



On Friday July 2, Ruth Ann Bay, our precious wife, mother, grandmother, sister and friend went to join her Heavenly Father. She passed away surrounded by her loving family. She fought a valiant battle with cancer for 11 years.

Ruth Ann was born on Oct. 22, 1932 in Pingree, N.D. to Leo and Eldora Buckley. As an infant, she moved to and was raised in Grand Rapids, Minnesota. She graduated from Grand Rapids High School in 1950. Ruth was offered a college scholarship, but turned it down in order to work and provide for her mother and younger brothers and sister. She worked for 10 years at the telephone company. In 1958, Ruth met and married the love of her life, Roger R. Bay in Grand Rapids. They had two children, Roger W. and Laurie.

Rog and Ruth moved the family to Virginia, Utah and to Pleasant Hill, Ca. After Roger's retirement from the Forest Service, they moved to Bozeman, Montana.

Mom was a majorette for 14 years. Ruth was crowned Miss Grand Rapids in 1952. She was a tap dancer and entertainer on the local Mississippi River Showboat for 8 years. She loved to dance all of her life. Roger and Ruth loved to travel and had many travel adventures around the world with their special friends. She had an unbelievable capacity to love and serve others. Her positive attitude and sweet nature were an inspiration to all.

Ruth had a strong Christian faith. Everywhere they lived, Ruth was actively involved in the Lutheran Church. Mom loved participating in Bible classes and LWML at First Lutheran. She especially enjoyed helping with Bible classes at Mt. View Care Center. The residents loved her and the special tap dances she would treat them to. Mom loved Hawaii, swimming, flowers, angels, hummingbirds, snowmen and four leaf clovers. Most of all, she loved her Lord and her family.

She is survived by Roger, her husband of 52 years, son Roger W. (Kate McFee) Bozeman, Mt. and daughter Laurie (Derrick) Sandman and two grandsons, Brian and Shaun Sandman all of Ogden, UT. She is also survived by her sisters; Lee Vik of Duluth, MN, Carole (Frank) Zbreski of Parma Heights, OH, brothers; Dennis (MaryAnn) Buckley and Patrick (Kathryn) Buckley, Grand Rapids, MN, Sisters-in-law: Kathy Buckley, Grand Rapids, MN and Marilyn Sneath West Salem, WI. She is survived by her aunts, Bernadine Hollom, Evelyn LaPrairie and Coral Plude, all of MN. Ruth is survived by many cousins, nieces and nephews. She touched many lives and will be greatly missed.

Our family would like to thank Dr. Annie Castillo and all of the people of the Bozeman Deaconess Cancer Center who were so wonderful to her during her illness. We would also like to thank her church family, wonderful neighbors and friends and the compassionate caregivers, Anne and Meagan, of Hospice of Southwest Montana. Thanks most of all to our Dad for the wonderful care he gave to Mom for so many years.

In lieu of flowers, contributions can be made to First Lutheran Church building fund or to Bozeman Deaconess Foundation (Please note: Hospice in memory of Ruth Ann Bay on Memo Line).