do, and I think many of our generation, too, become overwhelmed by the information age.

We (my husband Bruce and I) are retired and settled in Bremerton WA, after having moved numerous times while Bruce was a career Army physician, Professor of Psychiatry at the University of Washington, and hospital director in Anchorage, Alaska. He says we moved a total of 40+ times.
Best Wishes, Gail Storlie Livingstone

To Vonnie from Ken Johnson Re- Call for news Class of 45
You have the news of the death of Phil Livdahl on 8-8-18. We all mourn his passing, but celebrate and honor the memory of this great human being.

Phil was our class of ’45 recipient of the St Olaf Distinguished Alumni Award in 1998. His obituary posted on the internet is supplemented by several links that add volumes to the career and family life of Phil and Phyllis.
In 1942, our Sophomore Year, Earl Abrahamsoin, Norm Fevold, Ken Johnson, Phil Livdahl, Roy Lippart and John Strom roomed together at the Mason Home, 910 St Olaf Ave. We all became close friends and veterans of WWII.

After a few years, a Round Robin Letter was started and continued for over 60 years. In the passing years, the roster diminished and we few opted for random phone calls--Oles still keeping in touch. Now, it is Earl in Nashville, Ken in Fortsmith, and Roy who is limited, dealing with Alzheimer’s. He lives in WI near his son Al Lippart, an outstanding Veterinarian.

In Fortsmith, Chris and I are adjusting to old age, planning to stay in our home with some help. Last October we returned from our 23rd summer at our special place, Sunrise Cabin, near Cripple Creek CO. Chris’ hip surgery and my very weak legs have stalled us, but we shall return.

Ken Johnson
4709 S T Cir.
Fort Smith Ark 72903-3507

Dear Vonnie,
I am thankful to be living in my home in Sun City West in a sociable, friendly neighborhood, and feel fortunate that a recreation center is nearby with Fitness Room and Pool.

Mondays are my busiest day when I volunteer to process new books in our very fine church library. The afternoons that day find me back at church as a member of the Intercessory Prayer Group (so much to pray about). Most of my good friends are also members at the American Lutheran church in Sun City.

Playing bridge weekly with friends is enjoyable and helps keep one’s mind sharp I am told. Being single again, my travels have been to see my two daughters and families in the Lake of the Ozarks area and in Denver. I do treasure memories of the many trips and cruises my wonderful husband Selmer and I enjoyed the 15 years we were married. The last trip was the “Hurtgruten,” the Norwegian Coastal voyage from Bergen to Kirkenes and back.

I look forward to the St Olaf Alumni luncheon in February here in Sun City West. Norma Olson and I have been the only ones attending from our class in recent years. Joe Kleven, who was with our class until he left for service, also attends. My Email address is rodinez@cox.net.

Inez Langehough Rodning

From Fran to Vonnie
Thank you for keeping us informed about our fellow classmates. I know I have been lax about sharing, but my life has been busy and full.

After graduation I was employed as a laboratory instructor in the Biology department and also worked on some special research projects at the University of Minn. I moved back to Iowa when I was married as my husband had a farming operation there. We had 5 children. When they started to attend school there was an opening in the local high school for a teacher in the biological sciences. When I first applied I was told they did not hire married women! But 2 days later I received a phone call. The job was mine if I wanted it. I taught there for 24 years! Many of my students became doctors, nurses, teachers, and contributing members of society. I am so proud of all my students.

My husband died very suddenly in 1975, so I have been alone for a long time. I have 11 grandchildren
and 10 great grandchildren. They live in Minnesota, Colorado, Alaska, and Iowa. I live alone on my farm and am in good health. I love to garden and still mow my lawn. I am involved with other women in my church who are quilters. Each year we make about 45 quilts and send them to missions or places that have experienced natural disasters. This year a number of crib quilts are going to a local Crisis pregnancy center.

Trials and difficulties? Yes, but God has always been faithful to sustain me and supply my needs.

Last year I visited the campus. I really enjoyed walking through the new Science building.

Frances Brenden Benson
quercus@wctatel.net
3551 Apple Ave, Joice IA 50446

News from Colorado…

Dear 40s friends,
Traveling back to “The Hill” for the Christmas concert was great fun with my kids, but decided against the choir reunion as we had a big family reunion in Steamboat Springs where my youngest daughter lives on Mt Werner. Its great fun to visit anytime of the year, but I love my patio home here in Greeley.

My oldest daughter works for the airlines, so traveling is always possible. Where shall we travel next? We live close to Estes Park and the Rocky Mountains so we pop in the car and drive up there to view the change of seasons. The golden aspen will be at their prime very shortly.

My son John died of a heart attack in January at age 58 leaving a wife and three children. How we miss him!

Annie Di Genarro told me last week that she has moved into a retirement home in Boulder, so I hope to drive over there and go to lunch one day as she is only an hour away. Dorie Larsen loves her high-rise in CA and keeps in touch via email. Lorraine Hanneman and Bud keep in touch as well from Mt. Horeb, WI. Vi Wekseth is in WI and Dottie Ness and Art are in Minn.

St Olaf Alums get together often in Denver, but when you are 88, not many of them sign up for over “80s” golf anymore—I still play Thursday a.m. however.

Thanks to those who keep our Class of 45 informed. Continued Good Health to all!
May God bless you.

Arlene Margaret Stolen
2010 46th Ave, unit #30
Greeley, CO 80633
arlenestolen@comcast.net

Class of 45 update
I learned today (9-14-11) that Gerry (Larsen) Voxland has passed away. Gerry was in our class only one year but during that year her beautiful voice was a part of the St Olaf Choir. Her last days were spent in a nursing home in Faribault and she passed away peacefully.

On a personal note nothing has changed in my life. Physically I’m in pretty good shape thanks to having
almost more doctors than family. I keep singing and play golf regularly with other old fogies so life is good.

A lot has changed since our days at St Olaf. We had no TV or computers then but we still were able to entertain ourselves and keep linked to the world, even one embarked in a terrible war in which many of us were, or became a part. I have a program on my computer called SKYPE which allows me to visit with my children and grandchildren face to face without leaving my chair in front of the computer. That is something which could not have happened 65 years ago. But my memories of those old days remain vivid, and I am thankful for that. Greetings to you all.

Dom Flom
dflom@nycap.IT.com

I am so very sorry to have to report the following 8 Obituaries. I know they should be expected at our age, but they still come as a shock. These obituaries are especially impressive, and prove we had some very remarkable classmates. My friend Jerry Pearson reminded me of the beautiful reunions in heaven. I needed that. Sending love and prayers to you all.

Vonnie Norun, Class of 45 correspondent
lavonne23@earthlink.net

Helen Arvesen Engen, Northfield, Minn., died on Sept. 12, 2011. After graduating from St. Olaf College, Helen spent over 40 years sharing her passion of vocal music through the training and directing of student and community member voices, both in White Bear Lake and at St. Olaf College.

Helen was preceded in death by husband, A. B. “Bud” Engen; parents, Clarence and Eva Arvesen; and five brothers and sisters, Dean, Bud, Paul, Connie, and Ellie. Survivors include three children, Kathy (Tim) Hermann, Kristi ’76 (John) Stevens, and Barbara ’69 (Russ) Betzler; seven grandchildren, Erica Shirzadi, Jenn Semple, Tate Hermann, Adam Hermann, Rob Stevens, Anna Bergquist, and Nick Betzler; seven great-grandchildren, Jack and Grace Semple, Presley and Tyler Hermann, Madeline Hermann, and Carter and Drake Betzler.

Her husband, A. Burnette (Bud) Engen ’42, died in 2006.

Helen’s and Bud’s ashes will be placed together in the Columbarium at St. Andrew’s Lutheran Church in Mahtomedi. Cards and expressions of sympathy can be sent to the family, in care of Kristi and John Stevens (4931 Woodland Ave., Shakopee, MN. 55379). Memorials to the St. Olaf Music Department or the St. Andrew’s Music Department.

Elisabeth Johnson Johnson, Moose Lake, Minn., died on Dec. 8, 2010. She was born April 12, 1923 in Brainerd, Minn., to Peter and Bessie Johnson, daughter of Lars and Anna Kristofferson. A graduate of Saint Olaf, she was united in marriage to Jean R. Johnson on April 12, 1946, in Minneapolis. Elisabeth and Jean moved to Washington where she was an elementary school teacher and raised six children. In 2002, they moved to Moose Lake, Minn. Elisabeth was an author and wrote the novel, Lars and Anna, A Love Story. She also wrote devotionals at Emmanuel Lutheran Church, Moses Lake, Wash. Elisabeth was a member of Evangelical Covenant Church, Moose Lake, Minn. She was also very accomplished in Rosemaling.
Her husband, Jean Raymond Johnson, died in 2005. She is survived by their six children, Nels (Randi) Johnson, Jon (Francie) Johnson, Eric (Karen) Johnson, Sunny (Dave) Robinson, Mark Johnson and Timothy (Daisy) Johnson; grandchildren, Leif and Chris Johnson, Eli and JJ Johnson, Sol, Selena and Cosmo (Maury) Robinson, Lisa (Randy) Buck, Keli (Kirk) Wherritt, Kjel (Dorothy) Johnson and Luke Frank; seven great grandchildren; many step and adopted grandchildren.

Geraldine Larson Voxland, Kenyon, Minn., Sept. 11, 2011

*Donald Leutz, Sr., Port Orange, Fla., died on July 6, 2011, after a long battle with heart disease. He was born 1923 in Chicago and a proud veteran of World War II, where he served as an Army Supply Sergeant in Europe and at the Battle of the Bulge.

Following the war he went to work for Gane Brothers and Lane, Inc. in Chicago. He was later transferred to the San Francisco Bay Area to become the Vice President of West Coast Operations. He continued in this position until his retirement when he relocated to Whispering Pines, NC, and then to the Spruce Creek Fly-In Community in Port Orange. He enjoyed the company of his friends, golf, real estate investing, and serving on several community association boards at Spruce Creek.

Don is survived by his son, Donald E. Leutz, Jr, and daughter-in-law, Sylvia; son-in-law, Robert Perko; and grandsons, Gregory and Garrett Perko; his sister, Jane Anderson; several nieces and nephews; and his former wife, Catherine Leutz. He was preceded in death by his devoted daughter, Judith Leutz Perko, and by his close friend, Phyllis Daniels. Memorial donations can be made to the ALS Society or the charity of one’s choice.

