



Laina E. (Yrttikoski) Peltola

May 7, 2023

LUNENBURG- Laina E. (Yrttikoski) Peltola, 93, of Lunenburg, passed away on May 7, 2023 in Leominster Hospital surrounded by family.

Laina was born in Perho, Finland in 1929 to the late Erkki Yrttikoski and Jyyni (Haukilahti) Yrttikoski. She married her husband, Martti O. Peltola, in Finland a week before his departure to the United States in 1958. She traveled on her own to join him later that same year and found joy in her new home in the Finnish community in Fitchburg, Massachusetts. In the United States, she worked as a stitcher at Asher Pants and later as a self-employed caregiver. Her happiness was in her grandchildren, and she was also known for the kindness and care she extended to neighbors, the elderly, and the communities she was involved in. She attended Messiah Lutheran Church in Fitchburg where she was active in the Finnish Bible Study.

Laina enjoyed going cross-country skiing, taking long walks, weaving, knitting, gardening,

cooking, and baking for family and friends. She is especially known for her pulla (Finnish coffee bread). She was always ready to welcome visitors with her warm and friendly manner, making all who entered feel at ease and at home. In her later years, Laina enjoyed reciting the many poems and hymns that she carefully memorized in her youth.

She leaves behind her husband, Martti O. Peltola. They were married for 65 years. She also leaves behind her son, Heikki O. Peltola of Leominster; daughter Taina Kong, and son-in-law Howard Kong of Leominster; her grandchildren David Kong of Leominster, Cassandra Peltola of Leominster, Jacob and his wife Nora (Gavin) Peltola of Ware, Massachusetts, Eric Peltola and his fiancée Missy Philbrook of Warren, Maine. She also leaves behind many nieces and nephews in Finland.

She is predeceased by her eight siblings.

Her funeral service will be held on Friday, May 19th at 11 a.m. at the Messiah Lutheran Church, 750 Rindge Road, in Fitchburg, Massachusetts. Burial will take place at the South Cemetery in Lunenburg, Massachusetts. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the Messiah Lutheran Church Memorial Fund.

Cemetery Details

South Cemetery

Page St.
Lunenburg, MA 01462

Previous Events

Funeral Service

MAY **19**. 11:00 AM (ET)

Messiah Lutheran Church
1200 John Fitch Hwy.
Fitchburg, MA 01420