

Eleanor Lange

September 30, 1931 ~ March 7, 2023

Eleanor Lange passed peacefully on March 7, 2023, surrounded by her family. Eleanor was an only child born in Salt Lake on September 30, 1931, to parents Eric and Mary Wegner.

Though born in the U.S., Eleanor did not start speaking English until the first grade, having spent her early childhood living with German immigrant parents in the Avenues surrounded by many neighbors hailing from Deutschland. While Eleanor had no siblings, she made friends easily, including a special childhood friend she viewed as a sister (Norma Fletcher) who similarly spoke only German until elementary school.

Eleanor was a gifted soprano who enjoyed singing and performing, which started in childhood with roles in Promised Valley and many other plays and continued as a vocalist for many decades with the Allegro Chorus and the Eleanor Kennard Chorale. Eleanor graduated from East High School in 1949 and married Donald Lange on May 23, 1952, with whom she had four children –Suzan, Todd (Paula), Shannon, and Jill (Paul).

She spent 20 years working as a data processor at the University of Utah, but never missed a beat as a devoted mother and homemaker, waking in the wee hours every morning and working late into the night as she juggled her household duties and job. Looking back on those years, her children deeply appreciate the hard work and sacrifices she made to ensure they had everything they needed, including happy childhoods during which they always knew their mother loved them and was doing everything she could to help them succeed.

Good times during those years included decades of boating at Bear Lake and Lake Powell with family and friends. After Don and Eleanor retired, they spent many winters traveling to their second home in Hemet, California, where they built enduring friendships with their neighbors in the Mountain Shadows community. They also traveled extensively throughout the U.S. and Europe, often with those friends. Eleanor had a friendly and positive demeanor, a beautiful smile, and a genuine sweetness that drew people to her throughout her life.

During the last years of her life, Eleanor lived at the home of her daughter Suzan, who provided the loving care that Eleanor so deserved. The family sincerely appreciates Suzan’s sacrifices and devotion during Eleanor’s final years. The family also wishes to thank everyone who helped care for Eleanor during that time.

Eleanor is survived by her four children (above), four grandchildren Amy, Emily (Brian), Cameron (Karen), and Michael (Kaitlin), and eight great-grandchildren, Sara, Lucy, Hattie, Megan, Rowan, Ethan, Phoebe, and Sylvie.

An evening to honor Eleanor with family and friends will be held from 6:00-8:30 pm on Thursday, March 16th at Larkin Sunset Gardens, 1950 E. 10600 S. A family graveside service will take place on Friday, March 17th.