

## Alta Arlene Michels



Alta was born at Raymond, SD, to Albert and Mary (Mehlberg) Tschappat on July 19, 1928. She was the youngest of five children and spent many wonderful summers in Iowa with her older sister, Mrs. Dorothy Johnson. She graduated from Clark High School in 1947.

Alta married Dean Michels at Clark, SD, in 1948. The couple farmed until 1951 when they moved to Lead, SD, where Dean worked for Homestake.

Alta was an active member of Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church, the ladies circle and quilting group. She was also a member of the Senior Center in Lead.

After Dean retired in 1991, they moved to Sturgis where they were members of Grace Lutheran Church. Alta was an active volunteer at the Sturgis Senior Center and the Thrift Store.

Alta always had her sewing tote with her. She enjoyed crocheting, reading, gardening, pinochle, bingo and playing online computer games and crossword puzzles.

She had fond memories of winters in Florida living in their 5<sup>th</sup> wheel. She also enjoyed snowmobiling, boating, camping, and spending holidays and summer vacations with the grandkids and great-grandchildren.

Alta Arlene Michels, 82, Sturgis, died Tuesday, May 3, 2011, at her home in Sturgis.

Survivors include her son, Gary (Therese) Michels, Omaha, NE; two daughters, Jeanne (Larry) Hoffman, Sturgis, and Diane Will, Sturgis, SD; grandchildren, Jeremy (Holly) Will and their children, Cassidy and Addison, Hazelton, ND, Amanda Will, Austin, TX, Andy (Amanda) Hoffman, and their children, Kindina, Caleb, and Landon, Lead, SD, Heidi Hoffman, Sturgis, David Hoffman, Rapid City, Aaron (Nicole) Michels and their children, Audrey and Caitlin, Aurora, CO, Janel (Ben) Heitz, Tucson, AZ, and Laura Michels, Palmyra, PA.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Dean in 2009, two sisters, two brothers and one grandchild.

Three words sum up Alta's life: Faith, Perseverance and Prayer.

Memorials have been established to the Grace Lutheran Church Radio Ministry and Hospice of the Northern Hills.



*In Loving Memory Of*



*Alta Michels*

*1928 ~ 2011*

*The family invites everyone to a time of fellowship and lunch in the Son Shine Room in the church basement following the interment service.  
We thank you for your presence and condolences.*

***Before It Is  
Too Late***

*If you have a tender message,  
Or a loving work to say,  
Do not wait till you forget it,  
But whisper it today;  
The tender work unspoken,  
The letter never sent,  
The long forgotten messages,  
The wreath of love unspent - -  
For these some hearts are breaking,  
For these some loved ones wait;  
So show them that you care for them  
Before it is too late.*

***Frank Herbert Sweet***



*For He shall give His angels  
charge over you, to keep you  
in all your ways.*

*Psalm 91:11*



***In Loving Memory Of***

***Alta Arlene Michels***

***Born***

July 19, 1928  
Raymond, South Dakota

***Died***

May 3, 2011  
Sturgis, South Dakota

***Funeral Service***

Monday, May 9, 2011, at 10:00 a.m.  
Grace Lutheran Church

***Officiating***

Rev. Michael J. Fox

***Accompanist***

Roxie Chowen

***Congregational Hymns***

"What A Friend We Have In Jesus"  
"Amazing Grace"

***Pallbearers***

David Hoffman ~ Andy Hoffman ~ Jeremy Will  
Heidi Hoffman ~ Mark Carstensen ~ Amanda Will  
Janel Heitz ~ Laura Michels

***Honorary Pallbearers***

Alta's Friends from the Sturgis Senior Center

***Interment***

Bear Butte Cemetery  
Sturgis, South Dakota