

Gilman and Helen Storlie May 1989

Helen and Gilman Storlie were active members in the Sons of Norway lodge from 1968, when Gilman's job with MDU relocated to Bismarck. Gilman was elected as president of the lodge in 1970 and succeeded in implementing many new projects for the lodge. Helen held the job of cultural director active volunteers with the Sverdrup Lutefisk Dinner. They also instructed the folk dancing in our lodge in those early years.

Helen, an elementary school teacher, received her Bachelor's Mary College in 1969 after they had moved to Bismarck from teaching in the school system until her retirement in 1981.



For many years Helen and Gil coordinated and taught beginning Norwegian language classes in their home.

On their first trip (of seven) to Norway in 1973, Helen bought a piece of Hardanger cloth, but she didn't learn this embroidery technique until 1980. Thereafter she won many awards with her needlework and also had an opportunity to teach this art to Sons of Norway members in Bismarck and to fellow "winter Texans" during their several seasons at Siesta Village in Weslaco after their retirement.

Gilman and Helen worked laboriously with the building of the first stabbur in the Sons of Norway Park, and they were very proud of this effort.

Gilman served as Secretary of the District during the 1980s. They both attended many district and international conventions and were well versed in the workings of the order.

Helen and Gilman were married in 1942 at Trinity Lutheran Church in Spring Grove, Minnesota. They had two sons, David M. Storlie of Nokomis, FL, and Lyle T. Storlie of Sebring, FL and two daughters Carolyn J. Storlie of Spring Grove and Minneapolis and Kathy Krause of Kansas City, MO.

Gilman passed away in 1988, Helen passed away in 2006.