*Philip Livdahl, Dallas, died on Aug. 8, 2011, due to complications after surgery. He was a respected physicist, loving husband to his wife, Phyllis, for 67 years, and a generous, caring father, grandfather, and great-grandfather. Philip was born on February 1, 1923, in Bismark, ND, the eighth child of Olive and Gustav Livdahl. He grew up in Bismark, became an Eagle Scout, graduated from Bismark High School and enrolled at St. Olaf College. In 1943, he enlisted in the U.S. Navy, was trained as an electronics officer, and served on the USS Shangri-La during World War II. He married Phyllis Adams of Mankato, Minn., in 1944.

Upon completion of his naval service, Philip finished his undergraduate studies at St. Olaf College in 1948, after which he entered the graduate program in Physics at the University of Washington, in Seattle. He completed a Master's degree, and joined the staff at Lawrence Livermore Laboratory in Livermore, Calif., where he worked for six years. From 1957 to 1968, Philip was a physicist at Argonne National Laboratory in Illinois, and he moved on to the Fermi National Accelerator Laboratory where he directed the design and construction of major portions of the accelerator. He went on to serve as Acting Director of the laboratory, and completed his career as Deputy Director.

Upon retiring from Fermilab in 1988, Philip played a key role in the design and implementation of a synchrotron for Loma Linda Medical Center in Loma Linda CA. This was the first accelerator built exclusively for use in the treatment of tumors with proton radiation, and Philip was one of the first patients to be treated successfully with proton therapy for prostate cancer, obtained at the facility that he helped design.
Philip was an active member of King of Glory Lutheran Church in Dallas; throughout his adult life, he was a dedicated member of many Lutheran churches, serving as a key member of numerous building and stewardship committees as well as a choir member. As he and his family moved to many places, he often played a pivotal role in the formation of new congregations. In recognition of his professional achievements and his active church service, Philip received a Distinguished Alumni Award from St. Olaf College in 1998 and was a former Class Fund Agent.

Philip was an avid bridge player and golfer with a passion for nature and the environment. He traveled extensively, taking long car trips in the western US with family, and several trips to Europe, China, and the Soviet Union with his wife, friends, and colleagues.

Philip's surviving family includes his wife, Phyllis Adams Livdahl, and three children: Judith Livdahl Wulff ’68, Jennifer Livdahl Schum, and Dr. Todd ’73 (and Alice ’74) Livdahl. He had five granddaughters: Angela Schum Nickerson ’95, Katherine Liv Wulff, Lisa Schum Kahalley, Elizabeth Wulff Wagner, and Emily May Livdahl. He had recently become the great-grandfather of Renzo Leonardo Massimo Nickerson. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in Philip's memory to either the Loma Linda Medical Center’s proton treatment center, http://tinyurl.com/3fr7rl9, or to the Texas Voice Project for Parkinson Disease, http://www.texasvoiceproject.org.

Neil Olsson, Mesa, Ariz., Nov. 24, 2010

*Joseph Romness, Arlington, Va., died of cardiac arrest on Aug. 6, 2011. Joseph was an orthopedic surgeon who practiced for 35 years at what is now Virginia Hospital Center in Arlington County. Dr. Romness had lived in Arlington since 1954. He was also a clinical professor at Georgetown University Medical Center, where he had retired about 20 years ago.

Joseph was born in Belgrade, Minn. He graduated from St. Olaf and Northwestern University’s medical school in Chicago. He did his medical residency at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minn., and then served in the Navy Medical Corps. Joseph was a volunteer physician at the Arlington Free Clinic and Children’s National Medical Center in Washington. Dr. Romness was a member of Georgetown Presbyterian Church, Washington Golf and Country Club, Burning Tree Club, and the Arlington Rotary.

Survivors include his wife of 63 years, Helen Meyn Romness; five children, Nancy Currier, Peter Romness and David Romness, Mark Romness and Paul Romness; and 15 grandchildren.

Dorothy Steen Hofstad, Cambridge, Minn., died on Dec. 5, 2010. She was born on May 20, 1922, the eldest of four children, to Sem and Amy Steen, in Clinton, Minn. She attended school in Clinton, graduating Valedictorian from Clinton High School in 1940. She was extremely studious and also participated in numerous school activities and 4-H. She attended St. Olaf and graduated as a registered nurse from St Olaf-Fairview School of Nursing in 1945. She then attended the University of Minnesota and received a bachelor of science degree in nursing education.

Dorothy married Russell Benjamin Hofstad on Sept. 6, 1947, in Clinton. The couple then moved to Cambridge where Russell had established a dental practice. She worked at the Red Cross Blood Bank and
also had several private duty cases. In 1948, Dorothy became head nurse at Braham Hospital. From 1950 to 1967, she stayed home to raise four daughters, and took great interest in her daughters’ activities and spent many a sleepless night at the sewing machine creating matching outfits and costumes. During this time, she was an active volunteer with the Red Cross, and served on the Cambridge Memorial Hospital Board, Cambridge Memorial Hospital Auxiliary, and numerous activities with Cambridge schools and Cambridge Lutheran Church. Dorothy was employed from 1967 to 1998 by Cambridge Clinic as a registered nurse. Throughout those years, she held a variety of positions which included service to clinics in Braham and Rush City.

Well after her retirement, she was diligent in keeping her nursing license current and continued to provide volunteer nursing services in the community. Dorothy loved cooking and entertaining family and friends, traveling with husband Russ, attending the activities of her grandchildren, listening to choral and orchestral music - especially the St. Olaf Choir, and anything Norwegian. She took great interest in people and had a strong need to help others. She was always there to lend a sympathetic ear and provide a hot dish or a good dessert. She was an active member of Cambridge Lutheran Church and enjoyed singing with the Prime Time Singers, serving on various committees, and participating in church and community events. Dorothy could always be counted upon for a story, and she will be greatly missed for her wit, wisdom, disarming humor, and remarkable memory.

Dorothy is survived by daughters: Ann Merkouris, Mary (Gerald) Vein, Susan Hofstad, and Patricia Hofstad (Thomas Bach); grandchildren: James Merkouris, Michael (Tamara) Merkouris, Eric (Simone) Hermes, Andrew (Jenna) Hermes, David and Amy Vein, and Charles and Davis Bach; sisters Ruth ‘46 (Rogers ‘46) Hauck, and Sylvia Loy ’49 and Sev ’50 (Patricia) Steen; brother-in-law Ronald (Norma) Hofstad; several nieces and nephews; and countless friends. She was preceded in death by her parents; husband Russell; brothers-in-law Raymond Loy and Merle Hofstad.

*Jerry Thompson, Barron, Wis., died peacefully Dec. 23, 2010. He was born March 25, 1923, the son of Herman and Palma Thompson. Jerry was the oldest of three, with a sister Beth Lipscomb and brother Ted Thompson, who died in 2003. Jerry graduated valedictorian of his Cameron High School class of 1941. He attended St. Olaf from 1941-1944, when he transferred to University of Wisconsin and graduated Summa Cum Laude in 1946. He played football and baseball at the University and was a member of the Big Ten Championship baseball team in 1946. Jerry coached football and track at Manistique (Mich.) High School; Upsala College, New Jersey; Augustana College, South Dakota; Neenah High School, and Ripon College. His 1957 Ripon College team went undefeated.

He earned his Master’s Degree in 1949 at University of Wisconsin, his Master's of Divinity Degree from Luther Theological Seminary in 1961, and was ordained at Faith Lutheran Church, Cameron. Jerry founded the Religion Department at Ripon College and served as Professor of Religion from 1962-1985. Jerry led a group of Ripon College students to Selma, Ala., in 1965 to march with Martin Luther King. He founded and directed the Ripon College Upward Bound Program, an educational enrichment program for Native American and African American junior and senior high school students, from 1965-1973. He also founded and directed the Ripon College Educational Opportunity Program from 1973-1983—now called the Student Support Services. He was the Commissioner for the Midwest Collegiate Athletic Conference for 16 years and the chairman of the Fond du Lac County Democratic Party in 1970. He received an Honorary Doctorate Degree of Sacred Theology from Ripon College in 1992 and was inducted into the Ripon College Athletic Hall of Fame in 1998.
Jerry co-authored The Bible As Literature, with Dr. Robert Ashley and Confession Of An Elderly Christian Pacifist, along with 100s of sermons and speeches on Jesus, Love, Community, Native American Cultures, Religion, and Christian Pacifism. He was a member of the United States Tennis Association for 26 years. In that time he was ranked first in Wisconsin, second in the Midwest, and 19th in the nation in the 65-year-old bracket.

Jerry married Marguerite Meade ’46 on Aug. 19, 1945, and they were married for 62 years. They had two sons, Steve (Nancy) of Gresham and Mike (Corey) and two daughters, Pat (Jeff) Carley and Nancy (John) Zavodny. He is also survived by grandchildren Anna, Rachel, Emily, Mick, Toby, Joy, Sarah and Katie; great-grandchildren Julian, Crispin, Alex, Willow, Isaac, Molly, Maggie, Noah, Mason and Jackson; a sister, Beth Lipscomb, and many nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his wife, Marguerite, and a brother, Theodore O. Thompson ’55. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to Faith Lutheran Church of Cameron, Ripon College, or the Lutheran Church of the Wilderness, Bowler.

~ CLASS OF 1946 ~

PASSAGES

Mary Fogde Rose, from Graettinger, Iowa, died on Oct. 14, 2011. Mary was born May 10, 1925, in Estherville, the daughter of Myron and Gladys (Vedder) Fogde. She was a graduate of Graettinger High School and St. Olaf. On June 24, 1946, Mary Evelyn was united in marriage to Raymond Rose. Mary taught Spanish and mathematics at Graettinger High School for several years. She was a member of Bethel Lutheran Church and the Graettinger Women’s Club.

Survivors include their four children, Dr. Cheryl Jacobsen ’69, Marcia Rose, Roger (Carla) Rose, and Richard ’72 (Angie) Rose; Mary’s brother, Dr. Myron ’55 (Lois) Fogde; grandchildren Brook ’99 (Jennifer ’99) Jacobsen, Carey Jacobsen ’96 (Michael Marlett ’94), Wesley (Lindsay) Rose, Lindsey (Greg) Smith, Ryan Mufti, Zubin (Judy) Mufti, Haley (Matt) Van Loon, Lesley (Bryan) Bishop and Caleb Rose; great-grandchildren: Elise and Aidan Marlett, Anna and Ethan Jacobsen, Wyatt Rose and Warren Van Loon. She was preceded in death by her husband, Raymond.

Georgia Gendron Running, Portage, Mich., died on Jan. 21, 2011. Georgia was born on November 10, 1923, in Brainerd, Minn., the youngest of the seven living children of George Henry Gendron, Vermont born of French Canadian parentage, and his wife, Norwegian born Andrene Sydnes. Georgia's father was a foreman in a boxcar factory for the Northern Pacific Railroad and her mother, at first a busy housewife, later also became the proprietor of a successful boarding establishment after the death of her husband.

