



## Susan J. Amensen

October 29, 1937 - February 06, 2024

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On February 6, 2024, Susan Amensen, loving wife and mother of two sons, departed life at the age of 86.

Susan was born October 29, 1937 on the Hill farm to Selmer and Arlotte (Hill) Tjernagel. She attended school in Roland, graduating in 1955 as valedictorian, completed the two-year elementary teaching program at ISTC, and taught in Dallas Center, Nevada and Ames. Susan married David Amensen on June 20, 1959 at Salem Lutheran Church in Roland. In 1972, she relocated to Story City where she taught High School mathematics while earning a master's degree from Iowa State University. Retiring from teaching in 1997, she then did tax work for H&R Block and supervised student teachers for ISU. She was a member of Sons of Norway Kong Sverre Lodge and served in various board positions including 3 years as president.

Music was always a mainstay interest for her. The Immanuel Lutheran Church senior choir was under her direction for 43 years. Praise dinners, cantatas, and trips helped put meaning into choir relationships. She joined Sherry Tjernagel and Mary Severseike to form the "Joy Trio". Together they provided harmonious entertainment for church and civic groups for over 40 years. Their schedule was highlighted by a concert tour of Norway in 1988.

Susan was preceded in death by brother, Stanley in 1955, her father, Selmer in 1960, and her mother Arlotte in 2014. She is survived by her husband of 64 years, David; sons, Paul (Kristen) and Robert (Stacey); along with six grandchildren: Kelsey, Erica, Kyle (Ruth), Avery, Kari and Ethan (Alaira) and her brothers, Loren (Sherry) and Wayne (Susan).

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to Riverside Bible Camp or Immanuel Lutheran Church Music Department.

# Events

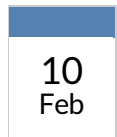
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## CELEBRATION OF LIFE

11:00 AM - 11:40 AM

Immanuel Lutheran Church 604 Lafayette Ave., Story City, IA 50248 The service will be live-streamed on Immanuel Lutheran Church's Facebook page.



## VISITATION

9:30 AM - 11:00 AM

Immanuel Lutheran Church 604 Lafayette Ave., Story City, IA 50248

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## Tribute Wall

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J

### Jerry Greenfield

David and family: Condolences to all of you on Susan's passing. I was in the choir for 29 years and so enjoyed it. She made it so fun for us all and I have many wonderful memories of her directing us through many Wednesday night practices, Sunday services, praise dinners, Christmas cantatas, recording for our choir CD, and other performances. She set a good example for us all. She will be missed by many but memories of her will be many. She is celebrating in heaven and I know she will bring much Joy to the choir there. Jerry Greenfield

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### Betty Tungesvik Gordon

Dave, Loren, Wayne, sons, and extended family, My heartfelt sympathies to each of you on the loss of your wife, mom, grandma, sister, aunt, etc. Susan was our farm neighbor growing up there until they moved away. I watched Susan play softball and basketball. She was very gifted besides her gorgeous voice which she used to her potential when JOY TRIO was formed with Sherry Tjernagel and Mary Severseike. They brought us all so much happiness with the combo of their voices for many decades. They were great supporters of sports/music of Roland and Story City. May God comfort you all now and in the days, months, and years ahead. Look for things that Susan left for each of you including coins with the year she was born/passed away. That's Susan saying, I'm ok and well in heaven. Betty Tungesvik Gordon, Ames

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C

### Carolyn Ahlstrom

Singing alto with Susan in Roland HS Girls Sextette, also playing flute 'across' from her playing clarinet...then she married 2nd cousin, David. God blesses her memory among us in many ways.

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**J**

## Jurine Borton Moore

To the family of Joy Tjernagel Amensen 86[D 2/6/24], I am sorry to read of Joy's passing. I've known her since HS when Milford Twp played basketball against Roland. Then I certainly admired the 'Joy Trio' performances and recordings. And of course I watched the 3 Tjernagel boys basketball efforts: Stan in the Gary Thompson/Roland era; Loren when Roland won the '58 Class B State Championship; and then when Wayne (and Arlotte) was our neighbor and played for Milford Twp and became a Nevada Hall of Famer! Joy and Dave were a perfect couple and may your descendants be blessed with the memories of the Hill, Tjernagel, and Amensen family legacies. God's Peace be each of you. Jurine Borton Moore, Milford Twp, Class of '56  
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"Material\_candle\_red\_thumbnail"  
was lit in memory of Susan J. Amensen

♥ Light a candle

*Show your support by giving a symbol of remembrance*

**B**

## Bruce & Ann Berven

Bruce & I extend our heartfelt sympathies to you, David, Paul, Bob & family in the earthly separation of your amazing wife, mom, and grandmother. The first thought of Susan is what a virtuous woman ~ who through her living did great things to glorify the God whom she loved so. Many years have passed since our Story City days but Susan has remained a treasured friend regardless of geographical distance & time. Oh what a magnetic personality! So genuine, gracious, kind, thoughtful & loving. God gifted her in music, intellect, & without a doubt: hospitality! Our family was on the receiving end of her gifts countless times. So many unforgettable, joyous times with her... Worshipping together, choir practices, birthday celebrations (including some t-p-ing), Bill Gaither trip, coffee gatherings, & many good old "girl chats". She made EVERYTHING fun and ever so meaningful. In hearing of her passing a chorus of the song, At The End of the Road, came to mind... "When the long day is ended, the journey is o'er, I shall enter that blessed abode... For the Savior I love will be waiting for me When I come to the end of the road." Love never dies! And so it is re: our love for Susan; and you, David, Paul, and Bob. Much love & our prayers as you navigate the loss of Susan, Bruce and Ann Berven



**E**

## Eric Severseike

I'm very sorry for your loss - I remember countless days and nights with the Joy Trio, and Susan's boundless energy and love for spreading Christ's message through song. Love and prayers to David, Paul, Rob, and their families as they celebrate and mourn Susan. Eric Severseike

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## Love, Your friends at Red Dot

Avery, you and your family are in our thoughts and prayers. May the beautiful memories of your Grandmother stay in your heart forever.



### "Red Florist's Choice"

was purchased for the family of Susan J. Amensen

 [Tribute Store](#)

*Show your support with flowers*

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**T**

## Tammy Dickinson-Ferrell

I am so very sorry to hear of Susan's death. What a lovely lady who shared her many talents with all of us. She influenced my life as a teacher, a musician, and P.E.O. sister. Rest in Peace, Dear Lady. You were a gift.



### "Material\_candle\_gold\_thumbnail"

was lit in memory of Susan J. Amensen

 [Light a candle](#)

*Show your support by giving a symbol of remembrance*

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**F**

## Funeral Home Owner

