



## Pauleen Ruth Bratland

August 11, 1932 - January 28, 2018

Pauleen Ruth Bratland, age 85, of Spring Grove, passed peacefully into Eternal Life on January 28th, 2018 at Gundersen Tweeten Care Center in Spring Grove, MN.

She was born August 11, 1932 in Lanesboro, MN to Paul and Ruth (Gabrielson) Anderson. Pauleen graduated from Spring Grove High School in 1950 and furthered her education at Saint Francis Hospital for Nursing. On January 21st, 1951, Pauleen married the love of her life, Vernon J. Bratland at the Trinity Lutheran Church in Spring Grove.

Pauleen was always passionate about her hometown of Spring Grove and spent most of her life supporting the community. Pauleen and Vernon started working in the restaurant business at the C&D cafe in the 50s/60s followed by owning the A&W Root Beer stand from 1965 through 1976. The A&W provided many fond memories for all of us that enjoyed the Tuesday Coney Dogs and were served by the car-hops after ball games on weekends.

Pauleen was an inspiration, and a tough cookie, to many high schoolers that got their first jobs and those work experiences, friendships, and stories are forever cherished.

Pauleen also worked at the Skyline Supper Club, Dahle products, Corner Store, Ballard House, and Hometown Store to name a few. While managing the Hometown Store, Pauleen was very adamant about providing the best quality services to the community. She worked long hours supporting the store and businesses in Spring Grove.

Pauleen also had a serving heart and volunteered at many organizations in the community. Pauleen was an Auxiliary Legion member, actively involved at Trinity Lutheran church and volunteered at Assisted Living, Art Gallery, and annually planting flowers in the Veterans star in the park with Boop, she also made regular visits to the Nursing home. She was involved in the Ballard House renovation project, Fall Foliage Festival, and getting "Festival of Trees and lighting of the Park" started in the early days when a hand full of trees were displayed in the store front windows.

Pauleen did leave Spring Grove for a brief two year period in the 80s as she worked in Dyersville, Iowa and was just down the road from "The Field of Dreams". Needless to say, her "Field of Dreams" was Spring Grove and she returned to her hometown that she loved so dearly.

Pauleen's other passion in life was supporting and attending Spring Grove athletic programs and following the Minnesota Twins, Vikings and Gophers. At a spry young age of 79, she along with Karen Langlie, were selected as Spring Grove Fans of the Year by the Spring Grove Athletic Booster club. These ladies were always sharing bleacher seats throughout the high school seasons and attending Football and Basketball games. Pauleen still attended games this past baseball and football season sitting in the car with Boop next to the fields and rooting on the hometown Lions. Pauleen was also so happy when high school baseball finally came back to Spring Grove and couldn't figure out why it ever left... She was so proud of the High School Football team that won Spring Grove's first 9-Man State Championship and that the team took the time to visit the residents at the Nursing Home during their championship season.

Most of all, Mom loved her family and cherished all her children and grandchildren. She enjoyed spending time with her grand kids, playing cards, Phase-10, Euchre, board games, puzzles, celebrating birthday parties and cooking for the family holiday gatherings. We will all miss her great smile, vibrant energy, warm hugs and always being a phone call away. She was truly an amazing, strong, and classy mother, grand-mother and great-grandmother.

Pauleen is survived by her loving children Bruce Bratland of Spring Grove, Missy (Dave) Von Arx of Hokah, and Mitch (Lorraine) Bratland of Aurora, Illinois; her cherished grandchildren Trisha (Chris) Lesnar, Stefanie (Mike) Rud, Tyler, Mackenzie and Lucas; adorable great-grandchildren Levan, Graham, Ander, and Greenley; and dear sisters Karen (Chuck) Krussow and Mary Tricker, and brother/sister-in-law Odell and Margie and many nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her devoted husband of 24 years, Vernon, who left us way too early on May 7th, 1975, parent's Paul and Ruth Anderson and brother/sister-in-laws Kenneth, Gladys, Harriet, Oberlin, Glenn, Elvina, Roland, Ann, Burnell, Luella, and Peter Tricker.

The family would like to thank the caring staff at Gundersen Tweeten Care Center in Spring Grove where Pauleen had called her home for the past two years.

The family will donate memorials to Spring Grove Sports programs that were near and dear to her heart.