Following high school, Georgia studied painting and drawing in a private art school in Minneapolis, before enrolling at St. Olaf College in 1942, with a major interest in sociology. That year, she met a fellow student, Paul Running, shortly before he enlisted in the army air corps. They were married on Nov. 13, 1943, in Zumbrota, Minn., with Paul’s father, a Lutheran pastor, officiating. Following their marriage, they were together at air corps training units in Minnesota (Carleton College); North Carolina; Connecticut (Yale University’s Communication School); and Amarillo, Texas. Georgia continued her
undergraduate work at the University of Iowa Art School while Paul was serving as a Communication Officer on Guam. She was joined there by Paul when he was separated from the service in 1946. After 1946, Georgia and Paul lived in Iowa, Michigan, Minnesota, North Dakota, and North Carolina, where Paul taught art.

In 1956, they became residents of Bowling Green, Ohio, where Georgia finished a B.S. degree in Elementary Education and Paul was on the faculty of the Bowling Green State University School of Art. Georgia was a fifth grade teacher in the Lake Elementary Schools from 1970 to 1974, after which she returned to BGSU for graduate study in Rehabilitation Counseling, receiving the M.S. degree in 1975. From 1975 to 1989, she was a classified employee in the Government Documents Section of the BGSU library, while also tutoring reading at Conneaut Elementary School. For many years before and after her retirement, she and her husband enjoyed yearly travel in Europe, Canada and the U.S., visiting art monuments and museums, and painting.

Georgia is survived by her husband, Dr. Paul David Running ’44; a daughter, Cynthia Running-Johnson (John) and son, Christopher Running (Kay); five grandchildren; and a sister, Virginia Popovec. Georgia was preceded in death by her parents, and five siblings. Donations may be made in Georgia’s memory to the American Red Cross.

Muriel Harris Kildahl, from Edina, Minn., died on Nov. 23, 2010. Her second husband, L. Charles Kildahl ’46, died in 1999. She had three children and stepchildren.

Gloria Rude Roehrich, Eau Claire, Wis., Aug. 2, 2011

Paul Stavig, Grass Valley, Calif., Nov. 24, 2010

Iris Van Beek Reed, Hollandale, Minn., Sept. 18, 2010

~ Class of 1947 ~

NEWS

Graham Frear, Professor Emeritus from Northfield, Minn., published a poetry anthology: Poetry in Past and Present Tenses. It was used in the sociology classes at St. Olaf and received an enthusiastic review in the Northfield News, June 1, 2011.

PASSAGES

Phyllis Aure Walker, from Loma Linda, Calif., passed away peacefully on Jan. 30, 2011. Born on April 14, 1925, in Minnesota, her childhood years were spent in St. Paul. A graduate of St. Olaf College, she moved to Calif in 1957. She became a long time resident of Lake Arrowhead and Running Springs, and
resided in Loma Linda the last 15 years. A long time member of Eastern Star, Soroptimist, and Republican Women, Church Groups, she loved being involved, and loved being around people. She was adored, and will truly be missed by her son, Steve Andrews; daughters, Dayle Reed, and Bev Hayden; 12 Grandchildren, 27 Great Grandchildren and countless friends. She was preceded in death by her spouse, Enos Walker, and a daughter Janie Bailey. In lieu of flowers, please make a donation to: UCLA's, Mary S. Easton Center for Alzheimer's Disease Research, 10911 Weyburn Ave., Ste. 200, Los Angeles, CA 90095-7226 Attn: Karen Metz. Make Checks payable to: UC Regents. In the “memo field” of the check put “in memory of Phyllis Andrews-Walker.”

Betty Bye Amodt, passed away, March 12, 2011, in Cary, N.C. Betty moved to Northfield from North Dakota in 1937. She attended grades 7-12 in Northfield, graduating from Northfield High School in 1943 and from St. Olaf College in 1947. Betty and Paul W. Amodt were married in June 1948 at St. John’s Lutheran Church. Paul was in the Air Force and they lived in many locations in the United States and overseas. Betty is survived by her husband, Col. Paul Amodt; their daughters, Nancy Caldwell of Idaho and Peggy Hoon of North Carolina; grandchildren, Jessica and Paul Christopher Hoon; sister, Janet Bye Gambell ’57 of Chanhassen, Minn.; and nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her parents, Samuel and Julia Bye, and mother-in-law and father-in-law, Dr. Leonard and Ruth Amodt, all of Northfield; and sister, Marion Davis ’45 of New York.

Reidar Dittmann, Northfield, Minn., long-time professor of art history and Norwegian and director of International Studies at St. Olaf, died on Dec. 29, 2010, in hospice care after a short illness. Reidar was a beloved teacher who was known for his animated and informative lectures, his passion for the arts and travel, and his devotion to the college that supported him throughout his career. Reidar was also a noted speaker on his experience of incarceration at Buchenwald concentration camp during World War II.

Reidar, a native Norwegian, was always eager to bring international learning experiences to the students of St. Olaf. Reidar was instrumental in developing study programs in Europe, the Far East, and across the globe in the 1950s and 1960s. Later, after completing his Ph.D in Art History, he focused more on the arts of Italy and Norway, and continued to lead very popular alumni art tours until he was 80 years old. Reidar wrote and lectured frequently on Scandinavian art, particularly the Norwegian artist Edvard Munch, but also loved the Italian Renaissance and the 19th century French Impressionists. Along with his colleagues in the art department, he developed the art history major at St. Olaf in the 1970s, and devoted many hours to building the slide library that became the basis for many of the courses.

Born January 15, 1922 in Tønsberg, Norway, his life dramatically changed with the German Occupation of Norway. As a high school and university student, he was active in the resistance movement and was sent to concentration camp at Buchenwald, Germany, in November of 1944. Reidar, along with other Scandinavian concentration camp inmates, was released in March 1945 by a special arrangement with Sweden, just a month before the Allies liberated the camp. Reidar was frequently invited to share his story with students and other groups, and told his story in a short film by Gayle Knutson, Prisoner 32,232, for the “Minnesota’s Greatest Generation” project of the Minnesota Historical Society.

After the war, Reidar came to Northfield, Minnesota, to study on a scholarship offered by St. Olaf College for Norwegian students whose education had been interrupted by the war. He majored in music and studied under F. Melius Christiansen. He met his wife Chrisma Skoien ’48 of Chippewa Falls, Wisconsin, at St. Olaf and they married in 1947. The young couple spent two years in Ethiopia to teach
high school, where their oldest son Reidar Jr. was born. With interruptions only for completing his 
master’s and Ph.D. at the University of Washington, the Dittmanns remained in Northfield, where they 
raised 4 additional children. Reidar retired in 1993, but continued traveling, often as an alumni tour guide, 
to Norway, Italy, and other parts of Europe until 2009, and always maintained a lively interest in art, 
literature, and music.

He is survived by his brothers, Sigurd (Borgny) Dittmann of Oslo, Norway; Erling Dittmann of 
Tonsberg, Norway; his sons Reidar Jr. ’71 (Antonio) Dittmann of Vashon Island, Wash. and Rolf ’77 (Jill 
Greenhalgh ’78) Dittmann of Stillwater, Minn.; his daughters Solveig ’78 (Dale Case) Dittmann of 
Oakdale, Minn.; Kristin ’82 (Stephen Huffmann) Dittmann of Maple Grove, Minn.; and Lisa ’85 (Janine 
Stiles) Dittmann of Minneapolis, Minn.. He is also survived by grandchildren Dr. Megan Schendel-
Dittmann; Andrea ’12, Drew, and Luke Dittmann; Sam Huffman; and Gustav Dittmann as well as 
nephews and a niece in Norway. He was preceded in death by his parents, Gustav and Solveig Dittmann, 
his brother, Trygvre, and his wife, Chrisma Skoien Dittmann ’48.

Memorials preferred to the Chrisma Skoien Dittmann and Reidar Dittmann Endowed Scholarship at St. 
Olaf College (1520 St. Olaf Avenue, Northfield, MN 55057) or St. John's Lutheran Church (500 3rd 
Street West, Northfield).

*Neil Eckstein, from Larsen, Wis., passed away on March 9, 2011. He was born May 16, 1923 on his 
family's farm near Winchester, the son of Earl Mayhew Eckstein and Laura Berner Eckstein. Neil 
attended one-room Grandview School and Winneconne High School, and in 1941 entered St. Olaf 
College as a freshman, and later studied at Dubuque University and Columbia University.

Following the start of World War II, he enlisted in the Navy V-12 program and was commissioned an 
Ensign in the USNR in 1943 in the Cathedral of St. John the Divine in New York City. He served in the 
Pacific and commanded landing craft during the invasion of islands near Okinawa in 1945. He kept in 
contact with his shipmates, especially over the last twenty years, at reunions held around the country.

Following the war Neil returned to St. Olaf and completed his Bachelor degree in English. In 1947 he 
met the love of his life, Marie Magdalene Waag, who had recently graduated as an RN from Fairview 
Hospital School of Nursing in Minneapolis. They were married a year later.

After graduating from college, Neil was called to the ministry and entered Luther Seminary in St. Paul, 
Minn., receiving his Bachelor of Theology degree in 1951. He was ordained as a pastor of the Evangelical 
Lutheran Church and served parishes in Eau Claire, Wis., Lake Wilson, Minn., Stoughton, Wis., and 
Philadelphia, Penn.

While in Philadelphia, Neil also enrolled in the graduate program in American Studies at the University 
of Pennsylvania. He received both his MA and PhD degrees from Penn. He was a professor of English 
at Wartburg College from 1961 to 1966, and then at the University of Wisconsin, Oshkosh from 1966 
until his retirement in 1988. From 1991 until 1996 Neil and Marie served as Senior Mentors at California 
Lutheran University, where Neil taught in the English Department and Marie worked with international 
students.

Besides teaching, Neil was an author and translator. His novels depict life in Wisconsin as experienced by 
Norwegian-American immigrants of the mid-19th century. They include “Jacob’s War” which traced one
of his ancestor’s journey through the Civil War. He also translated several works by Norwegian-American writer Peer Stromme who was born in Winchester to immigrant parents. He wrote scholarly works analyzing the writings and sermons of 17th century puritan preacher Jonathan Edwards as well as the social criticism of Norwegian immigrant writers and economists of the 19th century.

