

Elsa Lee

Moving into William Albert House, was Elsa's 18th move throughout her life. She was born Elsa Blaser, in the Wheatwyn district, 8 miles south of Markinch, SK. Her parents were of Hungarian and Austrian heritage. When her father was asked how many children they had, his answer was, "We have 5 daughters and each one has a brother." Astonished, people would often ask, "You have 10 children?" "No, they all have the same brother." 😊 And so, Elsa is the youngest in a family of 5 girls and 1 boy.

She received her Grades 1 to 10 education in Wheatwyn School, and took her Grades 11 and 12 by correspondence. She then enrolled at Reliance Business College in Regina. She soon began teaching shorthand during night classes at the college. As well, she worked at Simpsons. She took a public speaking course in Regina and credits that course with building confidence within her. Doors began to open for her and she seized the opportunities being offered. She used her secretarial and leadership skills, working in Winnipeg, Pinawa, Toronto, and Swan River. While working in Winnipeg, she applied for employment and was hired at AECL (Atomic Energy of Canada Limited) in Pinawa, a town 75 miles out of Winnipeg, where many staff and families lived. Here, she was responsible for the hiring and training of all the female clerical and stenographic staff. The position was a challenge which, to Elsa, was fulfilling.

Elsa has always been a very social person and so has made many friends through her various life adventures. She continues to make friends easily, here at William Albert House. Her warm and friendly personality comes through in so many ways. She feels "blessed to have an inner urge to be concerned about others' needs". She really enjoys

the company of the people at her dining room table. She enjoys many of the activities, such as Card Games, Bingo, and Hymn Sing.

Her faith is foremost in her life and she has been an active member in the Lutheran Church wherever she has lived. Many special friends continue to keep in touch, by email. Elsa has a lovely little office space set up for herself in her cozy room.

She has enjoyed participating in many sports such as curling and golf and now she enjoys watching those same sports on TV.

Elsa met Dick Butler at a dance in Winnipeg. They fell in love, married and lived in Swan River, MB, where Dick ran a bowling alley. Unfortunately, Dick passed away at the age of 65. Some time later, she met Clarence Lee, a grain buyer in Swan River. They fell in love, married and moved to an acreage outside of town. Sadly, Clarence passed away when they had been married only 8 years.

Elsa moved to Regina in 1988 when Clarence died. She had family and friends in Regina, so it was the natural choice. Elsa joined the Lakeview Par 3 Golf Course and played there past the age of 85. Elsa volunteered at the Mackenzie Art Gallery and the Regina Red Cross. She joined Our Savior's Lutheran Church and participated actively there. Elsa went for many lunches with her sisters, Martha and Edie, with whom she was close and talked with on the phone every day.

Elsa is 96 years old and continues to keep up to date with what is going on all around her and in the world. She is a sharp cookie! Elsa has always been stylish and well-dressed. She has tried to lead a healthy life and it has obviously paid off.

Her niece, Margaret Ann, says, "Elsa has the biggest rolodex of names because there are so many people who are important to her. She would call each person for their birthdays and anniversaries every year

but is not able to do it as much anymore. She is kind and giving and will do anything for another person. Elsa has many nephews and nieces who are special to her as she is to them.”

We are so happy that you have decided to make WAH your home, Elsa.
We love you very much!