



Merle E. Tank Kleinhans

February 15, 1922 - December 26, 2020

Merle lived a full and rich life (98 years) from February 15, 1922 to December 26, 2020.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Arthur and Lillie Buelow, and sisters: Florence Crawford and Gladys Buelow, and husbands: Howard Tank and Allen Kleinhans.

Survivors include a sister, Arlene (Robert) Vlies; Sons: Ronald (Maryann Welker) Tank, David (Vickie) Tank, Richard (Kathy) Tank; Daughter: Lori (Ken) Werth; Seven Grandchildren and 13 Great-Grandchildren.

Merle was born in Enterprise, Wisconsin to Arthur and Lillie Buelow. She was the third of four daughters (Florence, Gladys, Merle, Arlene). Growing up in northern Wisconsin, as a child she has memories of her father's lumber camp. In high school she was proud to play women's basketball. During WWII, she worked in a sock factory, aiding in the war effort. Later she worked with a local photography studio, hand-coloring black and white portraits.

She was married to Howard Tank in Fond du Lac, WI in 1946 until his death in 1993. She was married to Allen Kleinhans in 1998 until his death in 2018. She was a wonderful daughter, sister, wife, mother and grandmother. Strong-willed, independent, artistic, compassionate, and always willing to help out

family or friends, she was loved by so many. She was a dedicated member of Hope Lutheran Church in Fond du Lac.

Respectful of the Covid situation, Merle will be buried in a private ceremony. A celebration of her life will be held when it is safe to do so and family and friends can gather together.