Neil was committed to stimulating the intellectual life of his local community. In 1973 he worked together with others to found the Winchester Academy. The Academy brought historians, poets, foreign ambassadors and others to Winchester to speak on a wide variety of topics. It relocated to Waupaca and continues to offer rich programs there.

Neil was awarded the Distinguished Alumni award by St Olaf in 1988, for founding and directing the Academy which provides a learning center dedicated to educational outreach, and he also served as a CFA for the Annual Fund. Neil was also a member of the Winchester Area Historical Society and acted as the contributing editor for its monthly newsletter – “Around the Hill.” He more recently started German and Norwegian language and culture classes currently held at the Historical Society.

Neil loved to travel with his family. During the summer of 2010, he and Marie traveled to Norway with their grandchildren, to visit relatives and to expose them their rich Norwegian heritage. And in the fall of 2010, Neil and his wife Marie celebrated their 62nd wedding anniversary.

Always patient, Neil’s quiet determination and vision were a gift he gave to his family every day. His four children and grandchildren have been unusually blessed by his wisdom, his kindness and his lifelong commitment to them. He is survived by his wife, Marie; children, Brian (Sharon), John (Miwa), James ’73 (wife, Kathy) and Jane ’79 (Brian ’79) Murphy; and four grandchildren, Laura, Brian, Nina, and Jamie.

In lieu of flowers, memorials will be established in Neil’s name for Grace Lutheran Church, Winchester Area Historical Society, and the Winchester Academy.

Maxine Ellestad Wendle, from Prior Lake, Minn., passed away on June 18, 2011. She was preceded in death by her husband, Duane Wendle, but is survived by three sons.

*Reed Johnson, from Northfield, Minn., died on May 9, 2011. “Bill” was born May 31, 1922, in Minneapolis, Minn., to Esther (Olsen) and Reed Nathan Johnson. After spending his pre-school years in Hanley Falls, Minn., Bill attended school in Tracy, graduating in 1940. He entered the Marine Corps during World War II, serving in the Pacific theatre. Upon his return, Bill earned an economics degree from St. Olaf College in Northfield. He was an owner/operator of grocery stores in Willmar and Tracy. Later in his career, Bill was a sales representative for Luxor Lighting Corporation.

Bill married Marian Elaine Donaldson from Tracy, Minn., on March 10, 1945, at Camp Lejeune, N.C. Together they raised six children. In their 66 years together, Bill and Marian spent most of their time in Tracy, and at their cabin on Lake Florida near Willmar. They spent the last 11 years living in Northfield and many winters in Mesa, Ariz.

Although he had a variety of interests throughout his life, Bill thoroughly enjoyed sports and traveling. However, the main refrain running through the verses of Bill’s life was his love for music. Bill met Marian while playing in the Tracy High School French Horn Quartet. He was a member of the Tracy
Lutheran Church Choir. Mostly, however, Bill was a barbershop singer in a number of choruses and quartets. He was a member of the Tracytones, The Gay Nineties, Men of Leisure, Off Broadway, and more recently, the Uncalled Four. When not at practices, Bill would often be listening to his extensive collection of records, tapes and CDs. Bill told his grandchildren that you are never too old to enjoy music.

Bill and Marian hosted two American Field Service foreign exchange program guests: Frank Labarta (1965-1966) from Spain, and Yolande Depois (1978-1979) from France. In 2007, Bill and Marian were inducted together into the Tracy High School Wall of Fame.

Bill is survived by his wife, Marian and their six children, Brian Johnson, Douglas Johnson ’71, Reed Johnson ’80, Carol ’69 (John ’69) Talley, Judith Tonolli ’67 and Peggy Zimmer ’84; and three siblings, Kathryn Cathcart ’61, Rosanna Goebel ’41 and Paul ’54 (Shirley ’54) Johnson. He was preceded in death by his parents; step-mother, Ruth Salhus Johnson; and brother, David.

Memorials are preferred to family, who will then donate to the American Liver Foundation in honor of a great-granddaughter.

LaVerne Johnson Fevold, from Edina, Minn., died on Jan. 31, 2011. “Lolly” was born on October 16, 1925 in Comfrey, Minn. Lolly was a graduate of St. Olaf College; was a long time member of Edina Woman’s Club, Athena Woman’s Club, Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd and an active resident at 7500 York. Lolly will be remembered for her caring, generosity, selflessness, and happy nature. She was a loving wife, mother, and grandmother and will be deeply missed!

Her loving husband of 58 years, Norman Fevold ’47, preceded her in death, as well as her parents and a brother. Survivors include their children, Nancy ’75 (and Chris ’75) MacLennan and Joel ’77 (Debbie) Fevold; grandchildren, Kimberley, Karen, Thomas, and Tyler (Liz) and great-granddaughter Francesca. “Lolly” is also survived by Norm’s siblings and their families. In lieu of flowers, memorials are preferred to St. Olaf College, the church or donor’s choice.

*Franklin Kelsey, Seattle, passed away peacefully on June 12, 2011. “Frank” was born March 27, 1925 in Northfield, Minn., to Dr Raymond Kelsey and Elizabeth Walsingham Kelsey.

Frank served in the US Navy 1943-1946. Graduated from St Olaf College in 1947, received his Theology degree from Andover Newton Theological Seminary in 1949 and his Doctor of Divinity in 1974. Frank married Shirley Wild (Viloudaki) in 1949. Together they raised their family and served at churches in OR, WA and CA. In 1968 Frank returned to Washington to serve as Associate Conference Minister and later Executive Conference Minister for United Ministries. He subsequently provided personal and career counseling before his retirement.

In December 1980 Frank married Amanda Jane Wood. They had 30 wonderful years together before Jane’s death in 2010. They enjoyed travels to Hawaii and Europe and especially treasured their time together at the “Hu” cabin on Hood Canal. They had a shared love of music. They often attended symphony and opera performances, and Jane gave Frank much joy with her many piano recitals. They moved to Horizon House in 2001, where they renewed old friendships and made many new ones. The
care, love and support of their many friends at Horizon House, University Congregational Church, and community at large meant so much to both of them.

Frank was a mentor to many, both professionally and personally. He was thoughtful, caring, nurturing, and supported the individuality and uniqueness of each person. Throughout his life, Frank was passionate about human rights and equality. You often found him engaged in conversations sharing his views and deep concerns about social injustices. His overriding desire was to improve the quality of life for all mankind. He had a great sense of humor, and was famous for his puns.

He is preceded in death by his mother and father, wife Amanda Jane Kelsey, brothers Roger and Kenneth Kelsey, and sister Betty Colby. He is survived by his children Jean Kelsey, Margaret Yates (Barry Clarno) and Bruce Walsingham Kelsey (Jill); grandchildren Brandon Walsingham Kelsey (Michelle), Kristin Hust (Ryan); great grandchildren Jacob White, Cooper Walsingham Kelsey, and Reagan Hust; brother-in-law Cal Colby; and dear family friend and “adopted” son Guy Taylor, who was with Frank throughout his final days. He is also survived by Jane's brother Don Thulean and children Steve Wood, Jan Boyd, Brian Wood, and Bret Wood.

If desired, memorial contributions can be made to Horizon House Resident Assistant Fund, or the charity of your choice.

**Leona Knutson Stavlo** was born Nov. 4, 1925, on the farm in the Oslo community, to Emil Knutson and Cora Stedje. She attended Gruver schools, graduating in 1943 from Gruver High School. She then attended two years at St. Olaf College, and graduated in 1948 from West Texas State College in Canyon.

She married Joel David Stavlo on April 4, 1948, at Oslo Lutheran Church. The Stavlo family farmed and ranched. Leona was active at Oslo Lutheran Church, where she played the organ for many years. The Stavlos moved to Gruver in 1996. Leona had been active in the Gruver Music Club, the Station Master's House Museum and Southwest Pioneer Windmill Association and was involved in the beautification of Gruver.

She was preceded in death by her parents; her husband, Joel Stavlo ’41; a son, John Mark Stavlo, and a brother, Emil David Knutson. Survivors include three daughters, Mary Ann Andersen (Rick), Alice Satrum (Randy), and Amy TeBeest (J.P.); a son, Paul Stavlo (Barbara); a daughter-in-law, Carol Stavlo; three sisters, Louise Maakestad ’48 (John), Amy Ericson (Jon), and Kathryn Hinchcliffe(E.G.); a sister-in-law, Saralah Knutson Hogan; twelve grandchildren, Heather Williams (Drew), Noah Stavlo (Chrissa), Rob Andersen, Dane Andersen (Dollie), Lance Andersen, Karl Satrum (Mackenzie), Krystle Satrum, Charlie Stavlo, Sammie Harkey (Wade), Mark TeBeest (Melissa), Jason TeBeest, and Chad TeBeest (Andrea); five great-grandchildren, Elle Stavlo, Dayton Andersen, Cora Harkey and Abigail and Turner TeBeest; and many cousins, nieces and nephews.

The family suggests memorials be to Oslo Lutheran Church, 8605 County Road F, Gruver, TX 79040; or Amarillo Area Foundation for the Gruver Scholarship Fund, in care of Gruver State Bank, P.O. Box 978, Gruver, TX 79042. Sign the online guest book at www.hensonnovak.com [1].

Kristy Olsen Juergens, Rochester, Minn., June 12, 2011

Gordon Selbo, resident of San Jose, Calif., died on July 17, 2011. Gordon was born and grew up in La Crosse, Wis. A graduate of St. Olaf, he went on to study at Luther Seminary in St. Paul, Minn. Ordained in 1950, he served congregations in Winnipeg, Manitoba, Mobridge, S.D., and San Jose. He also served as campus pastor at Luther College in Decorah, Iowa, and as President of Augustana Academy in Canton, S.D. He was the founding pastor of St. Timothy’s Lutheran Church and School in San Jose, where he served until his retirement in 1986. Gordon is survived by his wife of 58 years, Elsie, their six children including Ruth Selbo ’83, and 14 grandchildren. In lieu of flowers, gifts may be given, made payable to St. Timothy’s, to the Gordon and Elsie Selbo Student Scholarship Endowment for students attending St. Timothy’s Lutheran School, 5100 Camden Avenue, San Jose, Calif.

Marlene Smith Barlow, from New Richmond, Wis., passed away on March 7, 2011. She was born on July 31, 1926, in Pepin, Wis. Marlene was the daughter of Andrew and Hazel (Forsberg) Smith. She graduated from Pepin High School in 1943, and then attended St. Olaf, graduating with an economics degree in 1947.

In 1969, she moved to New Richmond where she raised her two children, Martha and Mark. Marlene worked for the St. Croix Health Center for 25 years before retiring at the age of 70. She is survived by her daughter, Martha (Ken) Kimberly; son, Mark (Anne Malle) Barlow; grandchildren, Meagan (Corey) Sager, Ian Barlow, Cyril, Oscar, Oona Malle-Barlow; great-grandchildren, Ellie and Brady Sager.

