

## Mary Lou Davis

Mary Lou Davis was born July 7, 1923, to Thomas Francis and Zella Odette (Hamlin) Brooks in Aberdeen, SD. She had one older brother, Bob. She was raised on a farm located six miles west of Aberdeen.

She graduated from Aberdeen Central High School in 1941. She attended Northern State College and South Dakota State College, graduating in 1949 from SDSC.

She met G. Wayne Davis during her senior year at SDSC, and the two were married on October 15, 1949. They moved to Lead, SD, after their marriage where Wayne worked for the South Dakota Forest Service and she worked as a Home Economist Extension Agent.

Four children were born to them: Kurt, Rod, Kathy, and Jerry. When the kids were young, she worked part-time at Leo Wakefield Construction Co., First Presbyterian Church, and later on full-time at Bear Butte Insurance Agency. Their family enjoyed many camping, boating outings at Sheridan and Pactola lakes, and also enjoying jeep trips throughout the Black Hills with friends. Mary Lou was a member of the Spruce Street Gang, a coffee group consisting of ladies who lived mostly on Spruce Street or neighboring streets. This dated back to 1960.

She was a member of the First Presbyterian Church, serving as an elder and deacon as well as church secretary. She belonged to several bridge clubs. Both she and Wayne played many cards, belonging to pinochle and bridge groups. During her lifetime, she was active in PEO, and was a member of the Fort Meade Museum board, volunteering many hours at the museum. She also volunteered at the Sturgis Senior Center Thrift Store, and the Sturgis Chamber of Commerce. She became interested in genealogy and spent many years researching both hers and Wayne's family history.

Music was a big part of Mary Lou's life. She played tenor saxophone in the Aberdeen Central High School Band. A highlight for Mary Lou was in 1939, when the band traveled by train to Winnipeg, Canada, to play for the King and Queen of England, who had been touring there. She also played in the band while at SDSC. In later years, she played in the Northern Hills Community Band, and was a long-time member of the choir at the First Presbyterian Church.

After Wayne retired in 1986, they did quite a bit of traveling. For 20 years, they drove their fifth-wheeler to Mesa, AZ, during the winter months, where they made many good friends. She and Wayne were married 62 years.

Mary Lou Davis, 95, formerly of Sturgis, died June 8, 2019, in Rapid City, SD.

When she could no longer be cared for at home, Bella Vista Care Center became her new home where the loving and caring staff became her extended family. We will forever be grateful to each and every one of them.

Survivors include her children, Kurt (Meri) Davis, Spearfish, SD, Rod (Kimberly) Davis, Lead, SD, and Kathy (Jesse) Lewis, Black Hawk, SD; ten grandchildren; fifteen great-grandchildren; and several nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents; husband, Wayne; son, Jerry; and her brother, Bob.

Memorials have been established to First Presbyterian Church and Sturgis Senior Center. Condolences may be sent to the family at [www.kinkadefunerals.com](http://www.kinkadefunerals.com).

*The family invites you to join them for fellowship and lunch in the church basement following the committal service. We thank you for your presence and condolences.*



*In Loving Memory*

**Mary Lou Davis**

**July 7, 1923 ~ June 8, 2019**

# *I'm Free*

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

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

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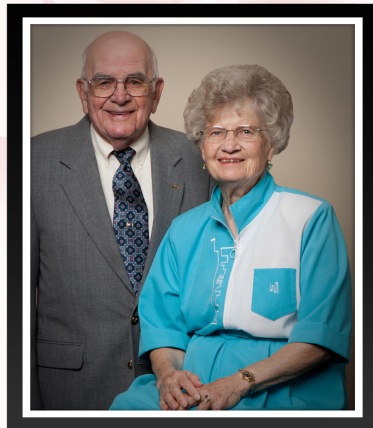
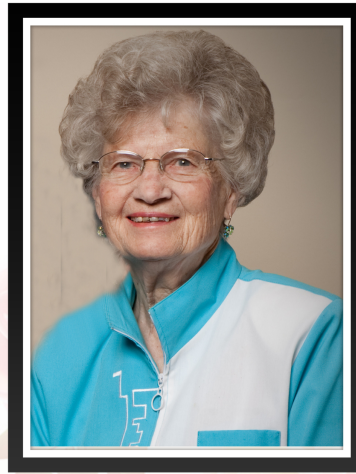
If my parting has left a void  
then fill it with remembered joy.  
A friendship shared, a laugh, a kiss,  
ah, yes, these things I too will miss.

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

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Perhaps my time seemed all too brief,  
don't lengthen it now with undue grief.  
Lift up your hearts and share with me  
God wanted me now:  
He set me free.



## *In Memory Of* **Mary Lou Davis**

### ***Date of Birth***

July 7, 1923  
Aberdeen, South Dakota

### ***Date of Death***

June 8, 2019  
Rapid City, South Dakota

### ***Funeral Service***

Thursday, June 13, 2019, at 10:00 a.m.  
First Presbyterian Church  
Sturgis, South Dakota

### ***Officiant***

Pastor Paul Henschen

### ***Musicians***

Brenda Schaffer      Candy McKay

### ***Songs***

"In The Garden"  
"How Great Thou Art"

### ***Pallbearers***

Stephanie Sorensen ~ Brad Davis ~ Cable Davis  
Lindsey Waddell ~ Renee Davis ~ Casey Davis  
Brian Davis ~ Taylor Sorensen ~ Zachary Koerber  
Daniel Koerber ~ Jacob Koerber

### ***Final Resting Place***

Black Hills National Cemetery  
Sturgis, South Dakota