

# **LOISANNE BILKA**

September 28, 1931 - September 1, 2024

Palm Harbor, FL - Loisanne Pfeifer Bilka, passed away on September 1, 2024. She was born on September 28, 1931, to Lyla (Wirth) and Elmer Pfeifer in Pittsburgh, PA. Loisanne was a loving mother, grandmother and great-grandmother as well as an accomplished educator. After graduating from South Hills High School in 1949, she married William (Bill) Bilka, with whom she raised two daughters. While raising her family, Loisanne attended the University of Pittsburgh and earned a bachelor's and master's degree. In 1971, she earned a PhD in Education. Her professional career spanned from being a second-grade teacher to becoming a college professor. After leaving higher education, she established her own consulting business, serving school districts throughout the Pittsburgh area. She also tutored children individually. Loisanne was active in the Presbyterian church throughout her life. After she and Bill moved to be closer to their grandchildren, they joined the Northwood Presbyterian Church in Clearwater, FL. Loisanne is survived by her two sisters, Phyllis (Edgar) Bates and Lyla (Harry) Healey; her daughters, Betsy (David) Balmer and Bonnie (Hugh) Gorman; her grandchildren Melissa (James) Brown and James Balmer; and, her great-grandson, Bruce Brown. Her husband, Bill, preceded her in death. Donations in her memory can be made to the Northwood Presbyterian Church Scholarship Fund, 2875 FL-580, Clearwater, FL 3376.

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