



Esther J. Merkling

November 18, 1920 - February 5, 2022

Esther J. Merkling received her angel wings on February 5, 2022, at Good Shephard Nursing Home, Sauk Rapids, MN. A Memorial Service will be held at a later date. Interment will take place in Church of St. Joseph's Parish Cemetery, St. Joseph, MN.

Esther was born November 18, 1920, in St. Joseph, MN to Peter R. and Mary (Knevel) Theisen. She married Sylvester (Bouche) Merkling July 20, 1943.

Esther attended grade school in District 1 in St. Joseph and graduated from Technical High School in St. Cloud, MN in 1939. She worked as a secretary in Minneapolis and St. Cloud. In 1956 Esther worked at the St. Cloud Hospital in the payroll and human resources office until her retirement 26 years later.

Esther and her husband enjoyed traveling by car around the United States. She was an avid card player, enjoyed Bingo, trips to the casino, the MN Twins and was a prayer minister and member of the Church of St. Joseph.

Esther is survived by her three children, Bonnie Merkling, Mary Merkling Layton, Carl (Mary Jean) Merkling; 7 grandchildren, 16 great grandchildren, and 2 great great grandchildren.

She is preceded in death by her parents; husband, Sylvester (Bouche); twin

brothers, Tony (Sophie), Ben (Alice); sisters, Emie (Jimmy) Borck, Gayne (Leo) Zimmer, Marie Theisen Mayer, and Frieda (Harry) Witt.

Cemetery Details

Church of St. Joseph Parish Cemetery

St. Joseph, MN 56374

Tribute Wall



“ *Esther J. Merkling*

January 29, 2023 at 09:26 AM



“ *My love and prayers for all of you. I missed this in the newspaper but the archivist at St. Cloud Hospital alerted me to her going to God. Blessings and prayers. Mary - could you call me a I do not have your number. 320-363-8994. I am sending a copy of the tributes to Pauline Page and will call her. Dear Esther lived a GOOD AND FULL LIFE...WE LOVED HER.A GREAT WOMAN...Sister Colleen Haggerty, OSB*

Colleen Haggerty - February 16, 2022 at 05:37 PM



“ *Esther taught us all about grace, hard work, love, grit and living a full life. Heaven has welcomed her with open arms after a life fully lived. She will be missed! Love Kirsten Becker.*

Kirsten Becker - February 09, 2022 at 12:03 AM



“ *To Bonnie, Mary and Carl,
Although I did not know your mother well, the times I did interact with her were always with a big smile and a warm welcome ! I can hear her voice in my mind... She deeply cared about people, a dedicated mom and wife.... look at the beautiful children she raised... you are truly gifted with her grace. And she always made you earn the win.
Rest well Esther - 100 years is a life well lived.
Carole Brown (Carl's wife's sister).*

Carole Brown - February 07, 2022 at 08:38 PM

DL

“ *Esther lived a wonderful long life, met her years ago when her daughter Mary and I became friends in High School..she was a good cook, I still use many of the recipes she gave me...she was so lucky Mary had her live with her, family was very important to Esther..she had a great group!!
Heaven got lucky when she walked through the door!!
Blessings to all the family!*

*Love, and Hugs
Donna and Bill Luckemeyer*

Donna Luckemeyer - February 05, 2022 at 10:49 PM

SO

I took care of her parents at St. Benedict Center and have many fond memories of them. Love and Prayers

S. Adelia Sirek osb - July 07, 2022 at 12:36 PM