



## Helen Slater

January 8, 1925 - February 24, 2024

Helen's funeral service will be livestreamed at <https://vimeo.com/919367227>

The funeral service for Helen (Kleingartner) Slater, 99, of Fargo, ND will be 2:00 pm, Monday, March 4 at West Funeral Home, West Fargo. The visitation will be one hour before the funeral service at West Funeral Home. An online guestbook is available at [www.olivernathanchapel.com](http://www.olivernathanchapel.com) where you can view the livestream of the service. Burial will be in Memory Gardens, Valley City. Helen passed away peacefully with family at her side under the care of Ethos Hospice at Bethany Senior Living in Fargo on Saturday, February 24, 2024.

Helen was born January 8th, 1925, to Emanuel and Otilla (Kuhn) Kleingartner in Gackle, North Dakota. She attended and graduated school from Gackle. Helen attained her teaching certificate from VCSU, Valley City.

On March 21st, 1946, Helen was united in marriage to Earl Slater. They farmed in the Oriska, ND area for many years where she also taught at Minnie Lake Country School. In 1992, Helen and Earl moved to Park Avenue Apartments in Fargo where Helen resided until her death.

One of Helen's greatest joys in life was watching her grandchildren. They would stay at her house for days at a time and still didn't want to leave. She was known as "Grandma Slater" to not only her own grandchildren but many

other kids as well.

Helen's home was always very welcoming where there was plenty of coffee, goodies and good conversation around an always beautifully set table.

Helen is survived by her children Mark (Becky) Slater, Fargo, Marilyn Ihry, Hope, North Dakota; son-in-law Bob Klein, Sanborn, North Dakota; grandchildren, Jason (Joan) Klein, Tracy (Bill) Heinze, Mary (Carl) Weiland, Brent (Amy) Klein, Andrew Slater, Hannah Slater, Joshua (Laura) Ihry, Kent Ihry, Dena Ihry; 13 great grandchildren and three great great grandchildren. Helen is also survived by three brothers; three sisters and many nieces and nephews.

Helen was preceded in death by her parents, husband, their daughter Sharon Klein, an infant daughter, son-in-law Wade Ihry, grandsons Jon Klein and Thomas Klein, five brothers and two sisters.

Memorials may be directed to: Ethos Hospice, 3361 45th Street South Suite 100 Fargo, North Dakota 58104

Funeral arrangements have been entrusted to the care of Oliver-Nathan Funeral Chapel, Valley City.

# Previous Events

## Visitation

MAR 4. 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM (CT)

West Funeral Home - West Fargo  
321 Sheyenne Street  
West Fargo, ND 58078

## Funeral Service

MAR 4. 2:00 PM (CT)

West Funeral Home - West Fargo  
321 Sheyenne Street  
West Fargo, ND 58078

# Tribute Wall

JK

“ I have many fond memories of Helen, as I grew up just down the road, and our families were close. Praying for you all.

*Joy Karges-Brown*

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**Joy Karges-Brown** - March 04, 2024 at 12:12 PM

JK

“ As I grew up, my family would visit relatives in North Dakota and we frequently stayed with Helen and Earl. Always welcoming and always gracious. I always looked forward to the kuchen.....a special treat to me. A special aunt amongst many great aunts in the Kleingartner family.

*Jim Kleingartner*

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**James Allen Kleingartner** - March 04, 2024 at 12:01 PM

IF

“ Ihry Farms planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Helen Slater.

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**Ihry Farms** - March 04, 2024 at 10:50 AM



“ Medium Dish Garden was purchased for the family of Helen Slater.



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March 04, 2024 at 10:50 AM

JF

“ Jim Kleingartner and family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Helen Slater.

Jim Kleingartner and family - March 03, 2024 at 10:38 AM



“ Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Helen Slater.



March 03, 2024 at 10:38 AM

GN

“Aunty” took care of me often and was like my second mom. She and my uncle, Earl, were a very big part of our family. Their farm was just a couple of miles away. We did so much together. Lots of visiting, dinners, coffee, picnics, cards, church, field work, harvesting, etc. My brother, Dennis, who spent a lot of time with Helen and Earl, has lots of great stories. We were a very close as a family!

We had the pleasure and privilege to visit her over the years including this past year. We enjoyed coffee and goodies at her perfectly set table.

I am sad that we are in Savannah and will not be attending her funeral but I praise God for her long and faithful life.

I was so blessed to be her nephew; she treated me like a son.

Thanks be to God for "Aunty"!

Gary Nathan

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Gary Nathan - March 02, 2024 at 02:58 PM

VM

“Helen was such a wonderful lady my great grandsons loved her to. Oliver would run to her to give her a hug when he saw her. She will be missed by every one. She is where she wants to be with the Lord.

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Vicki Madsen - March 02, 2024 at 11:15 AM

SB

“I did Helen’s hair every Sat. For 13 years. She was so very special to me and my husband. She will be missed but always in my heart.

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sharon Brakeo - March 01, 2024 at 07:36 PM

DG

“ Sympathies to your family as you say goodbye to such a sweet lady.

Dianne Graff - March 01, 2024 at 06:10 PM

DS

“ I met Helen about a yr ago at Park Avenue Apartments. I believe she was playing cards, (Hand and Foot). I was being taught the game so I could substitute. She was so amazing, so sharp. She never skipped a beat. Then I listened to her at "Coffee Time". Full of wisdom. She always loved it when I would rub her neck and shoulders. I'll always treasure the smile she had. I feel blessed to have known her.

Deborah Stoughton - March 01, 2024 at 01:49 PM

DB

“ To Marilyn, Mark and all family members of Helen. I remember Helen with much fondness. Many picnics and holiday gatherings were spent with the Earl Slater family at Aunt Sylvia and Uncle Otto's. So fortunate to have been part of this loving environment in growing up. Your mom was such a kind person. God Bless. Sending thoughts and prayers in remembering Helen. Memorial sent to ND Great Plains Food Bank in her memory.. Marcia and Douglas Beglau

Doug & Marcia Beglau - February 29, 2024 at 09:43 PM

BD

“ Mark and Marilyn, My deepest sympathy to you both at the loss of your mom. God's blessings

Sincerely, Carey and Beth Byberg Dreher

Beth Dreher - February 29, 2024 at 12:31 PM

LB

“ For Helen's younger brother Cal, a childhood memory that immediately came to mind is pitching bundles in the fall, with him handling the horses pulling the hay rack, while she did the hard work of loading bundles and putting them in the threshing machine. In later years, after he and his wife Joyce and daughter Lori had moved to California, their happiest summer travels were to stay with Helen and Earl, being fed her delicious cinnamon rolls for breakfast and pot roast for dinner. Her house was always immaculate and we were so comfortable and well-loved there. Lori is grateful that her husband and children got to meet this amazing member of her family. We will all miss her dearly!

*Cal Kleingartner, Lori, Tom, Annie, and Jennie Brown*

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**Lori Brown** - February 29, 2024 at 10:12 AM

PO

“ On behalf of the Barnes County Homemakers, our sincere sympathy to Helen's family. May the memories you share as a family be a comfort in the days to come.

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**Phyllis Otterness** - February 28, 2024 at 06:34 PM