Betty "Jean" Merchen

Jean Merchen was born March 20, 1942, in Savage Montana, to Arthur and Alice (Terry) Smith. She was the youngest of six children. Jean grew up in various places in Montana.

Jean met and married her husband, Frank Mathew Merchen, in Worden Montana, in 1962. Together they lived in Montana, Nebraska and South Dakota. They adopted Loren Merchen in 1967. They also took care of Klover and Marilyn Standing Bear in 1985. They also cared for Vivian Standing Bear in 1986.

Jean really enjoyed crocheting and knitting. She loved spending time in her garden and canning. She spent a lot of time reading and listening to music. She liked having pets and animals around her home. Her most joyous moments were spent going to dances with her husband. She adored her grandchildren and spoiled them with her care and love. Betty "Jean" Merchen, 78, Whitewood, passed away on Tuesday, November 3, 2020, at her home.

Survivors include her son, Loren Merchen; four grandchildren, Brittany (Chad) Elrod, Cassandra Merchen, Jesse Arends, and Samantha Merchen; and five great-grandchildren, Gabriella Isburg, Cruz Frame, Brinkley Frame, Shiloh Anderson and Emilia Elrod.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Frank Merchen; her parents and siblings.

Condolences may be sent to the family at www.kinkadefunerals.com.

A Mother holds her children's hands for a while....

Their hearts forever.

In Loving Memory Betty "Jean" Merchen March 20, 1942 ~ November 3, 2020

We thank you for your presence and condolences.





Who art in heaven,
hallowed be Thy name.
Thy kingdom come,
Thy will be done on earth,
as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread,
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.

For Thine is the kingdom,

the power, and the glory,

forever and ever.

In Memory Of

Betty "Jean" Merchen

Date of Birth March 20, 1942 Savage, Montana

Date of Death

November 3, 2020 Whitewood, South Dakota

Graveside Service

Monday, November 9, 2020, at 2:00 p.m.
Whitewood Cemetery
Whitewood, South Dakota

Clergy Reverend David Baer

In everybody's garden
A little rain must fall, or
life's sweetest fairest flowers,
Wouldn't grow and bloom at all.

And though the clouds hang heavy,
So heavy. Oh! My friend.
I'm sure that Will send the rainbow's end.