



## Helene T Gleason

October 18, 1924 - January 22, 2021

Princeton – Helene Thelma Gleason, 96, passed away Friday, January 22, 2021 at Liberty Village of Princeton, IL.

Helene was born on October 18, 1924, Strawberry Point, IA, the youngest daughter of Edward Stephen and Eva Winifred (Eldredge) Hebron. After graduating from high school in Manchester, IA, she married Preston C. Gleason on March 10, 1946 in The Little Brown Church in the Vale, Nashua, IA.

She and Pres spent the majority of their lives together in Princeton, IL. Maintaining a well-kept home for her family was Helene's primary goal throughout her married life. She was a member of the First Presbyterian Church in Princeton, serving as a Sunday school teacher and working on many committees. As a member of Church Women United, she assisted in the establishment of The Closet and Mobile Meals in Princeton. Flower and vegetable gardening with all the resulting creativity and produce were her passions in life. A son-in-law said she canned more food than Del Monte.

Helene and Pres traveled extensively throughout the Western and Southwestern United States, spending several winters at their villa in Green Valley, AZ. Helene developed as an artist in ceramics and pottery during her years in Green Valley. She enjoyed taking and teaching classes in the art

forms, spending hours at potter's wheel.

She is survived by her two daughters, Connie Espel-Perdew of Princeton, IL and Mary (Michael) Baker of Clear Lake, IA; five grandsons, Robert Espel of Princeton, Brian Espel of Chicago, Jeff (Amanda Kalen) Baker of Lisbon, IA, David (Jamie Puglin) Baker of Cary, NC and Mark (Shelby Newport) Baker of Flint, MI; two great-grandchildren, Owen and Aleah Espel of Princeton; as well as many nieces, nephews and cousins.

Helene was preceded in death by her husband in 1999, her parents and two sisters, Irene Ivory and Raynelle Harris.

A private graveside service will be held at a later date and time at Elm Lawn Memorial Park of Princeton.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be directed to The First Presbyterian Church, Mobile Meals C/O Susan Lucas, 22 South Goose, The Closet or Liberty Village of Princeton, IL for staff appreciation.

Online condolences and memorials may be directed to [www.norbergfh.com](http://www.norbergfh.com)

Arrangements by Norberg Memorial Home, Inc. & Monuments.

# Tribute Wall

MM

“ *Condolences to the family*



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**Michell & Rich Mallery** - February 13, 2021 at 01:01 AM

VW

“ *Mrs Gleason and Mr Gleason were such a big part of our church lives at The Presbyterian Church in Princeton Illinois. She taught sunday school classes and was active in other areas of church activities. Being quite young, at the time, when my mother, Wanda Stenzel, got done playing the organ, I would be standing there wanting to go home. As an adult, I look back, embarrassingly, that I was so impatient to leave when people would stop by to thank her for her music or just to chat a bit. Mrs. Gleason usually would Stop to verbalize her appreciation of my mom for her music. The reason I did not get nearly as frustrated with mrs. Gleason is because she would talk with me too and was genuinely interested in what I had to say..... It meant so much to me as, young grade schooler, to have an adult Take that time. She was really a wonderful and attentive Woman. I learned a lot by her actions and how she treated people... I learned to really listen and appreciate my Mom's remarkable talent as a organist/choir director; I learned to talk and especially to listen to what people say; I learned that the cup is half full... She was a great model of those positive attributes and I feel so blessed to have had her in my life. God bless everyone who Is sad or depressed over Mrs Gleason passing but KNOW she's now in heaven and with our Lord and Savior. Sincerely, Valerie (Stenzel) Woods*

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**valerie woods** - February 11, 2021 at 12:00 PM

CB

“ *Helene was one of my Sunday school teachers and very active member of the Presbyterian Church in which I grew up. She and her husband worked in many ways with my parents (Bob and Emma Krase) throughout the years. She is remembered with fondness for her loving and caring ways. May she rest now eternally in the hands of the Lord.*

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**Carolyn Krase Burns** - January 29, 2021 at 03:33 PM