Remember Me

Remember me when flowers bloom Early in the spring Remember me on sunny days In the fun that summer brings Remember me in the fall As you walk through the leaves of gold And in the wintertime - remember me In the stories that are told But most of all remember Each day - right from the start I will be forever near For I live within your heart.







Helen Warkenthien, 87, a long-time resident of Willow Lake, died Thursday, August 20, 2020, at the Good Samaritan Nursing Home in De Smet, SD.

Helen Marie (Loewen) Warkenthien was born on October 18, 1932, at rural Richey, MT, the daughter of Jacob and Lena (Ratzlaff) Loewen. She attended rural school through the 8th grade.

She was united in marriage on January 8, 1956, to Donald Warkenthien in Sioux Falls. To this marriage, three daughters and a son were born. In the community she was a long-time American Legion Auxilliary member and held the office of President for 20+ years, stepping aside in 2016. She was also an active member in her Senior Citizens group, a member of the Lions Club, and active in the Grace Lutheran women's group.

She has been a caretaker all of her life, beginning at a young age caring for her mother who was inflicted with Parkinson's disease. Over the years she took on various jobs in Huron and Lake Norden while waiting for her son, James, who was attending special education classes. Throughout the 62 years of marriage she worked as a house and farm wife, where she raised chickens and was an egg candler/grader. She was a devoted mother and wife and cared for her husband up to his death in 2018. She ran the Willow Lake Sale Barn café for 22 years. She was known for baking a pretty tasty sour cream raisin pie along with rolls and hot roast beef sandwichesto name a few.

Helen was often referred to as the "energizer bunny" as she would never sit idle, always finding something to do, whether it was in or outside of the home. It gave her satisfaction of fixing anything that was broken.

She enjoyed a good laugh and loved to tell stories of how it was when she grew up. She enjoyed bowling, collecting coins, playing cards and Bingo, watching the Minnesota Twins, gardening, and tending to her indoor plants and flowers. She loved listening to music, especially Tennessee Ernie Ford.

Helen is preceded in death by her parents; husband; son, James; three brothers, Albert, John, and Cornelius; five sisters, Esther, Susie, Ella, Ida, and Janice.

She is survived by her children, Cheryl (Richard) Glidden of Benkelman, NE, Donna Williams of Willow Lake, Gail (Mark) Muehlethaler of Eagle, CO; nine grandchildren, Sara (Kyle) Mossman, Alison (Nick) Zoller, Kyle (Brie) Glidden and Kendal (Madie) Glidden, Nicholas (Nicole) Williams and Jillian Williams, Ben, Megan and Bryce Muehlethaler; seven greatgrandchildren, Kenton, Braxton, Emersyn and Jozlyn Mossman, Nicholas Jr, Noah Williams, and Korbin Glidden; two sisters-in-law, Rose Loewen and Annadell Loewen, as well as a host of nieces and nephews.



Celebrating the Life of Helen Warkenthien



Services from

Furness Funeral Home Chapel Clark, SD Monday, August 31, 2020 1:00PM

Officiant

Reverend Bryan Taffe

Music

Guitarist – Reverend Bryan Taffe "Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing" "10,000 Reasons" "Old Rugged Cross"

Honorary Bearers

Bob Syring and Mike Korbel and the entire Johnny Fonken American Legion Post #113 The American Legion Auxiliary Gary Beutler

Casketbearers

Sara Mossman, Alison Zoller, Kyle and Kendal Glidden, Nicholas Williams and Jillian Williams, Ben, Megan, and Bryce Muehlethaler

Interment

Collins Cemetery Willow Lake, South Dakota



The family of Helen Warkenthien thanks you for your presence here today, for your thoughts, prayers, and other acts of kindness shown to them.