

## Clara Mae Wiedemer

Clara Mae Sowards was born December 22, 1932, at her grandparent's farm near Naper, NE, to Clarence Ray and Marie (Smith) Sowards. She grew up on the ranch twelve miles north of Belvidere, SD, and attended Highland Center School and then Kadoka and Okaton High Schools. After the death of her mother in 1947, Clara stayed home and took over the household duties and helped on the ranch until her marriage on October 2, 1951, to Glen Wiedemer.

They first made their home in Texas, while Glen was at Fort Hood Army Post, and later moved back to South Dakota. Clara and Glen worked on a ranch near Belvidere until they began work on the Milwaukee Railroad; Clara as the cook and Glen on the bridge crew. They built their home in Fort Pierre, and raised their four girls in that home.

Clara worked with Glen in their construction business until 1979. After Glen's death, she continued to live in the Fort Pierre area until retiring. At that time, she left the area to live with Sue.

Clara was a Girl Scout leader in Fort Pierre and was a stay-at-home mom and did the books for Glen's construction business until her daughters were well into school. She was active in the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) Auxiliary holding all local, district, and state offices – including Department President in 1970-1971. She was a life member with over fifty years of service to the Auxiliary. She was also a life member of the Huron Senior Citizens center and a Natrona County, WY, Master Gardener.

Clara Mae Wiedemer passed away quietly at home in Black Hawk, with her family present, on May 17, 2020.

Grateful for having shared her life are her four daughters: Sue Jones, Black Hawk, SD; Glenda (Don) Baker, Morrison, CO; Cidney Bindelli, Kenosha, WI; and Nancy (Howard) Chester, Fort Pierre, SD; nine grandchildren and fifteen great-grandchildren: Dale (Althea) Jones – Rachael and Charles, Irving, TX; Eric Jones, Garland, TX; Nicole (Glenn) Certain – Tyler and Gavin, Highlands Ranch, CO; Megan and Don Baker, Jr., Morrison, CO; Frank (Rita) Jacobs – Chloe, Alasen, and Miranda, Piedmont, SD; Adessa Chester, Yankton, SD; Dustin (Kerry) Chester – Caleb, Kaylee, Abagael, Alyssa, Ashlynn, and Dustin, Jr., Omaha, NE; Billie Jo McGill (Cody) – Peyton and Hunter, Yankton, SD; and numerous nieces, nephews, and cousins.

Clara was preceded in death by her husband, Glen; her parents; brothers, John, Raymond, and Paul Sowards; sister, Irene Novak; step-siblings, Clarence, Raymond, and Leonard Sowards and Ella Mae Sowards Blakely; and son-in-law, Dante Bindelli, Jr.

Donations, in lieu of flowers, can be sent to Sue Jones at 8116 Chickadee Lane, Black Hawk, SD 57718 to be bundled and sent to the Department of South Dakota VFW Auxiliary Hospital Fund in Clara's memory. Hospital was Clara's Past Department President program.

*Condolences can be sent to [www.kinkadefunerals.com](http://www.kinkadefunerals.com)*

*We thank you for your presence and condolences.*



*In Loving Memory*

**Clara Mae Wiedemer**

*December 22, 1932 ~ May 17, 2020*



## ***If Roses Grow in Heaven***

***If roses grow in heaven,  
Lord please pick a bunch for me,  
Place them in my Mother's arms  
and tell her they're from me.***

***Tell her I love and miss her  
and when she turns to smile,  
place a kiss upon her cheek  
and hold her for awhile.***

***Because remembering her is easy,  
I do it everyday,  
but ther's and ache within my heart  
that will never go away.***



## ***In Memory Of Clara Mae Wiedemer***

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

December 22, 1932  
Naper, Nebraska

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

May 17, 2020  
Black Hawk, South Dakota

### ***Service***

Thursday, May 21, 2020, at 9:30 a.m.  
Kinkade Funeral Chapel  
Sturgis, South Dakota

### ***Clergy***

Chaplain Erin ????

### ***Songs***

"Holes in the Floor of Heaven"  
"Keeper of the Stars"  
"Candle in the Wind"

### ***Pallbearers***

Dale Jones ~ Eric Jones ~ Frank Jacobs  
Glenn Certain ~ Tyler Certain ~ Tim Badger

### ***Honorary Pallbearers***

Members of the VFW and Auxillary Post 2038 in Pierre

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

Black Hills National Cemetery  
Sturgis, South Dakota