

Jean M. Brose

Jean Marguerite Brose, 101, of Rochester breathed the final breath of a good, long life on July 9, 2021. Her memorial service will be held Wednesday, August 18, 2:00 p.m. at Zumbro Lutheran Church with Pastor Vern Christopherson officiating. Dessert and time for visiting will follow the service.

Jean was born December 9, 1919, in La Crosse, Wisconsin, the daughter of William and Leona (Gibbs) Harris. Shortly after Jean's birth, her family moved to Milwaukee. A few years later, they moved to the Centerville-Trempealeau area where her sister, Billye, was born. When Jean was nine, her parents bought Lanona Lodge, a lunchroom and inn nestled amidst the scenic bluffs along Highway 61 south of Winona, which they operated until 1950. She attended country schools in the area, then Phelps School in Winona, and graduated from Winona High School at age sixteen. After graduating from Winona State in the spring of 1940 with a degree in elementary education, she taught at a one-room country school near La Crescent. She went on to teach a year at Kaleva Michigan, ten miles inland from Lake Michigan. She married Arnold Brose on June 13, 1942, in Nodine, Minnesota, and to them was born Jeanine Elizabeth in 1945.



Furthering her education with a degree in library science, Jean enjoyed many years as a librarian at St. Mary's College (now University) in Winona. There she perfected her library picnic cake and counseled, in motherly ways, the many students who studied and worked in the library. In 1972 she moved to Rochester and became a librarian at Rochester Methodist Hospital Staff Library in the Colonial Building until her retirement in 1987.

Jean enjoyed attending plays, especially musicals and concerts. (Most memorable was the Beatles concert with Jeanine at Met Stadium in Minneapolis in 1965). She also loved reading, golfing, dinners with family and friends, shopping (Dayton's in downtown Minneapolis was her favorite), crossword puzzles, and going to baseball games (Winona Chiefs at Gabrych Park, Minnesota Twins, and her grandson Ben's games from little league through high school). She listened faithfully to Sid Hartman on WCCO radio.

Family came first for Jean—Ben was the joy of her life—and she was steadfastly loyal to them. Added joys would become Ben's wife Lindsey and their daughters, Greta, Ellie, and Hattie. In 2016, Jean moved to the Waters on Mayowood. Her friends and family remember her smile and warm, welcoming manner. She was independent, intelligent, spunky, and always up for adventure.

Jean will be dearly missed by her survivors: her daughter Jeanine (Michael) Ransom of Rochester; grandson Benjamin (Lindsey) Ransom of Saint Paul; great-granddaughters, Greta, Ellie, and Hattie Ransom; and several cousins, nephews, and nieces. She was preceded in death by her parents; sister (Billye Yvonne); husband, Arnold; and infant grandson, Tyler Michael Ransom. Jean's family appreciates the loving care she received the past several months from Visiting Angels, Chosen Valley Care Center, and Seasons Hospice.

In lieu of flowers, family welcomes memorial contributions to Charlie Girl Foundation, Hiawatha Homes Foundation, or Zumbro Lutheran Church.