

## Florence C. Mathews

Florence was born September 27, 1920, in Sturgis to Mederic and Pearl (Woodson) Ricard. She attended rural Benoit School through the 8<sup>th</sup> grade. She attended and graduated from Cathedral High School in Rapid City in 1938. Florence graduated from St. John's McNamara School of Nursing in Rapid City in 1941. After obtaining her RN degree, Florence moved to California and was employed by Douglas Aircraft as an industrial nurse for five years.

Florence married Robert E. Mathews on August 20, 1949, in Reno, NV, to which a son, Michael, was born. In 1950, she was employed by the county of Los Angeles at the John Wesley Hospital, where research was done for cancer and liver diseases. She remained in that position for 15 years.

She returned to South Dakota in 1963 where Florence worked at St. John's McNamara Hospital for two years. She began her tour at Fort Meade VA Medical Center in 1965. Florence retired after 25 years in 1988.

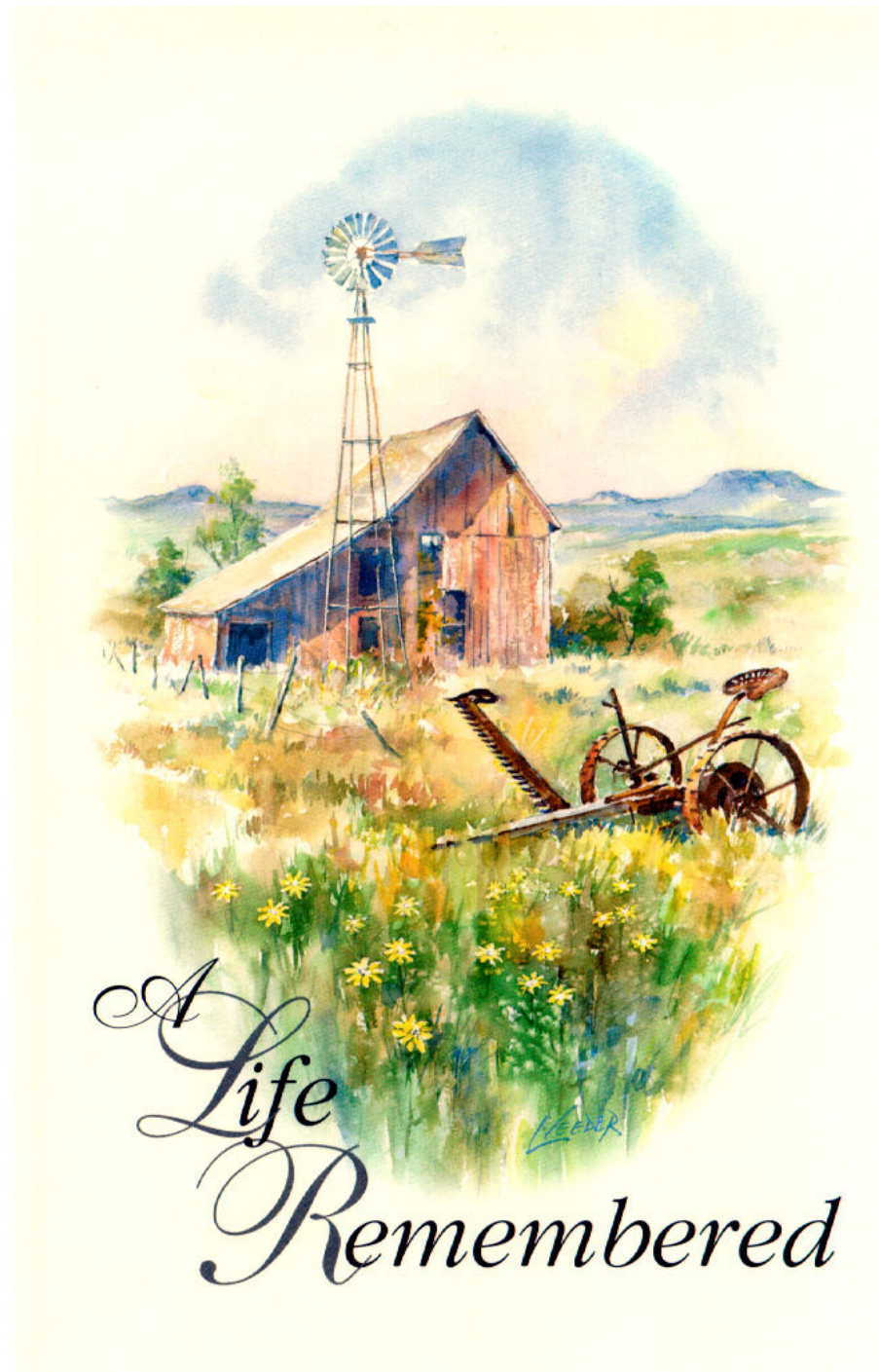
Florence was a member of St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church, AARP, and NARFE. She enjoyed travel, playing cards, and had a love for nature and animals, birds, gardening, lawn work, and flowers. She especially enjoyed reading, embroidering, and crocheting.

Florence C. Mathews, 90, Sturgis, died Thursday, May 26, 2011, at Sturgis Regional Senior Care.

Florence is survived by six nephews and five nieces.

She was preceded in death by her parents; her son, Michael; her husband, Robert; three brothers, Elmer, Gerald, and Maurice Ricard; and one sister, Marjorie Beal.

A memorial has been established to St. Aloysius Cemetery.



*The family invites everyone to a time of fellowship and lunch in the parish  
hall following the interment service.*

*We thank you for your presence and condolences.*



***God's Garden***

*God looked around his garden and found an empty place,  
He then looked down upon the earth and saw your tired face.  
He put his arms around you and lifted you to rest.  
God's garden must be beautiful  
He always takes the best.  
He knew you were suffering. He knew you were in pain.  
He knew that you would never get well on earth again.  
He saw the road was getting rough and the hills were hard to climb.  
He closed your weary eyelids and whispered, "Peace be thine."  
It broke our hearts to lose you, but you didn't go alone.  
Part of us went with you the day God called you home.  
All of you who have loved ones, cherish them with tender care.  
You will never know the heartaches  
until they are no longer there.*

***In Loving Memory Of***

***Florence C. Mathews***

***Born***

September 27, 1920  
Sturgis, South Dakota

***Died***

May 26, 2011  
Sturgis, South Dakota

***Vigil***

Sunday, May 29, 2011, at 7:00 p.m.  
Kinkade Funeral Chapel

***Mass of Christian Burial***

Monday, May 30, 2011, at 10:30 a.m.  
St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church

***Celebrant***

Father Arnold Kari

***Organist***

Valerie Hawkins

***Soloist***

Myron Volk

***Musical Selections***

"Amazing Grace"  
"Be Not Afraid"  
"Ave Maria"  
"On Eagle's Wings"

***Pallbearers***

Mederic Ricard ~ Kelly Ricard ~ Ryan Henrickson  
Kevin Henrickson ~ Scott Beal ~ Wade Bachand

***Interment***

St. Aloysius Cemetery