# Cemetery Details

**Interment of cremains at a later date**

## Previous Events

### Visitation

FEB 17. 11:30 AM - 1:00 PM (CT)

Trinity Lutheran Church  
203 E Main St  
Spring Grove, MN 55974  
(507) 498-5291

### A Celebration of Life

FEB 17. 1:00 PM (CT)

Trinity Lutheran Church  
203 E Main St  
Spring Grove, MN 55974  
(507) 498-5291

# Tribute Wall

DM

“ Pauleen and Vernon were always family to us, both personally and in our early work lives at the A&W and C&D. What a great couple! You don't find many friendships like our parents had and enjoyed their entire life. We kids were fortunate to be blessed with that friendship as well. Bless their souls, they are all together in heaven and watching over all of us. I will miss looking up your Mom when I am in SG. Blessings, love and thoughts to all of you. Diane (Ellingson) Matheis

Diane Matheis - February 16, 2018 at 02:13 PM



“ Florist Choice Bouquet was purchased for the family of Pauleen Ruth Bratland.



February 14, 2018 at 11:44 AM

SK

“ Scott Leslie Anna and Carly Krussow purchased the Arrive in Style for the family of Pauleen Ruth Bratland.



Scott Leslie Anna and Carly Krussow - February 14, 2018 at 11:24 AM

TF

“ *The Krussow Family purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of Pauleen Ruth Bratland.*



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**The Krussow Family** - February 13, 2018 at 10:45 AM

MF

“ *Mary and Family purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Pauleen Ruth Bratland.*



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**Mary and Family** - February 12, 2018 at 02:39 PM

LH

“ *I have wonderful memories of working for Pauleen at the A&W. Think of her having to deal with all our teenage antics! Yet she always had a warm smile and witty comment. Pauleen was hard-working, patient, kind, and honest. She cared deeply for her family and friends. My condolences to all - Lorie Howe (Halse).*

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**Lorie Howe** - February 11, 2018 at 05:28 PM

CJ

“ *Pauleen was always one of my favorites, I worked the night shift and she always had a hard time sleeping so she would buzz me and her and I would sit and talk about every thing, especially the twins. She always shared her hard candies with me because she was never without. Paulette always looked her best and had a lot of pride in her looks. I will miss her dearly!!!!*

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**Corina Jefferson** - February 02, 2018 at 12:17 AM

CF

“ My heart gos out to all of you, Pauleen sure was a sweet, caring person and hard worker. I remember Missy and I playing behind the school and running over to the A&W afterwards for some ice cream, once for a bee bite Missy got on her tongue eating an apple. Spring Grove community will sure miss her. Hugs to you all.

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**Cindy Flatin** - February 01, 2018 at 06:35 PM



“ Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Pauleen Ruth Bratland.



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January 31, 2018 at 09:37 AM

KB

“ Pauleen was my first boss, back in the 70s, the first to pay me a whole dollar an hour to iron the family's clothes, including lots of Vernon's A&W shirts. If I'm successful today, it's because she hired me to clean, to iron, to paint A&W signs, to carhop, and to babysit. She taught me how to do a job that needed to be done and how to treat coworkers respectfully and with a little fun. She was my strength when, as a 16 year old girl, I had to deal with my brother's 3 week coma and death while my mom and dad were in Lacrosse with him. She took me to Caledonia in the A&W Station Wagon so I could fail my first driver's test - and didn't tell me she knew I would fail until it was over. She took me to the ER when I spilled the hot lard bucket on my hand about 2 minutes after she told me to be careful not to do that. She's the first one who made me realize how special my own mom was - I remember her saying, "Kathi, your mom knows a lot more than you think she does." She smiled at me and took my hand when I visited the nursing home last month. I am so lucky - and grateful - for having Pauleen in my life. I'll keep the things she taught me forever close.

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**Kathi Clauson Bash** - January 31, 2018 at 09:31 AM

KB

“ Pauleen, dear, dear Paulene, was my first boss. She actually paid me \$1/hr in the 1970s to iron her clothes - including Vernon's zillion white A&W shirts- and to repaint A&W signs. She always taught as she led. I learned life/work lessons that enabled me to become a college VP. If I'm successful its because she taught me how to be. And she may have been the first to help me realize how special my own mom was. I recall her saying, "your mom knows more than you think she does." She was the strength in my life during the 3 weeks it took my brother Mark to die, when my own parents were with him in LaCross. She took me to the ER after I spilled the hot lard on my hand - right after she warned me not to. I will sorely miss her yet, like my mom, she is part of me and will always be right here. Love to Boopie, Mitch, and Missy. Great love and appreciation to Pauleen

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**Kathleen bash** - January 30, 2018 at 08:56 PM