

In Loving Memory Of

Kay King

Born

April 16, 1942

Died

July 23, 2025

Funeral Service

Saturday, July 26, 2025 at 3:00 pm
Union Center Community Baptist Church
Union Center, South Dakota

Officiant

Pastor Connie Eichinger
Pastor Harold Delbridge

Musicians

Sylvia Rhoden—Pianist
Amy Wicks—Soloist

Musical Selections

“How Great Thou Art”
“The Hand That Rocks the Cradle”
“Count Your Many Blessings”

Pallbearers

Alan Roth
KayDe Marolt
Cashley King

Hayley Roth
Marco Marolt
Koyle King

Honorary Pallbearers

All other family and friends.

Final Resting Place

White Owl Cemetery
White Owl, South Dakota

Thank you for your presence and condolences.

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Kay King*

April 16, 1942 ~
July 23, 2025



Life is like a piano...



What you get out of it depends on
how you play it.



Kay King, a beloved wife, mother, grandmother, and faithful servant of Christ, went home to be with the Lord on July 23rd, 2025 with her loving husband by her side.

Kay was born on April 16, 1942 to Charles (Bud) and Mae Keffeler. She was the third of four children, joining her big sister Darleen and big brother Duane, and later welcoming her little brother Roger to complete the family.

From an early age, Kay displayed a remarkable gift for music. At just five years old, she taught herself to play the piano by ear. Her mother would turn on the radio, open the windows, and let little Kay's fingers dance across the keys for all to hear—including her father working outside. Though she was shy about playing in front of others, that changed when a local piano player couldn't make it to a dance due to a snowstorm. At only eight years old, Kay played her first dance and never stopped blessing others with her music from that day forward.

On August 26, 1962, Kay married the love of her life, Burney "De" King. Together, they built a home filled with love, music, and laughter. Kay taught at Plainview, Sunny Slope and Metagoshe for five years before stepping into the calling she cherished most—motherhood. Through the blessing of adoption, she and De welcomed three beautiful children into their hearts: Gayle, Gene, and Glen. Her children were the light of her life, and she was the picture of an involved, attentive, and prayerful mother.

Kay's love for others extended far beyond her home. She poured herself into her community, generously giving her time and talents to organizations such as the Marcus Sunbeams and Wildcats 4-H Club and Rural Life Sunday leader, Vacation Bible School, mock weddings, and countless piano lessons for country kids. Her music filled churches, reception halls, and hearts alike, as she played for the Marcus Presbyterian Church and at numerous weddings, funerals, and Christmas programs. Her signature piano style was instantly recognizable—a sound that brought comfort and joy wherever it was heard.

When she became a grandmother, her heart grew even more. Her grandchildren were her greatest delight, and she made sure each one knew how deeply they were loved. From sweet treats and piano singalongs to phone calls and proud smiles from the crowd, Grandma Kay was always there—offering encouragement, celebrating every milestone, and creating memories that will be cherished for generations.

To know Kay was to be loved by her. She didn't have acquaintances—no, Kay had loved ones. If you were fortunate enough to meet her, even for five minutes, you can be sure she prayed for you. More than likely, she also wrote your birthday on her calendar and remembered you with a kind word, a handwritten card, or a faithful prayer.

Though she has left this earthly life, her legacy of faith, compassion, prayer, and the unmistakable sound of her music lives on in the many lives she touched. We rejoice in knowing she is now playing for the King of Kings, with the same gentle hands and joyful heart she used to serve others here on Earth.

Kay is lovingly survived by her husband of 62 years, Burney (De) King; daughter Gayle (Troy) Roth; son Gene King; and son Glen (Elke) King. She was a proud and deeply devoted grandmother to Alan (Hayley) Roth, Heaven Fink, KayDe (Marco) Marolt, Cashley King, and Koyle King; and a joyful great-grandmother to Zayden, Amara, Nazareth, Kyiah and Rose.

She is also survived by her dear sister, Darleen Simons; brother, Duane Keffeler; and sister-in-law, Diane Keffeler, as well as numerous beloved nieces, nephews, and cousins who each held a special place in her heart.

Kay was welcomed into heaven by her parents, Charles (Bud) and Mae Keffeler; her brother, Roger Keffeler; brother-in-law, Chick Simons; sister-in-law, Sharon Keffeler; brother-in-law Donn King; sister-in-law Mary Lou King; father-in-law Elmer King; and mother-in-law Marguerite King.

Memorials in Kay's honor have been established.

Count your many blessings!



Count Your Blessings

Johnson Oatman

Edwin O. Excell

C G⁷

When up - on life's bil - lows you are tem - pest tossed,
 Are you ev - er bur - dened with a load of care?
 When you look at oth - ers with their lands of gold,
 So a - mid the con - flict, wheth - er great or small,

5 C

When you are dis - cour - aged, think - ing all is lost,
 Does the cross seem heav - y you are called to bear?
 Think that Christ has prom - ised you His wealth un - told.
 Do not be dis - cour - aged; God is o - ver all.

9 C G⁷

Count your man - y bless - ings; name them one by one,
 Count your man - y bless - ings; ev - 'ry doubt will fly,
 Count your man - y bless - ings; mon - ey can - not buy
 Count your man - y bless - ings; an - gels will at - tend,

13 C/G G⁷ C

And it will sur - prise you what the Lord hath done.
 And you will be sing - ing as the days go by.
 Your re - ward in heav - en nor your home on high.
 Help and com - fort give you to your jour - ney's end.

17 C G⁷

Count your bless - ings, name them one by one; Count your

22 C C F G⁷ F/G

bless - ings, see what God hath done. Count your bless - ings, name them one by

28 G⁷ C F C[#]/G G⁷ C

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