



Elvie M. Gramlich

December 16, 1937 - July 2, 2020

Elvie M. Gramlich, age 82 of Highland, IL, died Thursday, July 02, 2020, at Cedarhurst of Highland in Highland, IL.

She was born on Thursday, December 16, 1937, in Esko, MN, the daughter of Emil and Jenny (nee Sunnarborg) Kinnunen.

On Saturday, March 23, 1957, she married Paul L. Gramlich at Hermantown, MN.

She was a member of Highland Hope United Methodist Church, Highland, IL.

She was born at Esko, MN. Graduated from Esko High School and attended University of Minnesota Duluth. After marriage she moved to Highland, IL. They did live in California for a couple years as her husband was transferred there with his job. She was a seamstress at many places and a tailor. She did work for Artex International, Highland and was a seamstress from her home. She was then a tutor for Project Pride for 5 years at local schools; then worked for the Illinois Department of Health and Welfare as a social worker, retiring after 20 years. She enjoyed quilting, sewing, boating, swimming and Sunday drives with her family. She was a Brownie Troop Leader, H.I.S. K.I.D.S, volunteer, a mission trip to Africa volunteer, rode her bicycle 250 miles across the state of Missouri on the Katie Trail; and a member of

"B.A.B.E.S." Belleville Area Bicycling and Eating Society, that helped her prepare for the 250 mile bicycle trip.

Survivors include:

Daughter - Julie A. Ruth, Plainfield, IL

Son - Merl G. Gramlich, Highland, IL

Grandchild - Sam P. (Amy Rosenthal) Ruth

Grandchild - Anthony J. Ruth

Sister - Joan Schannon, Cloquet, MN

Brother - Dale (Bonnie) Kinnunen, Esko, MN

Brother - Phillip (Cleo) Kinnunen, Pine River, MN

Sister In-Law - Ailene Kinnunen, Minnesota

She was preceded in death by:

Father - Emil Kinnunen

Mother - Jenny Kinnunen (nee Sunnarborg)

Husband - Paul L. Gramlich - Died 8/25/2003

Grandchild - Maria B. Ruth - Died 2013

Brother - Milton Kinnunen

Brother In-Law - Joseph Shannon

Arrangements are being handled by Spengel-Boulanger Funeral Home in Highland, IL.

Visitation will be held from 10:00 AM to 11:00 AM on Saturday, July 11, 2020, at Spengel-Boulanger Funeral Home in Highland, IL.

Memorial Service will be at 11:00 AM on Saturday, July 11, 2020, at Spengel-Boulanger Funeral Home in Highland, IL, with Rev. Dan Perry, Officiating.

Memorial contributions may be made to H.I.S. K.I.D.S.

Tribute Wall



“ *Sherry Gramlich Weiss lit a candle in memory of Elvie M. Gramlich*



Sherry Gramlich Weiss - July 11, 2020 at 01:18 AM



“ *I have been praying for you and Merl since hearing of your mom's passing. I will continue to hold you both in my thoughts and prayers. I am so sorry that I will not be able to attend your mother's service, as you know I am having surgery in August and I just don't feel comfortable being around crowds with this Covid going on but I will be thinking of you all.*

Sherry Gramlich Weiss - July 10, 2020 at 03:34 PM



“ *Teri Musso lit a candle in memory of Elvie M. Gramlich*



Teri Musso - July 09, 2020 at 04:47 PM

JS

“ Rest in peace sweet Elvie. I enjoyed knowing you and worshiping with you at Highland Hope UMC. Julie Steinbruegge.



Julie Steinbruegge - July 08, 2020 at 05:59 PM

JR

Thank you, Julie

Julie A Ruth - July 09, 2020 at 09:41 PM

PP

“ Merl & Julie, I was so sad to here of your mothers passing. The first thing I thought of was the picture of you two with Mickey Mouse that your Mom sent out for Christmas way back when. She had such a giving and loving spirt. I am thinking of you both at this difficult time. Patti Plocher Haukap

Patti Plocher - July 08, 2020 at 12:56 PM

JR

Thank you Patti. Mom and Dad took us all over that year, posing us with Mickey Mouse, a Joshua tree, a statue of an antelope, etc. More than one person said to us "Oh, you have a new member of the family" when the picture of us with Mickey Mouse was chosen!!

Julie A Ruth - July 09, 2020 at 09:41 PM

DK

“ Elvie was always on the lookout for ways to enjoy life. Trips home to Minnesota included buying smoked fish up the north shore, a walk in Jay Cook State Park, or checking out the Tall Ships in the Duluth harbor. Bonnie and Dale Kinnunen

Dale Kinnunen - July 07, 2020 at 11:30 AM

JR

I know she always looked forward to getting together with you, and I was always glad when I got to be included as well.

I particularly remember the day we spent checking out the Tall Ships in the Duluth Harbor, then driving up the North Shore, stopping for smoked fish and having a picnic.

It was such a beautiful day. Aiti kept saying ", I wonder what it's like in the winter?" knowing full well just how cold and icy it is.

Merl and I are sorry you won't be able to make it down for the funeral, but totally understand your concern. It's just not a good time to die!

Julie Ruth - July 08, 2020 at 12:19 PM

BW

“ *Highland Hope UMC has lost a sweet family member who served the Lord until her health failed her. Elvie thank you for being an awesome servant of God and a great witness to all who crossed your path.*

Rev. Dr. Beverly L Wilkes-Null, Pastor

Beverly L Wilkes-Null - July 06, 2020 at 04:26 PM

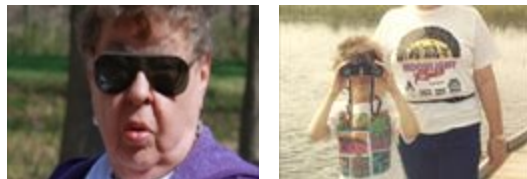
JR

Thank you Pastor Bev. Highland Hope meant a lot to her.

Julie Ruth - July 08, 2020 at 12:21 PM

JR

“ *2 files added to the album Memories Album*



Julie Ruth - July 06, 2020 at 10:34 AM

DP

We remember Elive when they visited us in Heinola, Finland several years back. May our Heavenly Father bless her family. david and tuula pulne.

david puline - July 08, 2020 at 06:59 AM

JR

Yes, we had a nice visit with both of you. And she appreciates your updates about things that were going on in Finland over the years.

Julie Ruth - July 08, 2020 at 12:24 PM



“ *Florist Choice Bouquet was purchased for the family of Elvie M. Gramlich.*



July 05, 2020 at 04:51 PM

JW

“ *My condolence to you Merle and Julie, your Mama was a special lady. We could talk shop for hours. Please forgive me for not attending the wake or funeral. I'm avoiding public areas. May God give you strength at this difficult time in your lives. When our Parents leave us, there is a great big hole in our lives, we must dwell on all the memories, the things they taught us and the things they instilled in us. God Bless You June*

June Yann Williams - July 05, 2020 at 02:18 PM

JR

Thanks June. I understand about not attending. There are others who will not be either due to Covid, including my oldest son, who just left after driving to Chicago from New York to spend a couple days with me.

What I have learned after having lost Daddy and Maria is there are a lot of ways people provide support after a loved one passes. Attending a funeral or visitation is one. Offering words of encouragement or memory is another. All are helpful in getting through the grieving process.

Julie Ruth - July 06, 2020 at 06:32 AM

RK

“ So sorry to see that your mother passed away. Here we are neighbors and we didn't know. If you need anything please let us know. Robert and JoAn Kakac

Robert and JoAn Kakac - July 05, 2020 at 01:35 PM