*Jorgen Thompson, from Mason City, Iowa, died on Jan. 20, 2011, surrounded by his loving family. The son of Johanne Jorgen and Stella (Sogn) Thompson, Jorgen was born July 16, 1921 in Minneapolis, and spent the earlier years of his life in Northfield, Minn. Jorgen enrolled at St. Olaf, where Jorgen met and married his college sweetheart, Rita Goehner ’43, on Sept. 12, 1943. While at St. Olaf, Jorgen was called into the military service. He was commissioned a second lieutenant with an anti-air-craft artillery outfit as well as being an instructor in a Military Intelligence Training Center. Upon his discharge in June of 1946, he then returned to St. Olaf to graduate with the class of 1947. During his senior year at St. Olaf, he also served as a part-time Assistant Dean of Men. In the fall of 1947, the couple moved to Sioux Falls, S.D., when Jorgen accepted the invitation from the President at Augustana College to become Dean of Men. In 1966, Jorgen was promoted to Vice President for Student Affairs and served until 1981, when he became Director of the Learning Support Center and Adult Education. During his 39 year tenure, he also held the faculty rank of Professor of Psychology, having also received his masters degree from the University of Colorado and doctorate degree from the University of Minnesota.

Over the years, Jorgen has been active in the following professional organizations: American Psychological Association, American Personal and Guidance Association (including the S.D. Personnel and Guidance Association as well as the S.D. College Personnel Association), American College Personnel Association, Phi Kappa Delta, Student Personnel Association for teacher Education, and the S.D. Psychological Association. During his initial year of being at Augustana, he successfully established a chapter of the National Blue Key on the campus and has served as the advisor to the group for the past 39 years, was the national president of that organization till his death.
Jorgen has also been actively involved in community boards and leadership: the Sioux Empire United Way Board, Minnehaha Country Red Cross (Served as President), Community Planning Council, Sioux Empire Drug Education Committee, Minnehaha County Mental Health Center, and as President of the Patrick Henry Junior High School PTA. Jorgen was a charter member of Our Savior’s Lutheran Church since 1947. He was also president of the congregation, Lutheran Men in Mission, and a member of the east chapter Kiwanis Club. He enjoyed reading, golfing, singing, dancing, traveling, fishing and spending time with his family and friends.

Jorgen received the Medal of St. Olaf from King Haakon of Norway for service with the American Armed Forces in Norway at the close of World War II. Other recognitions include: Special Service Award from NASPA Region IV West, North Central Hall of Fame, and 35 years of service award from Augustana College.

Survivors include his children, Judith Ann (Peter) Beyers, Carl J. (Elizabeth) Thompson, Barbara (Peter) Sogn Frank, and three grandchildren, Nicholas, Jase Thompson and Kaylee Eytchison. Jorgen’s wife, Rita Goehner Thompson ’43, died in 2007. The family wishes to extend heartfelt thanks to the staff of Good Shepard Health Center of Mason City, Iowa and Hospice of North Iowa for the friendship and phenomenal care and compassion that they shared with Jorgen and the family. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be directed to the Thompson Scholarship Fund at Augustana College.

~ CLASS OF 1948 ~

NEWS

Richard Ensrud, Glen Arbor, Mich., received the Carle Foundation Hospital Lifetime Achievement Legacy Award in April 2011. This award is given to a retired physician who has made outstanding contributions to The Carle Foundation and its communities throughout his or her year – providing excellent health care, serving on boards and committees, advancing education or research, and supporting Carle’s charitable mission. Ensrud was the first board certified gastroenterologist on staff and helped bring many other firsts to Carle – the first gastroscopy and colonoscopy, the medical externship program and he was the first program director for the University of Illinois College of Medicine-UC Internal Medicine Residency. His legacy as “the father of medical education” will continue to make a difference in physician education and patient care.

PASSAGES

*Arthur Bagaason, of Northfield, passed away Feb. 23, 2011, with his family by his side. Arthur was born May 3, 1921, to Arthur and Clara (Dyrdal) Bagaason in Albert Lea, Minn.

He attended elementary and high school in Albert Lea, graduating in May 1938. Following high school graduation he worked for three years at the Wilson Meat Packing Company. In 1941, Arthur enrolled in Pacific Lutheran College, Parkland, Wash. His college education was interrupted by the outbreak of
World War II. He enlisted in the United States Air Force in November 1942 and served in the Air Force, the Army Specialized Training Force, and later became an infantryman serving with the 78th Infantry Division in Europe. Following the end of World War II, he was discharged and returned home in April 1946.

On Aug. 21, 1946, Arthur was united in marriage to Marian Throlson. From this union were born three sons and two daughters. Enrolling in St. Olaf College in September 1946, he graduated in June 1948. He and his wife, Marian, worked the summer months of 1948 in Glacier Park. He entered Luther Theological Seminary in the fall of 1948 and graduated in May 1951. He took special courses at New York Theological Seminary in New York in the fall of 1951.

Arthur’s ministry began at Lake Nokomis Lutheran in Minneapolis in January 1952, serving until April 1954; Bricelyn and Trinity Parish in Bricelyn, Minn., until 1959; Trinity Lutheran of Owatonna, Minn., until 1973; and Bethel Lutheran, Rochester, Minn., until retirement in 1986. Upon retirement, he and Marian built a home in Northfield.

Surviving him are his wife, Marian; three sons and their wives, Mark (Linda), Stephen (Young), and Paul (Marlys); two daughters, Sarah (David) Kise and Mary Kujanson; eight grandchildren, Erin, Luke, Lauren, Michael, Noah, Ben, Aaron and Samuel; sister, Anna (Charles) Gathje; sister-in-law, Arline Bagaason; and a number of cousins, nieces, nephews and other relatives and friends. Preceding him in death were his brother, Pastor Carroll Bagaason; son-in-law, Jeffrey Kujanson; and an infant grandson, Matthew.

Memorials are preferred to Luther Seminary or St. Olaf College.

Harriett Christensen Eastwold, from Sioux Falls, S.D., died on October 22, 2011. The daughter of Christen and Jensine (Rasmussen) Christensen, was born December 27, 1923 in Audubon, Iowa. Harriett grew up there. She graduated from Audubon High School in 1941. In 1948 she earned a bachelor's degree in business from St. Olaf College. Harriett was united in marriage with Edward Eastwold in Audubon, Iowa on Sept. 3, 1948. The couple made their home in Minneapolis, Minn., where Harriett worked for an architectural firm while Ed attended pharmacy school. They lived in Canby, Minn. for a short time before moving to Sioux Falls in 1955.

After raising her family, she worked for a time in the Registrar's office at Sioux Falls College. She then worked as a secretary for the Fritzell, Kroeger, Griffin and Berg architectural firm for many years before retiring in 1989. Harriett was a charter member of Grace Lutheran Church, where she was the organist for 46 years and was past-president of the women's group. She was also a past-president of the Sioux Valley Conference of the South Dakota Synod. A talented musician, she played violin for four years with the St. Olaf Orchestra and for fifteen years with the South Dakota Symphony.

Grateful for having shared her life are her husband Edward Eastwold ’50; two children, Mark (Sylvia) Eastwold, Mary ’75 (Marvin) Dettloff; and 6 grandchildren, Jonathan, Martin, Laura and Andrew Eastwold, and Kristen and Karen Dettloff. The family requests that memorials be directed to the Grace Lutheran Church Choir Fund.
**Paul Clement**, from Shelton, Wash., died on Nov. 4, 2010, after a brief illness. Born April 23, 1923 in Winona, Minn. to Rev. Webster H. Clement and Anna K. Gyland Clement; he was reared in Livingston, Mont.

Paul served in WWII as a B-25 Mitchell pilot in the Army Air Corps. Afterwards Paul followed in his father's footsteps in the ministry. He met Ruth M. Spittler in Albion, Mich. and they were married August 13, 1944, celebrating their 66th wedding anniversary last August. Paul served as a Lutheran minister in six congregations and as a VA Hospital chaplain. After retirement, Paul and his wife moved to Shelton, Wash. and joined Faith Lutheran Church.

Surviving are his daughters, Elaine Sanders (Mickey Mooney) and Beth Noll (Dwight); grandsons, Paul Sanders (Jodi), Lyle Cable (Kelly); 3 great-grand-children; and sister, Lula Mae Smith. Preceding in death were his sons, Stephen and Timothy Clement; and his brother, Rev. C. James Clement ’50. His wife, Ruth Clement, died just weeks after him on December 17, 2010.

Donations in Paul’s memory may be made to Lutheran World Relief through the church, aith Lutheran Church, 1212 Connection, Shelton, Wash.

**Gertrude Fjare Wierson**, of Ames, Iowa, died Aug. 1, 2011, surrounded by her family. Gertrude was born in Ames Oct. 18, 1925, to Gunder and Jane (Egemo) Fjare. She was a 1943 graduate of Ames High School and earned a bachelor of arts degree from St. Olaf in 1948.

Gertrude married Gene Wierson Oct. 29, 1949, in Ames. She was employed at the Hy-Vee Deli until she retired in 2010. She was a member of Memorial Lutheran Church in Nevada and the Ladies Auxiliary American Legion Post 37. Gertrude enjoyed camping, knitting, and baking but especially enjoyed spending time with her family; the more the merrier. Gertrude also enjoyed watching her grandchildren’s activities.

Gertrude is survived by her children, Gary (Gail) Wierson, Vicki (Kenny) Borwick, Cindy Howe, Greg Wierson, Doug (Peggy) Wierson, and Linda Wierson; grandchildren, Brian (Annie) Wierson, Emily Wierson, Chad (Vanessa) Borwick, Sophie Howe, Gunder Howe, Donnie Howe, Steven Howe, Ryan (Alyssa) Wierson, Angie (Justin) Jensen, Megan Wierson, Bret Wierson, Macy Zalinsky, Derek Wierson, Hank Wierson, Ted Wierson and Seth Hansen; 12 great-grandchildren; five foster children, Howard Brown, Carey Poole, Bill Schatz, Dan Jeffrey and Don Jeffrey; one brother, Milford Fjare; and one sister, Jurine Schellberg ’47. She was preceded in death by her parents; her husband; and two brothers, Lloyd and Paul Fjare. Memorials may be made to the Children’s Ministry Fund at Memorial Lutheran Church in Nevada.

