



# A lasting memorial has been given to Spirit of Hope Church in memory of Marian Williams

April 17, 1929 - August 18, 2014



Marian was born in Minneapolis, Minnesota, in 1929, one of three children of a recent Swedish immigrant, Carl Lofgren, and his wife Jennie. Marian grew up in the Lutheran tradition, and as a young adult was a member of Mt. Olivet Lutheran Church and sang in the choir there. She graduated from the University of Minnesota in 1951, and she taught fourth grade at Longfellow Elementary School in Minneapolis for 11 years.

She married Andy Williams in March 1961 and moved to Golden Valley the year after, where the couple joined Golden Valley United Methodist Church and continued to be members to the present. She was the mother of one son, Doug, and the grandmother of two grandchildren, Jenny and Matt. After Doug was born in 1963, Marian stayed at home and took pride in efficiently running a loving household and was very satisfied contributing that to the family.

She was an active member of GVUMC over the 40+ years that she was a member. For many years, she helped record attendance at church and occasionally sang in the choir. With Andy, she played bridge in the church bridge club and counted the weekly offering on the 4th Sunday of every month.

Marian enjoyed cooking, needlework, singing, reading, playing cards, passing quiet summer days on the family's screened porch, and volunteering at Doug's school. She loved spending time with her two grandchildren. She was especially good at making up new games for them to play and reading to them. She enjoyed traveling with her family and learning about new places, but Arizona became like a second home to her after Andy retired. They spent many winters in Arizona, enjoying the weather and western atmosphere, and entertaining family and friends who came down to escape the cold and snow for a while.

Marian loved to visit and talk with people, and she could strike up a conversation with nearly anyone. She tried to be very positive and encouraging to those around her who often confided in her, and she would do her best to encourage them. She had a very cheerful laugh, and she often had a funny story to share with anyone who would listen. In 2008, Marian was diagnosed with Alzheimer's Disease, which eventually robbed her of her ability to speak clearly - surely a very difficult thing for her to accept. Nonetheless, even when she was unable to speak, she was still able to laugh a little, which was a great reminder that she was still there, inside a body that just didn't work right any more. Marian passed away on August 18, 2014.

