

Lois Evelyn Lutroe died at her rural Princeton, Minn. home on Aug.6, 2003 at the age of 56 years.

Lois, the daughter of John and Geneva (Sally, nee Bobo) Lutroe, was born at the Rush City Hospital in Rush City, Minn. on April 1, 1947. One of the seven children born into the family, she grew up with her sisters Dorothy, Violet, Martha, Sally and Susie, and her only brother, Roger.

Lois grew up in Rush City, was baptized and confirmed at the First Evangelical Lutheran Church, and graduated from Rush City High School.

Following graduation, Lois worked at a variety of jobs until enrolling at the Oliver Theine Beauty School in St. Paul, Minn. She worked as a cosmetologist at various beauty shops before moving on to a secretarial job with St. Paul Parks and Recreation. When she took her early retirement, she had held that position for 23 years.

Lois had a special love for children, which was evident in her work as a Sunday school teacher at First Lutheran Church. She also served as an usher at services, and although she lived away from her hometown over the years, she stayed connected to her home church.

Music played an important role in Lois life. There was always a lot of music in the Lutroe home, and early on it influenced her taste in music and her love of singing. Lois especially loved country music, and not just any country music, but the old tyme country music. Singing was her favorite pastime, and over the years she sang with a number of different bands. It was always great fun for her and she could yodel and twang like no one else.

Lois had a very special daughter, Geneva, and a very special granddaughter, Ashley. There are no words adequate to describe the love and caring shared by the three of them.

Specialized care from her daughter, Genny, allowed Lois to live at home with them until the very end of her life. Both Jim and Genny reached out to Lois by insisting she live with them in their home. During her illness, Jim helped to keep her interested in life by clearing a place in the woods where she could sit, watch the birds, and enjoy Saturday night bonfires. Genny gave her mother the most loving care that a daughter could.

And, of course, Ashley gave her grandmother that special gift of a child's love. It was the spontaneous, genuine, innocence of a love matched by no other. The energy she generated certainly had an impact on Lois life and provided the quality that we all desire.

She is survived by her daughter, Genny Lutroe and her special friend, Jim Barker; her granddaughter, Ashley Schmidt, all of Princeton; sisters and brothers-in-law: Dorothy and Bob Kliegle, Pine City, Violet and Jerry Pearson, Cambridge, Sally and Gene Carlson, Rush City, and Susie and Scott Synstegaard, Roseville; brother and sister-in-law Roger and Judy Lutroe, Rush City; brother-in-law Warren Johnson, Mora; several nieces, nephews and many friends. She was preceded in death by her parents, John and Geneva (Sally) Lutroe; her sister, Martha Johnson; two nephews and one niece.

Funeral service was on Saturday, Aug. 9, 2003 at First Evangelical Lutheran Church in Rush City with the Reverend Laurie OShea officiating. Music was provided by Dennis Kliegle, Diane Ertz, Pat Knutson and Carol Kirchberg. Casket bearers were Jeff Carlson, Bill Johnson, John Johnson, Jonathan Hanson, Anthony Synstegaard, and Duane Kliegle. Interment was at the First Lutheran Cemetery in Rush City. Arrangements were by the Olson Chapel, Funeral and Cremation Service, Rush City, Minn..