**Paul Henze**, from Washington, Va., died May 19, 2011 at a rehabilitation center in Culpeper, Va., of complications after a series of strokes. Paul was born Aug. 29, 1924, in Redwood Falls, Minn. He served in the Army in Europe during World War II. After graduating from St. Olaf in 1948, he received a master’s degree in Soviet studies from Harvard University in 1950.

As a CIA station chief in Turkey and Ethiopia during the 1960s and ’70s, he served in the Carter administration as a deputy to National Security Adviser Zbigniew Brzezinski, with whom he had also worked alongside when he was with Radio Free Europe in Munich.
Paul was more recently a former CIA and National Security Council specialist in psychological operations when he wrote a compelling and provocative book, *The Plot to Kill the Pope*. This book investigated the 1981 attempted assassination of Pope John Paul II, who was shot four times while addressing a crowd at St. Peter’s Square in Vatican City. Paul argued that this attempt had been engineered by the Soviet Union.

Among his other books were *The Horn of Africa: From War to Peace*, a 1991 analysis of the region’s political and economic troubles and *Layers of Time* in 2000, which traces Ethiopia’s history from 2,000 years ago to the present.

“Henze’s familiarity with the country is encyclopedic, and over the years he must have traveled more widely in Ethiopia than any other foreigner,” wrote reviewer Christopher Clapham in the London Times Literary Supplement.

After retiring from government service near the end of President Jimmy Carter’s term, Paul became a consultant for the Rand Corp., a think tank. He wrote widely about the history and politics of Ethiopia and Central Asia in mainstream publications and several books.

Paul moved from Bethesda to Virginia’s Rappahannock County in 2001. His wife of 59 years, Martha Heck Henze, died in 2009.

Survivors include six children, John Henze, Mary Henze, Sam Henze, and Libet Henze, Martin Henze and Alex Henze; a sister, Lois Henze Martin; a brother, Richard Henze; and nine grandchildren.

**Lois Larsen Sibole**, from Tulsa, Okla, passed away Nov. 8, 2010. She was born October 8, 1925 in Lacrosse, Wis. to G.A. and Matilda Larsen. Lois lived most of her life in Rockford, Ill. graduating from East High School. After two years of college she fulfilled her dream of becoming a Pan American Airline Stewardess flying from Miami to Central and South America. After one year, she returned to St. Olaf where she graduated in 1948.

In 1949 she married John Sibole, and they settled in Tulsa. Lois then taught English at Tulsa Central High School. She was a member of First Lutheran Church where she taught Sunday school, sung in the choir, was active in her Circle, and gave yearly book reviews. She also was a member of Joy Lutheran Church, on the Women’s Board of the Salvation Army, and was a member of a book club for over 40 years.

She delighted in her grandchildren, traveling to interesting parts of the world with her husband, John, and spending summers at their lake cottage in Minnesota.

Lois was preceded in death by her parents; sister, Marjorie Lomperis and brother, Ronald Larsen. She is survived by her husband, John Sibole ’49; three sons, Steven, David, and Philip (Jill); a brother, Gus ’50 (Eulalie ’50) Larsen and four grandchildren, Stephanie, Natalie, Hillery and Landon.

In lieu of flowers, friends may contribute to Joy Lutheran Church or to the Salvation Army.
Carol Michaelson Solomonson, from Minneapolis, Minn., passed away peacefully in the presence of family members on March 8, 2011. Carol was born March 22, 1926 in Dawson, Minn., grew up there and graduated from Dawson High School in 1944. Carol attended and thrived at St. Olaf where she majored in Sociology and met husband, Gordon Solomonson ’49. Graduating in 1948, they married that June.

Carol was employed in St. Paul while Gordon attended Luther Seminary. In the Lutheran ministry, the young couple moved to Hancock, then Bird Island, Willmar, and finally Minneapolis as their three children were born and raised in these Minnesota communities. Carol worked with zest and efficiency in church offices as well as a volunteer for the Republican Party. Her skills and artistry in knitting Norwegian ski sweaters for her family have kept loved ones warm for decades. While knee operations limited Carol's mobility in later years, she was always able to organize and direct the “traffic” at home. As her tapping feet indicated when the Morning Star Singers visited her family reunion in January 2011, Carol’s spirit and sense of humor continued to thrive.

She was preceded in death by parents, Louis and Mathilda Michaelson; brothers, Mike, Curtis, and Gerry; and sister, Elsie. She is survived by her loving husband of 62 years, Rev. Gordon O. Solomonson ’49; sons, Stephen ’72 and Michael ’84; daughter, Nancy ’77 (son-in-law, Mark) Dumke; grandsons, Andrew and Will; granddaughters, Kirsten, Karin, Lauren, and Emma; sisters, Helen Ude and Kay Olson; sisters-in-law, Louise and Pat Michaelson; brothers-in-law, John Olson and Sam Sumner; and numerous nieces, nephews and friends that she loved dearly. If so desired, memorials may be directed to Mount Olivet Careview Home, St. Olaf College or Bethlehem Lutheran Church.

Gardia Nelson Larson, from Boone, N.C., died July 10, 2011, at her home. Born October 21, 1926, in Canby, Minnesota, she was a daughter of Lloyd Manfred and Hilda Jacobson Nelson. Gardia was a graduate of the class of 1948 at St. Olaf, majoring in English and History. She loved books, reading, her music and her home community, but the love of her life was her family. Gardia was a member of Grace Lutheran Church.

She is survived by her husband, Dr. E. Ole Larson ’48, and three sons; Stephen Weik Larson, Erik John Larson, and Chris Robert Larson. A number of cousins also survive. In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by one brother, Lloyd Manfred Nelson II. In lieu of flowers, the family suggests memorials to Cancer Research, National Cancer Institute, Building 31, Room 11A-L6, 9000 Rockville Pike, Bethesda, Maryland 28692

Dorothy Onsgard McCormack, Maple Grove, Minn., Jan. 5, 2011. She was born in Houston, Minn. on April 13, 1926, to Orrin Onsgard and Winnefred Winnie Chapel. Dorothy married William McCormack in Houston on August 25, 1945. She attended St. Olaf College and Winona State University, graduating with bachelor and master's degrees in elementary education from Winona State.

Dorothy dedicated 35 years of her life as a “master reading teacher and mentor” to children and adults in the Osseo Public School District 279 at Garden City and Palmer Lake elementary schools. She led the Adult Basic Education summer school reading program for 30 years. During that time she developed lifelong friendships with fellow teachers and was named the Minnesota Adult Basic Education Teacher of the Year. To this day, her former students and their families pay tribute to the difference she made in their lives.
Dorothy was a loving, faithful and unselfish wife, grandmother and great-grandmother. She cherished every moment with her family. One of her passions was music. In her early years, she sang at weddings, church functions and as a member of a choir at college. She also enjoyed listening to music including jazz, choral (especially the St. Olaf Choir), Big Band and concerts at Orchestra Hall. Being with special friends, especially over a good lunch or dinner, was something that Dorothy very much enjoyed. Bridge, gardening, baking and cooking also gave her great pleasure.

Survivors include a brother; four children, William O. McCormack ’69, Tom, John and Ann; and eight grandchildren including Jennifer McCormack ’91 and William B. McCormack ’95. nine great-grandchildren and many nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her husband, William, and a brother, O. Carlton Onsgard ’51.

LaVon Peterson Stewart, Albert Lea, Minn., July 9, 2011

*Norman Rone from New Auburn, Wis., passed away at his home on November 18, 2010.

Norman was born in Eau Claire on Dec. 6, 1921, to Cornelius and Anne Sofie (Olafson) Rone. Shortly after graduating from Eau Claire High School in 1940, Norman enlisted in the Navy and served in the South Pacific on the carrier Enterprise in 1944 and 1945.

After the war, Norman began preparing for a teaching career and earned degrees from the Eau Claire State Teachers College, Macalester College, and St. Olaf College. Norman taught high school science and math for 26 years, teaching in Belle Plaine, Minn., Menomonie, and in Wauwatosa for 16 years.

Norman, an Eagle Scout himself, also spent many years as a Boy Scout and Explorer Post advisor, and particularly loved sharing his passion for wilderness canoe trips. Upon his retirement in 1979, he moved to New Auburn, and spent much of his time woodworking, cutting firewood, and managing his tree farm. Other hobbies included cooking, Scrabble, and tending plants and flowers in his greenhouse.

Norman is preceded in death by his parents and his sister Ruth (Erickson). He is survived by his son, David (Mary Jo) and his nieces Barbara (Gary) Maser and Mary (Daniel) Berntson. Memorial donations may be made to the Ice Age Trail Alliance, 2110 Main Street, Cross Plains, Wis. 53528

Jean Strom Stroud, a resident of Eureka, Calif. for the last 52 years, an educator and poet, peacefully passed away on August 29th, 2011. Jean was born in Hanska, Minnesota, on January 26th, 1927. At age two the family moved to Le Roy Minnesota where younger sister Carol was born and the family lived for years. Her emphasis was English at St. Olaf. She was a Fulbright scholar and studied in Norway. She taught English at schools in New Mexico, Nevada, Idaho, Oregon, and California.

After her marriage to Richard Stroud, she moved to Humboldt and taught English as a second language at Eureka Adult School and Humboldt State University. Mom liked to report about her early teaching career, “I taught my way to the ocean.” This love of teaching was undeniable and directed her to creative solutions to life’s dull and crucial moments. She loved and worked words, humor, and music and was our spontaneous rhapsodist. Often she summed things up in two four-letter words: Face life.
Jean was preceded in death by her parents Carl and Minda Strom, her sister, Carol Strom Pesch ’53, and husband Richard Stroud. Jean is survived by her children Christopher Stroud, Jill Petricca, and Eric Stroud; her nieces Janet Pesch Wrassmann, Linda Hurn, and nephew David Pesch; her grandchildren John and Angela Petricca, and Nina and Sean Stroud.

*Loren Studer*, from Portland, Ore., died on September 8, 2011. “Stu” was born in Stewart, Minn. After graduating from St. Olaf, he received graduate degrees from the University of Colorado and Temple University.

During WWII, “Stu” was stationed in New Guinea as a lab technician with the 19th Medical General Laboratory where he conducted research on Malaria. He was awarded the Asiatic Pacific Theater Medal, the Philippine Liberation Ribbon and the Good Conduct Medal for Service.

“Stu” taught chemistry at Grant High School, Clackamas Community College and Portland State University. He was a longtime member of the American Chemical Society. He loved to swim, play bridge, entertain, drink martinis and travel.

