



## Emma Louise Grimm

March 4, 1938 - January 11, 2026

Emma Lou Grimm, age 87, was called to her heavenly home on January 11, 2026, following complications from a prolonged and courageous battle with breast cancer.

Born on March 4, 1938, in Santa Barbara, California, Emma was raised in the community she loved and knew so well. She attended Montecito Union School, Santa Barbara Junior High School, and Santa Barbara High School (Class of 1955), and later attended Santa Barbara Junior College. Emma dedicated approximately 31 years of service to GTE, where her strong work ethic and determination were well known.

Emma was independent and passionate, proudly embracing her German and Swedish heritage. She was deeply kind, compassionate, and unwavering in her Lutheran faith, which guided her throughout her life. Highly social and a true Santa Barbara native, Emma seemed to know everyone in town and was friends with people from all walks of life.

She was a beloved sister, aunt, great-aunt, great-great-aunt, and friend, and to many she was simply known as "Auntie Emma." That title extended well beyond family, a reflection of her welcoming spirit and the genuine connections she formed throughout her life.

Emma loved gardening, birds, and travel. She was known for her signature white hair and for faithfully sending cards to family, friends, and even beloved pets—never missing a birthday, holiday, or special moment. She faithfully attended local performances, games, and parades in Santa Barbara for her great-nieces and great-nephew, always showing her support and pride.

Emma is survived by her brother, Karl H. Grimm; her nieces, Tammy (Dean) and Marcy (Robert); her great-niece Ashlyn (Andy) and their children; great-niece Tessa; great-nephew Cameron (Kara) and their children; and her cousins Wolfgang (Marianne), Caroline, and Mary. She was preceded in death by her parents, Herman and Louise Grimm, and her sisters-in-law, Dorothy Grimm and Louise Andrae.

The family extends heartfelt gratitude to the compassionate caregivers at Casa Cambria and at Westmont of Santa Barbara / Mariposa, and special thanks to her oncologists, Dr. Gregg Newman and Dr. Alan Rosenblum.

Emma Lou Grimm will be remembered for her strength, faith, loyalty, and the countless connections she made throughout her life—leaving a lasting imprint on Santa Barbara and all who knew her.

A memorial service will be held Saturday, February 28, at 10:30 a.m. at Emanuel Lutheran Church, 3721 Modoc Road, Santa Barbara. A light lunch will be provided following the service. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the Emanuel Lutheran Church Memorial Fund.

# Previous Events

## Memorial Service

FEB **28**. 10:30 AM (PT)

Emanuel Lutheran Church  
3721 Modoc Road  
Santa Barbara, CA 93105