



Doris Ellen Smith

March 24, 1924 - June 11, 2023

Obituary for Doris Christensen Vahlstrom Smith 3-24-1924 to 6-11-2023

Doris was born and lived most of her life in or near Selma, CA. She was the third of five sisters. Her father, Walter Christensen, died when she was 13 and her mother, Sophie, died when she was 17. So Doris became the guardian for her two younger sisters in 1941, the year she graduated from Selma Union High School. During that time Doris managed the family ranch and attended Reedley College. She married Wallace Vahlstrom in 1942, and by 1946, the couple had two children, Wallace Jr and Betty. Doris worked for the local phone company (then PT&T) from 1951 to 1979. She also spent much of her time helping Wallace with various farming activities. The couple was very active with the Kingsburg Covenant Church where Doris was a Sunday school teacher for 40 years. Wallace died in 1991, and in 2007 Doris married Sam Smith, also from Selma. Sam and Doris traveled frequently and were very happy until Sam died in 2015. During the last several years Doris lived at the Bethel Village and then at the Bethel Lutheran Home in Selma. She was predeceased by her parents, 2 husbands, and all 4 of her sisters. She is survived by her children Wallace (Sharron) of Pleasanton and Betty Erickson (Ron) of Bakersfield, 5 grandchildren, 13 great grandchildren and 5 great-great grandchildren.

In lieu of flowers, please consider making a contribution to the Kingsburg

Covenant Church or the Pella Lutheran Church of Selma.

Graveside services will be held 1:00 PM Monday, June 26th, 2023 at Kingsburg Cemetery, 12782 E. Clarkson Avenue, Kingsburg.

Services have been entrusted to Salser & Dillard Creighton Chapel. Memorial Tributes and condolences may be offered by logging onto www.salseranddillard.com.

Previous Events

Graveside

JUN **26**. 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM (PT)

Kingsburg Cemetery
12782 E. Clarkson Avenue
Kingsburg, CA 93631