“Stu” is survived by his children, Julie Gage (John), Amy Studer (John Halaka), and Paul Studer (Maria); and grandchildren, Alex, Loren, Adam, Anna, Emily, Claire, and Isabelle. His wife, Carolyn, preceded him in death; his parents, Edwin and Ella Studer; and his sister, Carol Bredeson. Memorial gifts may be given in his name to Calvin Presbyterian Church or the charity of your choice.

*John Swanberg*, from Glenwood, Minn., died on October 6, 2010.

John “Marv” Swanberg was born on February 25, 1922, in Sisseton, S.D., to Maurice LeRoy and Lydia (Marvick) Swanberg. His formative years were spent in Sisseton, where he was baptized, confirmed and graduated high school. Following high school, Marv attended the U.S. Naval Academy, from which he graduated in 1945 (Class of “’46”). He then went on to attend St. Olaf College, graduating in 1948 with a Bachelor of Arts degree in economics. He later went on to graduate studies at the University of Minnesota and George Washington University in Washington, D.C.

Marv was united in marriage to Shirlee Kaus on June 18, 1959, at Glenwood Lutheran Church in Glenwood. They were blessed to have four children born of this union, Brian, Paula, Anne and Amanda.

In his naval career Marv traveled from coast to coast in varied duty stations, serving on the USS Pasadena, USS Miller and the USS Taconic, visiting many foreign ports of call. He was awarded many ribbons and medals during his thirty one years in the Navy. Marv retired in 1973, having attained the rank of Captain, USNR in Seattle, Wash.

Marv and Shirlee moved their family to the Glenwood area in 1974. Marv had many occupations following his retirement from the Navy, including resort owner and operator, veteran’s service officer, real estate agent and broker. He was active in the Lion’s Club, taught Sunday school and held various offices at Glenwood Lutheran Church and was active in the Stephen Ministries.

Marv is survived by his wife of fifty-one years, Shirlee Swanberg; their four children, Brian, Paula (Paul) Murray, Anne Swanberg and Amanda Swanberg; five grandchildren, Breeanna, Jessica and Jacob Murray;
Tyler Mary Swanberg and Jennifer Nicole Wilts; three sisters, Marie Cross ’42, Lois Ann Smith ’45 and Charlotte ’49 (and Andrew, Jr. ’50) Thompson; and nineteen nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Maurice and Lydia ’19 Swanberg, and siblings, Paul Swanberg and Dorothy Spielman ’47.

To send online condolences to the family, visit at www.hoplinfuneralhome.com.

Marie Tosterud Roll, from Eau Claire, Wis., died on June 12, 2011. Marie was born on November 27, 1926, in Pennsylvania to Martin and Betsey (Wilson) Tosterud. She later married William “Bill” Roll in Minneapolis, Minn., on Dec. 22, 1954. Marie attended St. Olaf and graduated in 1948 with a Bachelor of Music Education. She then taught public school where she met Bill. She then attended the Minneapolis College of Music and graduated with her Master's Degree in 1955. They later moved to Eau Claire and she taught for over 25 years at UW-Eau Claire, retiring in 1988.

Marie was preceded in death by her husband, Bill Roll, in 2007. She is survived by children, Charles (Corinne) Roll, David Roll, Mary (Roger) Reinert, and John Roll; and grandson, Daniel (Sarah) Reinert.

Memorials, in the name of Marie Roll, may be made to the Music Department Fund 238 with the UW-Eau Claire Foundation, PO Box 4004, Eau Claire WI, 54702-4004

~ CLASS OF 1949 ~

Geezers? Not us ’49ers. We continue vigorously through our … what decade is this again?

John Hagman, ever watchful over our class, called my attention to an honor bestowed on Anne Knutson Kanten, Milan, Minn. This church leader and former Deputy Secretary in the Minnesota Department of Agriculture, who is proud to be known as a farmer and a radical woman (I like that – Ed. Note), was named a Minnesota Rural Champion last June at a gathering of the National Rural Assembly, which is comprised of more than 500 local, regional, and national organizations dedicated to building a stronger, more vibrant rural America. She was recognized for her respect for the land and the people who work it, as shown by her deep commitment to issues facing rural Minnesota. She exhorted the Assembly to “hit the road” and spread, as it were, the gospel. We can be proud of Anne!
What, then, of John Hagman, in Mendota Heights, Minn.? He continues, as you know, his valiant service as Class Agent. He says he has nothing to report, and then casually mentions a flurry of activities with wife Joan Andersen Hagman, ‘51, which would lay lesser people low. He’s mixed up with some outfit called the OWLs – Older, Wiser Lutherans – who do things like a showboat cruise on the Mississippi. And 10 grandchildren, two great-grandsons (twins), whom I suspect get a certain amount of attention. One speculates that it could be his worthy (and younger) Norwegian wife who is responsible for much of the good that John does. John and Joan spend a fair amount of time at their Ephraim Home in Door County, Wisc. Send John some Atta boys.

Kathryn Thompson Hanson, Mankato, Minn., has been gallivanting around again: Istanbul, then boarding a ship to go to nine ports around the Black Sea–eastern Turkey, Georgia, Russia, Ukraine, Bulgaria – delicious places for sure! She continues to be adventuresome, which has great survival value. Kathryn likes Road Scholar (still Elderhostel to some of us) programs. I’m reminded to tell her that I found the Maud Hart Lovelace plaque on the bench outside the library in my town of Claremont, Calif. (If that is meaningless to you, mention Betsy-Tacy to Kathryn). Lest I forget, she is also one of our Class Agents. A lively one, Kathryn.

Goldie Dugstad Shaw, in Ventura, Calif. (Ed. Note: Do you all know that’s the city from which James George Janos, then still a Mongol biker, later the 38th Governor of Minnesota, adopted his name, [Jesse] Ventura?), weighs in with something neat: She talks about her friends at St. Olaf: Ardis (Ardy) Hodenfield Rollefson, for example; one of those North Dakota gems, raised on a wheat farm and true to her Bible roots and home life. She lives now in Jackson, Wyoming. And then there is Jean Thor Cook, who transferred to another college and did not graduate with us, who has traveled all over the world. Her favorite teacher was Harold Ditmanson. (Me again: I suspect he was the favorite of a number of the ladies. One of my high school classmates described him as “a beautiful man.”) Goldie would love to hear from Carol Grau and Joyce “Hotfudge” from Montana. Meanwhile, she says she and her husband are fine.

Ronald Nelson and Betty Lou Oleson Nelson live in a sinister-sounding nest of five ’49ers, including Shirley Hanson, Dolores Hanson, Mickey Monsen, at Becketwood, a lovely senior community in Minneapolis, Minn. Ron and Betty Lou were ecstatic over singing with the nearly 800 choir alumni at the 100th St. Olaf Choir Anniversary celebration. Ron continues composing, with one organ volume published last year and the second one shortly. Betty Lou just retired from her piano teaching but continues as a piano soloist and accompanist. “Dynamic duo” comes to mind.

Edward Hatlem, Maple Grove, Minn., is living independently in a retirement home. This Christmas will be the 25th year that Ed has brightened his neighborhood with an elaborate lighted house display: 120 lit buildings, a train, trees, etc. He keeps busy with stamp collecting, the Boy Scouts (over 55 year), and a church group called – yes – the OWLS. Ed’s first wife died after 45 years of marriage. Their children live in ND, VA, and FL. He then renewed acquaintance, after 52 years, with Eleanor Olson, who was a first semester freshman with us, but while home in Chicago for Christmas, sustained serious injuries in an accident and did not return. Ed and Eleanor were married for eight years until she died. Ed is another example of the value to seniors of involvement in activities.
Well, then what about *Mildred (Mickey) Matzke Monsen*, our role model (Class Fund Agent, Alumni Board representative, chairperson of this and that at Becketwood, keeper-up of everyone’s spirits)? We learn, again through John Hagman, that Mickey arranged an Ole dinner at Becketwood for President and Mrs. Anderson in August, attended by 16 people. There was much Ole talk, recounting the old days on the Hill, and President Anderson’s updating on Olaf things now. And then this: At a special ceremony in Chicago, Mickey was named the 2011 recipient of the Friend of Lutheran World Relief award. Mickey served for seven years as president of Friends of Lutheran World Relief, an independent non-profit organization established to support the mission of Lutheran World Relief. LWR president John Nunes said, “I think Mickey is simply amazing.” Yup. She was described as “passionate and empowered.” And gifted with youthfulness and vitality, I’d add.

Those of you who are doing constructive, worthwhile things will quickly recognize that I have been essentially lollygagging. In June Eloise and I rambled around France in a rental car: Nice, a charming city; Provence; medieval villages of Burgundy; WWI battlefields (mind-boggling, senseless slaughter – 1.2 million men killed in the Somme); Paris. In September we joined a mini-reunion of Eloise’s Carleton class at Lutsen, after which we visited Becketwood, where Mickey assembled a panel of Oles to perform a Decontamination Ritual. Returning home, I officiated at a Hindu-Catholic wedding – first a 2½ hour traditional Hindu ceremony, then my Western ceremony. Three years ago I had officiated at a Hindu-Buddhist ceremony uniting two terrific young women, both Ph.D. candidates, both Carls. The bride now was the twin of one those Carls – a VP at Goldman Sachs, her groom from St. Paul. Hindu-Buddhist, comfortable. Hindu-Catholic, dicier. I spend a lot of time with the LA Opera League Board. Eloise despairs.

I chatted with *Alvhild (Avy) Slen Sherve*. She continues in splendid form and expresses appreciation of Minnesota’s lovely autumn weather. With Avy’s permission, I would like to include here, as a memorial, a statement by our mutual close friend, and my high school classmate, *Jacquelyn Mutsch Kallenbach*, written when Jackie was in Hospice care in 2009, and which she shared with Avy:

**I Live Through Spirit**

*There is only One Power, One Presence, and One Mind – Infinite and Eternal – and that Mind is my mind now. I have within me all the attributes of God. In this knowing, I am never alone.*

*There is no sense of confusion or disorder moving through my thinking or consciousness. I listen to the inner voice called Spirit. Truth speaks to me, and I am no longer filled with fear or doubt. I embrace spiritual ideas that nourish my life. I am mindful of my oneness with the Great Spirit called God; therefore, I am at peace. I am never without my good, since it is Spirit expressing as love in my world. I live in the light and love of Universal Spirit in every area of my being. I recognize who and what I am as an expression of the Divine. I am free, and I choose my thoughts and feelings in the way I express Truth.*

*Grateful the Light of Spirit manifests in my life, I move in the now. I am guided and directed, for it moves through me, manifesting as me. And so it is.*

*Forever in love,*

Jacquelyn A. Mutsch Kallenbach
7/18/1927 – 6/8/2009
Friends, I thank you again for putting up with me as your Class Correspondent. It is a keen pleasure to get your reports on what you are doing.

