



Ruth Balgeman

June 28, 1925 - February 3, 2022

On February 3, 2022, Ruth Mary Balgeman, age 96, left this earth to join her husband, Eldon Balgeman, in the presence of our Lord Jesus Christ. Ruth was born on June 28, 1925, in Stratton, Colorado, to Reverend Christian and Mary (Streit) Adam. In her early years she lived in the states of Wyoming, New Mexico, Texas, and Michigan. Later, she resided in Chicago and Momence, before settling in Kankakee. Ruth graduated from Kankakee High School, received a Bachelors of Arts degree from Concordia University, and also a Masters of Arts from Governors State University. She began her teaching career at Salem Lutheran School in Homewood, Illinois, before coming to St. Paul's Lutheran School in Kankakee to teach a combined class of third, fourth, and fifth graders. She married Eldon Balgeman, from Herscher, IL, on December 27, 1947, and soon thereafter took an extended leave to raise their five sons. Upon returning to St. Paul's, she went on to teach second grade for a combined total of 30 years, and also to direct the Cherub Choir, which she truly loved. In her spare time, she taught private piano lessons. As a member of St. Paul's Lutheran Church for over 70 years, she served on numerous committees, including the Human Care Board and Food Pantry.

She is survived by her sons, Donald (Gloria) of St. Charles, IL, William (Kim) of Kankakee, IL, Robert (Karen) of Johnson Creek, WI, Thomas (Beth) of New Berlin, WI, and Timothy (Robin) of Davenport, FL. She had 12 grandchildren

and 15 great-grandchildren.

Preceding her in death was her husband, Eldon; stillborn daughter, Mary; her parents, Rev. Christian and Mary Adam; siblings, Martha Gronewold, Esther Adam, and Paul Adam; and one daughter-in-law, Deborah (Glammeier) Balgeman.

Visitation will be at St. Paul's Lutheran Church, 348 E. Merchant in Kankakee, from 9:00 a.m. until 11:00 a.m. on Saturday, February 19, 2022, with services immediately following at 11:00 a.m. Rev. Karl Koeppen will be officiating. Interment will follow at Zion Lutheran Church Cemetery in Bonfield, IL.

In lieu of flowers, Memorials may be made to St. Paul's Lutheran Church food pantry or building fund.

Cemetery Details

Zion Lutheran Church Cemetery

11478 W. State Rt 17
Bonfiel, IL 60913

Previous Events

Visitation

FEB 19. 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

St. Paul's Lutheran Church
348 E. Merchant
Kankakee, IL 60901

Service

FEB 19. 11:00 AM (CT)

St. Paul's Lutheran Church
348 E. Merchant
Kankakee, IL 60901

Tribute Wall

RS

“ I am sorry that I am unable to attend the services today, but I just want to send my sympathy to the Balgeman family. I enjoyed my 15 years teaching on the same staff as her. She was a great teacher and very dedicated to her call. May God bless all of you knowing that she has fought the good fight and now rests in peace in Heaven. Prayers for comfort and strength during this time. Rick Segert

Richard Segert - February 19, 2022 at 10:57 AM

DL

“ Our condolences to the Balgeman family. We feel honored to have had the opportunity to know Mrs. Balgeman. It was always a joy to talk to her after my daughter's piano lessons and church services. RIP ANGEL!

The Love Family

Delithia Love - February 17, 2022 at 05:45 PM



“ Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Ruth Balgeman.



February 16, 2022 at 10:13 AM

JS

“ *Sincere Condolences to the family.*



Joyce Shoemaker - February 15, 2022 at 06:26 PM

JR

“ *My first sympathies to all of you!! I so enjoyed serving Ruth and getting to know her family who she loved so much and was so proud of. I'll forever remember the many hamburgers and gallons of ketchup consumed when visiting her for a meal. You all came to mean alot to me. I know she's rejoicing in heaven!*

Jean Rousey - February 10, 2022 at 06:29 PM

JB

“ *Joann Box lit a candle in memory of Ruth Balgeman*



Joann Box - February 10, 2022 at 02:38 PM



“ *RIP beautiful lady.*



Vicki Sanford-Tousignant - February 10, 2022 at 11:54 AM