

Kelsey, Meryl L.

April 30, 1920– March 31, 2018



OBITUARY

Meryl Lois (Peters) Kelsey passed away peacefully at home on March 31, 2018, just a month shy of her 98th birthday, with her daughter at her side. Meryl was born in Saskatchewan, Canada, migrating with the family to Wisconsin via horse-drawn wagon as a girl, and settling in Waukesha. Much of her early education came from the nuns at orphanages in Stevens Point and Green Bay, where Meryl lived on and off, when times were lean for the family.

A lover of music, Meryl met her husband, John, when he was playing in a band, and married him at 16. The couple moved to their home in Eagle in 1947, and never left. Meryl's overarching philosophy was simply "be nice," and she was especially partial to children and animals; she adored the children in her life, and in addition to sporadic farm animals and traditional pets, she welcomed all manner of wild critters her children brought home, as well as the many cats that seemed to find their way to her doorstep. Though largely robbed of her eyesight by macular degeneration,

Meryl loved color, and enjoyed sitting out in the sunshine, looking at her flowers and watching the birds.

Meryl was preceded in death by her husband, John; her sons, Larry and Tim Kelsey; and her brothers Bob, Bruce, Leo, Vern, and Glen Peters. She is survived by her sister, Faye Treffinger; daughter, Kay Janssen; grandchildren Tricia Meade, Blake, Nicole, Carrie, and Joe Kelsey, and Kirsten Schmitt, and great-grandchildren Andrew, Julia, and Garret Kelsey, Kendall Klink, and Jaxton Kelsey, and many nieces and nephews.

A funeral Mass was held at 10:30 am on Friday, April 13, at St. Theresa's Catholic Church in Eagle, where Meryl was a parishioner for over 70 years, including singing in the choir for many years. The Mass was followed by a luncheon at the Wildflower Café in Mukwonago. Interment of Meryl's ashes at North Prairie Cemetery will take place at a later date.