

## Gladys Dessie Hansen

Gladys Dessie (Butler) Hansen was born to Burtis G. and Agnes (Jameson) Butler near Faith, SD, on April 9, 1921, the 6<sup>th</sup> of seven surviving children. She dedicated her life to Jesus Christ as a teenager and strove to honor Him throughout her life. Despite limited resources, her parents provided opportunity for Gladys and her siblings to develop their God given musical abilities. Faith, family, and music greatly defined Gladys.

Upon graduating from Faith High School in 1938, Gladys moved with her parents to Sturgis and then to the Corning, IA, area. In the fall of 1942, they returned to Sturgis. Gladys enjoyed traveling while working for the Farmer's Home Administration from 1943 to 1954. Being single, she greatly enjoyed time spent with her many nieces and nephews. On November 28, 1954, Gladys was united in marriage to Odin Hansen at Denton, MT. She was blessed with an instant family with Odin's three sons, Leonard, Eugene, and Robert, whose mother, Ethel Arvidson Hansen, had passed away in 1945. Odin, Gladys, and the boys lived on a farm near Platte, SD, before moving back to Sturgis where she and Odin owned and operated rental property from 1956 to 1975. She was also employed at H O Anderson Hardware before adding to their family another son, Larry, and daughter, Odena. From 1974 to 1983, she was employed at the Fort Meade VA Medical Center.

Upon retirement, Gladys and Odin enjoyed traveling to visit their children. But most of their summers were spent close to home at the Hart Ranch near Rapid City. Gladys enjoyed reading, watching Trinity Broadcast network, music, and the "gift of gab." She especially enjoyed playing her mandolin. She remained involved in the lives and activities of her children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren, even if unable to physically participate in those events. Her relationship with her sisters and their children remained very close.

Following the loss of Odin in 2006, she often said she had her ticket ready for her final trip. Her heart longed for the day when she would join her loved ones in heaven. On Monday, August 20, 2012, at the age of 91, the Lord finally allowed her to use that ticket. She peacefully passed from this life to her eternal reward at the Sturgis Community Hospital. That day she spoke to Marilyn, her daughter-in-law, about the party Marilyn was preparing. Even though it seemed she was confused, we now know it was the celebration of her life and homecoming. Her quick wit and determined spirit will be fondly remembered. Special thanks to Ron Anderson and the staff at Foothills Assisted Living for the loving care she received this past year. Gladys was a member of the Open Bible Church, the Sturgis Senior Citizens Center, and a local chapter of TOPS.

Gladys is survived by her sons, Leonard (Marilyn), Sturgis, SD, Robert (Robin), Bellevue, WA, and Larry (Pam), Burnsville, MN; daughter, Odena (Mark) Koth, Sioux Falls, SD; fourteen grandchildren; eight great-grandchildren; one sister, Laura (George) Levin, Sturgis; and a host of nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Odin; son, Eugene; brother, Leonard Butler; and sisters, Marjorie Gabrielson, Marian Barker, Dora Walter, and Ruth Shroyer.

A memorial has been established to the Open Bible Church.

Condolences may be sent to the family at [www.kinkadefunerals.com](http://www.kinkadefunerals.com).

## *In Loving Memory Of*



## *Gladys Hansen*

**1921 ~ 2012**



***I'm Free***

*Don't grieve for me, for now I'm free  
I'm following the path God has laid you see.  
I took His hand when I heard His call  
I turned my back and left it all.*

*I could not stay another day  
To laugh, to love, to work or play.  
Tasks left undone must stay that way  
I found the peace at the close of day.*

*If my parting has left a void  
Then fill it with remembered joys - -  
A friendship shared, a laugh, a kiss  
Oh yes, these things I too will miss.*

*Be not burdened with times of sorrow.  
I wish you the sunshine of tomorrow.  
My life's been full, I savored much,  
Good friends, good times, a loved one's touch.*

*Perhaps my time seemed all too brief - -  
Don't lengthen it now with undue grief.  
Lift up your hearts, and peace to thee - -  
God wanted me now: He set me free.*

***In Loving Memory Of***

***Gladys Dessie Hansen***

***Born***

April 9, 1921  
Faith, South Dakota

***Died***

August 20, 2012  
Sturgis, South Dakota

***Funeral Service***

Saturday, August 25, 2012, at 11:00 a.m.  
Kinkade Funeral Chapel

***Officiating***

Pastor Ralph Vencill

***Special Music***

George Levin  
Bruce McFarland ~ Ruth McFarland ~ Moriah McFarland  
Nancy Vencill

***Musical Selections***

"When I Take My Vacation In Heaven"  
"In The Garden"  
"In The Sweet By And By"

***Pallbearers***

Randall Hansen ~ Daniel Hansen ~ Kevin Hansen  
Andrew Hansen ~ Colin Koth ~ Landon Koth

***Interment***

Bear Butte Cemetery  
Sturgis, South Dakota

*The family invites everyone to a time of fellowship and lunch at the  
Open Bible Church, 2121 Colorado St., following the interment service.  
We thank you for your presence and condolences.*