

EST. 2008

TULA ZANIOS

ENDOWMENT FUND

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“Tula has always had a warm heart and along with her husband, Tom, they were often the first at the door of a friend in need with a basket of food or a helping hand”

JAMIE ZANIOS

Son

Tula Zanios was born in 1918 in Fort Smith, Arkansas. Tula and her twin sister, Kula were not expected live when they were born prematurely, but in fact, Tula lived 98 years by the time she passed in 2017.

Tula met her husband, Tom Zanios from Mason City, while he served in the Army during WWII at Camp Chafee in Fort Smith. Tom passed away in 1999 after over 50 years of marriage.

The couple had two sons, Jamie and Tom Jr, who passed away in 1976 at the age of 23. Jamie is married to Nancy Smythe Zanios and they have three children - Thomas, Whitney, and Parker. Tula referred to her grandchildren as her “golden treasures.”

Tula was influenced to help her community at an early age. Her father, John Karrant, donated trees to the Spradling Elementary School in Arkansas, and her family instructed the children to always give back to the community in which they lived. Tula took these instructions to heart.

After marrying Tom, Tula left her job at her brother’s restaurant and modeling at the local department store, to move to Mason City and become a stay at home mom. In Mason City, Tula became involved in many organizations. She volunteered at the Transfiguration Greek Orthodox Church, Community Kitchen, Women’s Club activities, the MacNider Art Museum and much more.

Tula is especially passionate about the Community Kitchen, an organization that provides meals for those who need a helping hand. She volunteered for the organization at the beginning and stayed with it as it grew, often times serving as a receptionist, as well as in the kitchen or serving meals.

Tula believed that by providing an endowment, she could see the Community Kitchen through into the future, long after she has passed. Tula is hopeful others will follow her lead and provide for the Community Kitchen as the years go on.

ONLINE GIFTS CAN BE MADE TO THE TULA ZANIOS FUND AT CFNEIA.ORG. FOR MORE INFORMATION ON THIS FUND, CONTACT THE COMMUNITY FOUNDATION OF NORTHEAST IOWA AT 319-287-9106.