Norm Cadman '49

SOME MORE OF OUR CLASS MEMBERS HAVE GONE ON AHEAD:

Dorothy Bridley, from Albert Lea, Minn., died on July 8, 2011. She was born in Albert Lea on Sept. 22, 1925, the daughter of Clifford and Ruth (Ruerup) Bridley. She graduated from St. Olaf College with a Bachelor of Arts degree in English, religion and biology. Dorothy was the Dean of Women at Waldorf College and head counselor for the University of Iowa. She had been a parish worker and member of the First Lutheran Church in Albert Lea. Dorothy was interested in rosemaling, calligraphy, classical music, reading, crossword puzzles, cats, and cooking. She is survived by nieces: Penny Lee and Linda Acosta; great nieces: Piper Brown and Emily Acosta. Dorothy is preceded in death by her parents: Carl and Ruth Ramsey, and sister, June Rieple.

*Henry Buslee, of Fond du Lac, Wis., passed away Aug. 5, 2011. Henry was born July 12, 1924, in Chicago. After high school, he entered St. Olaf, but as with a great many young men of the day, his studies had to take a back seat to World War II. Henry enlisted in the Merchant Marine in 1943, and in July of 1944 was commissioned a second lieutenant in the United States Army. He served off the coast of France as the captain of a tugboat in 1944, and finished his active duty service state-side in 1946. He continued his military service in the U.S. Army Reserve, retiring after 20 years as a light colonel.

Henry and Ruth Andreen were married on Dec. 15, 1945. They returned to St. Olaf and he graduated in 1949. While finishing his studies, he served as class president in 1948, and for two years, broadcast the Northfield Farm Show at 6 a.m. each morning. From Northfield they moved to Madison, Wis., where Henry enrolled in law school, receiving his law degree in 1952.

Henry and Ruth had three children, Ingrid, Christopher, and Hans. They remained in Madison while Henry began his legal career as the Assistant City Attorney. He continued a second career as a radio announcer and was cast for a number of parts in musicals performed by the Madison Theater Guild.

In 1961, the Buslee family moved to Fond du Lac, where Henry worked first as the city attorney and later a city manager. He entered a private practice in 1968 that continued until his appointment to the circuit court in 1979. He retired from the bench in 2001. The judge enjoyed the spotlight.

From broadcasting, to participating in musicals in both Madison and Fond du Lac, most famously playing Harold Hill in The Music Man--presenting a case in court or conducting a trial, Henry was at home on the stage. He and Ruth could always be counted on to entertain as an evening progressed. In 1973, Henry was one of the founders of the Fond du Lac chapter of Ducks Unlimited and for 33 years served as its master of ceremonies. There wasn’t a crowd or an event that he couldn’t warm with a story from his little black book. He loved golf, although no one really knows why; flying; hunting; and cross-country skiing.

Henry is survived by his wife, Ruth; his sons, Christopher ’70 (Mary), and Hans ’76 (Roxann); four
grandchildren, Thomas ’93 (Alexia ’97), Anna (Brandon), Kristen, Yann; and six great-grandchildren. A daughter, Ingrid, and his sister, Florence Buslee Nordholm ’34, preceded him in death.

Memorials may be sent to the Humane Society of Fond du Lac, 652 Triangle Road, Fond du Lac, WI 54935; or Immanuel Trinity Lutheran Church, 20 Wisconsin American Drive, Fond du Lac, WI 54935.

Merlin Davey, from Midland, Mich., died on May 9, 2011. A sister, Doris Davey Gangstead ’37, preceded him in death. Survivors include his children and nieces and nephews, Daniel Gangstead, Stephen Gangstead ’73, Rebecca Hanson ’71 and Lois Gangstead Kremer ’67 (Doris Gangstead’s children.)

*Robert DeWyze, from Palatine, Ill., died on February 8, 2011. Born Jan. 16, 1923, in Chicago, Robert was a World War II veteran, having served as a captain in the Marines. He was the director of training and education at ITT for over 40 years.

Robert enjoyed gardening and fishing. He was the beloved husband of the late Dorothy Evans DeWyze ’50; loving father of Renee (Kevin Konrad) Stauner, Bruce, Brian (Deanna) and the late Brett DeWyze; cherished grandfather of Kristin Stauner, and Jared and Maren DeWyze; and dear brother of the late Harry, Lillian, Ray and Isabel. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Clearbrook, 1835 W. Central Road, Arlington Heights, IL 60005.

Sallie Ekern, from Mexico, Mo., passed away on Nov. 13, 2010. Sallie was born on Feb. 21, 1927, in Brookfield, Mo., to Sallie Mays McCoy and Paul Chester Ekern. The Ekerns moved to Mexico, Mo. in 1928 when her father was named District Manager of Missouri Power and Light. Sallie Ruth graduated from Mexico High School in 1945 and was the class valedictorian. She graduated with a Bachelor of Science degree in chemistry from St. Olaf in 1949. Then, she earned a Masters in Physical Education from the University of Iowa in 1952 and a Doctorate in Physical Education from the University of Wisconsin in 1969. Her career in education spanned the globe. She served as program director at the Moline, Ill. YMCA, taught elementary school in Madison, Wis., and taught at Luther College in Decorah, Iowa.

In September of 1965 she moved to Tehran, Iran, to teach at the Community School on a three year contract. After completing her doctoral work in the U.S., she returned to Iran in August of 1969 to teach and then serve as Dean of Students and Chair of the Physical Education Department at Iranzamin School. Sallie Ruth left Iran in 1980 after the deposition of the Shah and amidst the hostage crisis. She had plans to return, but was unable to because of the revolution. So she taught at Mexico High School for one year and then moved to Moshi, Tanzania, to teach at the International School Moshi from 1981-1986.

Sallie Ruth retired to Danville, Calif., where she was involved with the Untouchables of India. She returned to her hometown in 2000 where she was active in the First Presbyterian Church as a Deacon, Elder, and Stephen Minister. She served as Regent of the Daughters of the American Revolution and was a member of the Daughters of the American Colonists. The American Youth Foundation's Camp Miniwanca was an integral part of her life. She first attended as a camper in 1943 and returned annually as a camper and leader for nearly forty years.
Sallie Ruth was preceded in death by her parents and brothers, Paul, Bert (Frances Henri), Bill, Carol and George Ekern. She is survived by siblings, Carolyn Ekern Peoples, and Pete (Nancy) Ekern; sisters-in-law, Nancy (Paul) Ekern, Corinne (Bill) Ekern, Frances (Carol) Ekern, Anita (George) Ekern, and many nieces and nephews.

Those wishing to remember Sallie Ruth may consider The Robert Collins Scholarship at the First Presbyterian Church, 400 Lakeview Road, Mexico, Mo. 65265, the American Youth Foundation Advancement Office, 6357 Clayton Road, St. Louis, Mo., 63117 or the Mexico Family YMCA Endowment, 1127 Adams Street, Mexico, Mo. 65265.

Aleta Hansen Husted, Stockton, Calif., Nov. 19, 2010

Norman Nelson, from Granite Bay, Calif., died on Feb. 16, 2008. He was preceded in death by his wife, Virginia.

Hildegarde Schedtlar Laurin, Santa Rosa, Calif., June 8, 2011

Sigrid Ramstad Kerr ’48 reported the passing of her husband *Jay Kerr ’49, Mora, Minn., May 9, 2011, eight days before his 88th birthday. He was a Psychology major and had a career as a Social Worker, retiring in 1986 from the Minnesota Department of Human Services. Jay and Sigrid had a happy and fulfilling life and had celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary in July, 2010. In addition to Sigrid, he is survived by two sons: Steve Kerr, a contractor, and Dr. Bruce Kerr ’70, a physician at the Gunderson Clinic.

Marian Throlson Bagaason, from Northfield, Minn., passed away Monday, May 9, 2011, at the Northfield Care Center. Marian was born Nov. 25, 1923, in Albert Lea, Minn., to Arthur and Ruby (Overlie) Throlson. She attended elementary and high school in Albert Lea, graduating in May 1941. Following her education, she worked at Wilson Meat Packing Company from 1941 to 1945, and then as a secretary to the Dean of Men at St. Olaf College from 1945 to 1948. On Aug. 21, 1946, she was united in marriage to Arthur Bagaason. From this union were born three sons and two daughters. She moved with her pastor husband to Minneapolis, Brinelly, Owatonna and Rochester as they served congregations in those cities.

After 32 years of marriage, when the children were in school and had graduated, Marian went back to college to get her degree, graduating from Rochester Community College in 1980 and from Metropolitan University in St. Paul in 1984. She worked in many church-related functions serving as chairperson for the Southeast Minnesota District Hunger Task Force and was one of 12 representatives from her Lutheran Synod to travel to Nicaragua on a Hunger Justice Task Force. She became an avid social activist speaking to many church and educational groups as well as traveling to Washington, D.C., for protest marches.

Marian is survived by her three sons and their wives, Mark ’71 (Linda), Stephen (Young), and Paul
(Marlys); two daughters, Sarah (David) Kise and Mary Kujanson; eight grandchildren, Erin, Luke, Lauren, Michael, Noah, Ben, Aaron and Samuel; two sisters, Marilyn ’56 (Bill) Budde and Jean Barrett; two sisters-in-law, Anna (Charles) Gathje, and Arline Bagaason; and many cousins, nieces, nephews and other relatives and friends.

Preceding her in death on Feb. 23, 2011, was her husband of 64 years, Rev. Arthur Bagaason ’48; in 2002 her son-in-law, Jeffrey Kujanson; in 1962 her brother, Donald Throlson; in 1999 her brother-in-law, Pastor Carroll Bagaason; and her infant grandson, Matthew.

Memorials are preferred to the Northfield Retirement Community, St. John’s Lutheran Church in Northfield or the donor’s choice.

Wallace Hilling, Apple Valley, Minn., passed away peacefully on April 27, 2011. Preceded in death by his wife, Marcella. Survived by his nieces and nephews: Jane and James Newton, Sue Rendall, David Zuehl and Jackie Parkinson, Paul and Jane Zuehl, James and Kathy Zuehl, Mary Beth and Kurt Kovanen, Phillip and Tammy Zuehl, Candace Marthaler and Mike Kwick, Wendy Marthaler; sister-in-law: Audrey Manthey; also by other loving relatives and friends.

Caryll Nasby Heaverlo, from Sun City, Ariz., died on Feb. 18, 2011. She is survived by her husband, Lewis Heaverlo, three children, Marsha, Steven and Kent; and four grandchildren.
Classes of 1940-49