

MEMORIAL SERVICE

Carolyn Tennyson



November 27, 1943 to February 26, 2022

March 26, 2022 at 11:00 am

Elim Lutheran Church
Petaluma, California

ORDER OF SERVICE

Welcome and Prayer - Pastor Kathryn Gulbranson

Opening Song - *"Here I Am, Lord"* ELW 574

Scripture Reading

Ephesians 4:25-32

²⁵So then, putting away falsehood, let all of us speak the truth to our neighbors, for we are members of one another. ²⁶Be angry but do not sin; do not let the sun go down on your anger, ²⁷and do not make room for the devil. ²⁸Thieves must give up stealing; rather let them labor and work honestly with their own hands, so as to have something to share with the needy. ²⁹Let no evil talk come out of your mouths, but only what is useful for building up, as there is need, so that your words may give grace to those who hear. ³⁰And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, with which you were marked with a seal for the day of redemption. ³¹Put away from you all bitterness and wrath and anger and wrangling and slander, together with all malice, ³²and be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ has forgiven you.

Speakers - Julia Dietlin, Ralph Pelto

Ecclesiastes 3:1-8

¹For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven:

²a time to be born, and a time to die;

a time to plant, and a time to pluck up what is planted;

³a time to kill, and a time to heal;

a time to break down, and a time to build up;

⁴a time to weep, and a time to laugh;

a time to mourn, and a time to dance;

⁵a time to throw away stones, and a time to gather stones together;

a time to embrace, and a time to refrain from embracing;

⁶a time to seek, and a time to lose;

a time to keep, and a time to throw away;

⁷a time to tear, and a time to sew;

a time to keep silence, and a time to speak;

⁸a time to love, and a time to hate;

a time for war, and a time for peace.

Speakers - Mark Dietlin, Bob Dietlin

Gospel

John 14:1-6

Reader: Pastor Kathryn Gulbranson

¹Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. ²In my Father's house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? ³And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. ⁴And you know the way to the place where I am going." ⁵Thomas said to him, "Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?" ⁶Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.

Homily - Pastor Kathryn Gulbranson

Song - *"Borning Cry"* ELW 732

Prayers

Leader: God of Mercy **All: Hear our prayer**

The Lord's Prayer

Commendation

Blessing and Sending

Closing Song - *"On Eagles Wings"* ELW 787

Acknowledgements

Presided by:

The Rev. Kathryn Gulbranson

Musicians

Lauren Haile

Speakers

Julia Dietlin, Ralph Pelto, Mark Dietlin, Bob Dietlin

Please join the family for refreshments and reminiscing
after the service at the Petaluma Elks Lodge

Carolyn Pelto Tennyson

November 27, 1943 - February 26, 2022

Carolyn was born in San Francisco, CA, and grew up in San Anselmo before settling down in Petaluma. She was raised by her parents, Wally and Helen Pelto, alongside her brother, Ralph. Carolyn met Bill Tennyson in a local grocery store. The two fell in love and their lives blended into one. Both with three children prior to meeting one another, Carolyn quickly took on the role of mother to six when she married Bill on December 9, 1978. Their marriage flourished into years of love and partnership. Carolyn raised her children to become productive members of society. Having served on the Petaluma City School Board for 23 years, she knew the success of structure and expectations. She had a sixth sense for parenting and always said "I have eyes in the back of my head!" Beyond motherhood, she was a full-time Office Manager for her brother Ralph's company, Sun Iron Works, for 23 years. Carolyn was a diligent worker and balanced her responsibilities admirably. Carolyn's lifelong hobby and joy was gardening. Her garden was a place where she found peace and tranquility. She proudly displayed her garden on home garden tours in Petaluma. She also enjoyed camping on the Eel River and at Lake Mendocino, traveling around the world and reading. As an avid reader, she always had a book in her hands. Hospitality was one of Carolyn's greatest gifts. After she and Bill built their dream home in Petaluma in 1987, she hosted numerous dinner parties, two weddings, and countless family holidays. Carolyn was always generous with her time and energy. She was a phenomenal cook and many guests have said they had their best meals in her home. Her biggest priority in hosting was to welcome everyone. Family, friends, and church congregation members enjoyed Easter Sundays and Thanksgiving dinners at the Tennyson home. Carolyn never met a stranger; she befriended everyone she encountered. Carolyn's hospitality, quick wit and sense of humor will captivate memories for generations to come. She never failed to make someone smile. Carolyn's strong spirit and stubborn determination empowered her to fight against cancer for over 15 years. Her hope and strength never faltered. Even on the most difficult days, Carolyn found something to be thankful for. Her positive outlook and will to fight were truly remarkable. She did not lose her battle to cancer. Rather, she fought vigorously and gained 15 years of life and relationships with her family and friends. Carolyn emphasized the importance of family and always made it a priority. She passed down her core values of family, faith and hard work to her children, grandchildren and great grandchildren. She will be missed dearly by her family and community. Carolyn is survived by her husband Bill; brother Ralph; children Mark (Leanne) Dietlin; Rob (Pam) Tennyson; Bob (Lisa) Dietlin; Teresa (Rick) Bird; and Scott (Liya) Dietlin; seven grandchildren and two great grandchildren. She is preceded in death by her parents and son Gary Tennyson. Friends and family are invited to attend a memorial service on Saturday, March 26, 2022 at 11:00am at Elim Lutheran Church in Petaluma followed by a Celebration of Life at the Petaluma Elks Lodge at 12:30. In lieu of flowers, please consider making a donation to the Bill and Carolyn Tennyson Scholarship through the Petaluma Educational Foundation (www.pefinfo.com), Hospice of Petaluma or your favorite charity.