



Zelda Rae Ahlborn

October 20, 1932 - June 15, 2025

Zelda Rae Ahlborn, age 92, of Minocqua, died peacefully at home in the arms of her loving children on June 15, 2025. She was born to Raymond and Inga Johnson at St. Ann's Hospital, La Crosse, WI. She was baptized and confirmed at St. Paul Lutheran Church in La Crosse. Zelda graduated from La Crosse Central High School and received her two-year Rural Diploma from the State Teachers College in La Crosse. On August 8, 1954 she was united in marriage with Robert Warren Ahlborn at St. Paul's Lutheran Church, La Crosse. She received her Bachelor of Science degree in education from the Wisconsin State University in La Crosse in 1965.

Zelda's teaching career began in 1952 in a rural school in Dane County, Wisconsin. Three years of her career were spent at the Lac du Flambeau Elementary School and the last 31 years were at the Minocqua Hazlehurst Lake Tomahawk Elementary School. She retired in 1990.

As a member of Calvary Evangelical Lutheran Church in Minocqua, she enjoyed serving on the church council, being a church education teacher and serving as a member of the Calvary Women of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. Zelda was a retired life member of the National Education Association Council, Wisconsin Education Association Council and Wisconsin Retired Education Association. She was also a member of the Rhinelander Area Retired Educators.

In thankfulness for the education that prepared her to succeed in the teaching profession, she held life memberships in the Central High Alumni Association and the University of Wisconsin- La Crosse Alumni Association.

When retired, she enjoyed volunteering as a docent at the Minocqua Museum. Zelda found happiness by accepting God's gifts of faith, forgiveness and everlasting life. She treasured her family and friends.

Zelda is survived by her daughter, Lorraine Rae (Scott) Schmidt of Minocqua; son, Steven Robert of Minocqua; grandchildren, Lea Rayanne Mae (David) Batiste of Arbor Vitae and Jeffrey Scott Schmidt of Denver, Colorado; great-grandchildren, Trevor Eric and Lexi Kaylee Rae Morgan, Zariah Lynn Batiste, Allison Rae Gabin and Zelda's namesake, Zelda Haebin Schmidt; and blessed with the addition of five bonus great-granddaughters with three great-great grandchildren. She is also survived by many nieces and nephews.

Zelda was preceded in death by her beloved husband, Robert, her parents and a grandson, Eric James Schmidt.

Graveside services will be held for the immediate family at the time of burial in Evergreen Cemetery in Woodruff, WI.

Memorials may be given for God's glory to Calvary Evangelical Lutheran Church, PO Box 63 Minocqua, WI 54548.

Zelda wishes to leave these words, "Ashes to ashes...dust to dust.. Remember who you are-human, fallible and mortal. But remember also what God offers you- new life, new hope, a future, all gifts through the grace of the crucified Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ".

Cemetery Details

Evergreen Cemetery

Woodruff, WI

Events

Details are pending.

Tribute Wall

DB

“ So sorry Laurie and family for your loss! May God lift you in his arms and give you all strength! In our thoughts and prayers!

Donna & Cubby Butler - June 29, 2025 at 11:12 AM

VI

“ My condolences to the family. Zelda was a ray of sunshine when caring for her in the hospital. She had such a bright outlook on life. Such a sweet lady. Vicki RN



Vicki - June 28, 2025 at 03:57 AM

KR

“ I will always have good memories of Zelda from our visits in the office. She was a kind and intelligent woman and a joy to be around. A life well lived. Best to all her family

Kirby Redman - June 27, 2025 at 03:51 PM

SK

“ *Zelda and my mom, Betty (Elizabeth) Oldenburg, were good friends for many years. This pic is from April 1956 when they taught together at Lac du Flambeau Public School. Zelda is 2nd from left. Betty is far right. They had dressed as 1920's flappers for some event at the school. Over the years their friendship never faded. Both were also involved members at Calvary Lutheran Church. Their friendship was genuine and caring. She is greatly missed by my mother and so many more as her beautiful spirit touched so many.*



Sara Kuchler - June 20, 2025 at 04:27 PM

BO

“ *My sympathy to the family of Zelda. I met Zelda when we taught together at Lac du Flambeau grade school in the 1950's. We also enjoyed being members of Calvary Lutheran Church. I will greatly miss our friendship.*
Betty Oldenburg

Betty Oldenburg - June 19, 2025 at 04:20 PM

TW

“ *My condolences to the family.*

Tom Wipperfurth - June 19, 2025 at 07:57 AM

PR

“ Mrs. Ahlborn was my teacher in Minocqua grade school. She was a wonderful teacher. She was a very kind, caring, loving person. I have talked to her over the year when I would meet up with her. She was still the same kind, caring person. The best teacher I had. I will miss her. Patty Yelton/Richardson

Patricia G Richardson - June 18, 2025 at 08:59 PM

PL

“ Aunt Zelda,
You will be forever missed for your kindness and faith. You took it upon yourself to pick up my sisters and I every Sunday to go to Calvary for Sunday School. Without you we would not of had this educational experience and I commend you for this. You always had your arms open for the family, making the embrace filled with Love. You had the warmest smile and love no matter what the situation was. God Bless You, Aunt Zelda, you will be missed, however you will always be Loved. Thank you for being you. Love You ❤️

Penny Lewandowski - June 18, 2025 at 06:04 PM