



Norene Ellsworth

October 5, 1932 - February 12, 2021

Norene Ellsworth, of Tulsa, OK passed away Friday February 12, 2021 after a battle with COVID at the age of 88.

Norene was born on October 5, 1932 in Blind River, Ontario, Canada to C.E. (Ted) and Helen Smith. Norene grew up in Blind River with four siblings Betty Merhar and Daniel Q. Smith (Donna) who preceded her in death and Paul Q. Smith (Helen) of Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada and John Q. Smith (Linda) of Sudbury, Ontario, Canada. After graduating from nursing school at The Marymount School of Nursing in Sudbury, Ontario, Canada Norene joined some fellow graduates and ventured away from Northern Ontario to Northern California to work as a Registered Nurse at St. Luke's Hospital in San Francisco. It was there that she met Merrill Leon (Lee) Ellsworth in 1955, a Kansas native who was stationed in the Navy in San Francisco. They married in 1957 in Blind River and a year later welcomed their first of four children they would have over the next six years.

Nene, as she was known by family was a kind, generous, loving person who balanced her life as a wife and a mother with the responsibilities of a 30 year career with St. Francis Hospital, retiring in 1999 as Administrative Nursing Supervisor. Family was first with Nene and she was a selfless cheerleader who led by example in her family. She was the glue that held our family together. A part of her heart always remained in Northern Ontario and the annual family trips back to reunite with her Canadian family and friends. She loved playing the piano, playing bridge with her various groups, and volunteering her time in retirement.

Norene was pre-deceased by her parents and son Mark Robert Ellsworth who died in a car accident in 2002. She is survived by her husband of 63 years, Lee Ellsworth of Tulsa; son Tim (Laura) of Tulsa; son Jeff (Judy) of Edmond, OK and daughter Jan Cohen of Tulsa. She leaves behind eight grandchildren: Barrett Ellsworth of Tulsa; Audrey Ellsworth Radler of Ft. Worth, TX; Grady Ellsworth of Tulsa; Emily Ellsworth of West Palm Beach, FL; Nic Ellsworth of Denver, CO; Katie Cohen of Austin, TX; Lucas Cohen of Tulsa, OK and Jacob Cohen of Oklahoma City, OK. She also felt very blessed to have nine great

grandchildren.

Funeral mass will be held Thursday February 25th at 11:00 am at The Parish of Christ the King. The rosary will take place at Christ the King on Wednesday February 24th at 7:00 pm.

In lieu of flowers memorial contributions can be made to Meals on Wheels of Tulsa at <http://www.mealsonwheelstulsa.org/donate> or the Marquette Educational Endowment Fund

Events

FEB **Rosary**07:00PM

24

Christ the King
US

FEB **Funeral Mass** 11:00AM

25

Moore Funeral Home - Southlawn Chapel
9350 E. 51st St., Tulsa, OK, US, 74145

Comments



“ Lee and Family, My deepest sympathy, may you always cherish the many memories that you had with Norene. She was a very sweet, kind person.

We have enjoyed going to Grand Lake with you, as well as square dancing and then when Ken and I came to Tulsa to visit, you and Norene surprised us by inviting several of our square dancing friends to your home for a wonderful evening.

May God comfort and watch over you in your time of loss.

My thoughts and prayers will be with you,

Esther

Esther Rye - April 05 at 04:14 PM



“ Lee, Tim, Jeff, Jan and families,

We were very saddened to hear of Aunt Norene's passing. She was such a wonderful person. She made everyone in her presence feel special. Know that you are in our thoughts.

Greg, Teisha, Mary and Ted Smith

Greg Smith - February 24 at 09:03 PM



“ My sincere love to all the Ellsworth family. Noreen was such a kind and gentle woman and an amazing Nene to her family. I have the fondest memories of her from childhood and she always made me feel welcomed in her home...she and Lee both. I know she is dancing with angels now and is so happy to be reunited with her precious son, Mark. God bless you, Noreen!

Gina Godfrey - February 24 at 11:59 AM



“ Paul and Helen Smith purchased the Basket Full of Wishes for the family of Mary Norene Ellsworth.



Paul and Helen Smith - February 22 at 03:32 PM



“ We have so very many wonderful memories of our dear sister and friend. They cover many trips, family occasions, weddings, etc., but the best are always of those times at the Blind River, Ontario, cottage. Norene loved her family home, her family, and she endeavoured to bring the same love for her children. The cottage! Often overflowing. Tiny bodies in sleeping bags on the floor at night. Wet bathing suits. Sandy floors. FAMILY!
Norene loved to play bridge, and a game was often in play where one hesitated to go for a drink, or their chair would be filled. She also was a fan of the many cribbage games amongst children and adults. She encouraged everyone to pick wild blueberries so that Gom , her dear Mother, could make those wonderful tasty pies. We will miss her. Paul and Helen Smith.

Helen Smith - February 22 at 03:12 PM



“ Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Mary Norene Ellsworth.



February 22 at 11:13 AM



“ John Q Smith is following this tribute.

John Smith - February 21 at 10:10 PM



“ Love to all the Ellsworths from all the Reichards!

Theresa Reichard - February 20 at 10:11 AM



“ So sorry to hear about Norene's passing.

David K. Hoel

david hoel - February 15 at 04:24 AM



“ Our sympathies to all the Ellsworth Family and brothers John and Paul Smith in the passing of Norene. Very fond memories of our Aunt Norene. Always positive, happy, engaging. She was very cool. I remember what a crazy time it was to drive to the Blind River cottage in the summer with my parents and the five of us in a car. She is a "Saint" for driving all the way from Tulsa with all your clan. I think one time she made Lee and Jeff ride the motorcycle. I don't think she ever climbed the mountain with us but I am sure she was there long before us, looking over the lake. A special place for all of us and source of so many memories.
Our best to all,
Chuck, Susan and Family in Toronto

Charles Smith - February 14 at 09:37 AM