



Jane "Betty" Paulson

June 1, 1913 - January 2, 2012

Jane Elizabeth "Betty" (Graves) Paulson, of Valley City, ND, died in the early morning hours of January 2, 2012 at the Cottage assisted living facility in Detroit Lakes, MN. Betty was born June 1, 1913 in Fargo, ND, to her parents, Dr. James Lincoln and Cornelia (Poole) Graves, and was one of three children. Betty married her husband, Hon. William L. "Bill" Paulson of Valley City on September 7, 1938 in South Dakota.

Throughout her 98 years, Betty took each opportunity life gave her and ran with it. She taught school in rural North Dakota after graduating college. She lived in New York for a time, trying out for the world-famous Rockettes. She toured Europe extensively. As part of a legal study delegation, she and Bill spent an extended period of time in China, visiting the region and learning about the social and legal aspects of life in the Far East. In her later years, she spent many evenings recording all of her stories and trips in various anthologies to pass on to her family.

Betty was an avid golfer, walking 18 holes three times a week. She also enjoyed playing bridge and was a member of Valley City's bridge club for a time. She was a voracious reader, and would often read several books each week, stating how it kept her mind sharp and occupied. She was a vocal Minnesota Vikings fan and could be heard from a couple of counties away on most Sunday afternoons each autumn as she cheered her team on. Upon Bill's retirement from the bench in 1983, Betty and he became snowbirds, spending each winter on the white sands of the gulf coast in Destin, FL, returning each spring to their lake home in Detroit Lakes. Throughout her life she was active in multiple social and charitable organizations, including the Eagles, Elks, Shriners and The Open Door Center in Valley City.

Betty is survived by her son, Hon. John T. "Jack" (Bonita) Paulson, and daughter, Mary (Mikal) Simonson, both of Valley City. She is also survived by four grandchildren, Amita (Anthony) Perruzzo of Brooklyn Park, MN, Kristofor Paulson of Grand Forks, ND, Nicholas (Angela Sersha) Simonson of Marshall, MN, and Benjamin Simonson of Valley City.

Betty was preceded in death by her parents, her brother Jack Graves, her sister Helen Graves-Welles, her husband Bill, and a number of beloved dogs, including the rambunctious Chesapeake Bay Retriever, Oscar, the gentle Irish Setter, Laddie, and the crotchety - yet adored - Chinese Pug, Otis.

Previous Events

Service

JAN 9. 9:30 AM (CT)

All Saints Episcopal Church
516 Central Ave. N.
Valley City, ND

Tribute Wall



“ Family of Mrs. Paulson: Our deepest sympathies go to your whole family. There is never a right time for a parent to leave us and no matter what the age the loss leaves a void in your life and hearts that will never be filled. God bless you.###imported-begin###Henry Howe and Mary Seaworth###imported-end##

January 13, 2012 at 09:05 PM



“ Betty I enjoyed taking care of You from the moment You moved into the cottages..you were such a wonderful woman to take care of. I loved helping you shop hsn and enjoyed writing letters for You.. I will miss you terrible.. I am happy You are reunited with your husband though. God bless You Betty! I miss you!###imported-begin###kristi frazier###imported-end##

January 13, 2012 at 08:43 PM



“ Mary - I have loved the stories that Jeanne has shared about your Mom through the years. She must have been quite the lady! One that I would have enjoyed knowing! She will be in your presence always and a part of your life forever. May your countless memories bring you comfort now and in all of your tomorrows. With sympathy Diane Bjerke###imported-begin###Diane Bjerke###imported-end##

January 13, 2012 at 11:53 AM



“ My Sympathy to you all and thinking of you today. Wish I could be there. Mary Huether###imported-begin###Mary Huether###imported-end##

January 09, 2012 at 03:16 PM



“ May God comfort you in the loss of your mother. What a delightful woman, may Jane Betty's soul rest in peace. ~Dana+###imported-begin###Dr. John and The Rev. Dana Emery, St. Luke's Episcopal Church, Detroit Lakes###imported-end##

January 07, 2012 at 01:49 PM



“ My memories of Betty go back to when I was attending College High School and Miss Betty Graves was one of my student teachers. I finished high school in 1937. When I moved to Bridgeview in 1998, Betty was a resident. May the family have many pleasant memories.##imported-begin##Lester Speicher##imported-end##

January 07, 2012 at 12:48 PM



“ As former students of John Paulson at Valley City State College, we are sorry to hear of the passing of your mother and grandmother. Our thoughts and prayers are with you. Although we did not know her, she sounds like a wonderful person.##imported-begin##Sharon and Bob Reis##imported-end##

January 06, 2012 at 04:39 PM



“ William Bonde – January 4th, 2012 6:00 PM
My sympathies go out to Jack and Mary and families. Your mother touched so many of our hearts in her life time. My mother Virginia Bonde loved Betty with all her heart. She was so blessed to have known your mother. I remember spending time with her and Bill at the lakes and watch their eyes light up whenever they were together. I know they are both together up in Heaven. May God Bless your family!
Love in Christ,
William Bonde
Detroit Lakes, MN##imported-begin##William Bonde##imported-end##

January 04, 2012 at 07:09 PM



“ My sympathies to Jack and Mary and families. What a wonderful, vibrant, fulfilling life your mom enjoyed over her 98+ years. It was my honor to know her and Bill since my grade-school days at Lincoln School with Jack and Mary.##imported-begin##Jerry Busche##imported-end##

January 03, 2012 at 06:27 PM