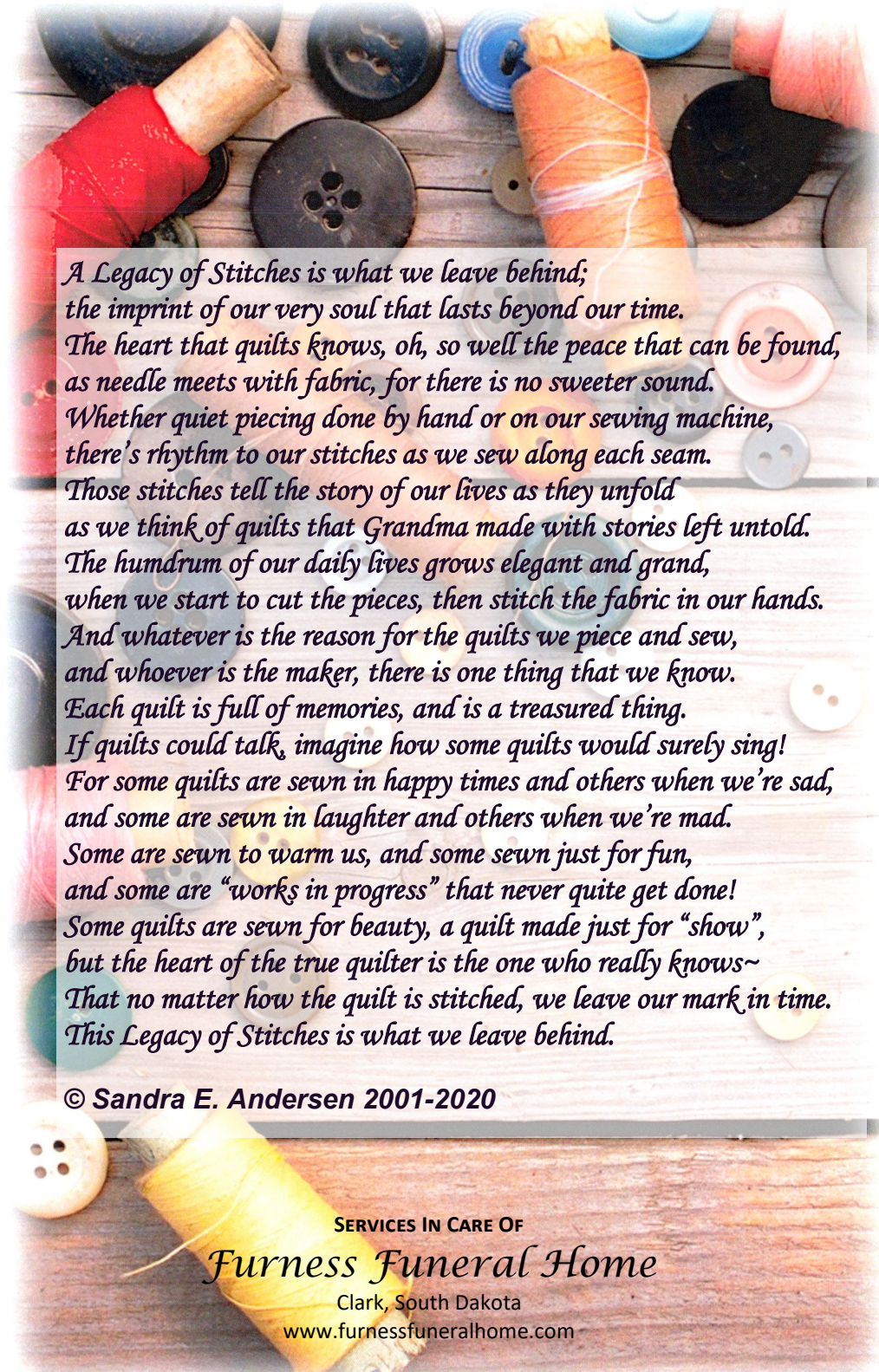




*A Legacy of Stitches is what we leave behind;
the imprint of our very soul that lasts beyond our time.
The heart that quilts knows, oh, so well the peace that can be found,
as needle meets with fabric, for there is no sweeter sound.
Whether quiet piecing done by hand or on our sewing machine,
there's rhythm to our stitches as we sew along each seam.
Those stitches tell the story of our lives as they unfold
as we think of quilts that Grandma made with stories left untold.
The humdrum of our daily lives grows elegant and grand,
when we start to cut the pieces, then stitch the fabric in our hands.
And whatever is the reason for the quilts we piece and sew,
and whoever is the maker, there is one thing that we know.
Each quilt is full of memories, and is a treasured thing.
If quilts could talk, imagine how some quilts would surely sing!
For some quilts are sewn in happy times and others when we're sad,
and some are sewn in laughter and others when we're mad.
Some are sewn to warm us, and some sewn just for fun,
and some are "works in progress" that never quite get done!
Some quilts are sewn for beauty, a quilt made just for "show",
but the heart of the true quilter is the one who really knows~
That no matter how the quilt is stitched, we leave our mark in time.
This Legacy of Stitches is what we leave behind.*

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Clark, South Dakota

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*A Mother holds
her children's hands for a while...
their hearts forever.*

Phyllis Lorraine Schmidt, age 89, died at the Prairie Lakes Hospital on Saturday, January 28, 2023 after a short illness.

Phyllis Lorraine Schmidt was born May 30, 1933 to Vern and Vera (Beavers) Herker on a farm near Raymond in Clark County. She was the fifth child born of sixteen; only fourteen of which grew to adulthood. Phyllis attended several country schools in the Clark and Raymond area before leaving home at age 14 to live by herself in Willow Lake to attend Willow Lake High School. During her high school years she worked several jobs to support herself as did many rural kids from that era. She graduated from Willow Lake High School in 1951. She was united in marriage to Menno H (Babe) Schmidt on June 17, 1951 in Willow Lake. Her son Allen, was born in April 1952, followed by Terry in January 1955, and Bob in July 1962.

In 1953 Phyllis started working at the Willow Lake Livestock Auction in the Café. She later moved to the sales office as a clerk working in the Willow Lake and DeSmet Sale Barns for several decades. Phyllis had many jobs throughout her life including Sexton at Collins Cemetery; but first and foremost, she was a farm wife and mother. From doing fieldwork to driving potato trucks or making hot meals for the men in the field, she was the glue that held everything together. She continued to help around the farm giving rides or running for parts as recently as the harvest of 2022.

Phyllis enjoyed traveling, quilting, reading, and attending family events. She was a member of the Willow Lake Evangelical Lutheran Church, Willow Lake Lioness and Lions Clubs, and part of a small group of women that recognized a need for a swimming pool in Willow Lake. With their skillful organizing and fundraising efforts, a strong foundation was built for the swimming pool to come to fruition.

Grateful for having shared in her life are her sons, Terry (Brenda) Schmidt of Watertown, SD and Bob (Melanie) Schmidt of Willow Lake, SD, grandchildren Heather (Leo) Garcia of Charlotte, NC, Michelle (Shawn) Poe of Sioux Falls, SD, Michael (Kelsey) Schmidt of Spirit Lake, IA, Garrett (Brooklyn) Schmidt of Willow Lake, SD, great grandchildren, Aili, Elijah, Brielle, Bella, Callista, Elise, Lowen, Abram, Vada, and Hugh, brother, Jerry (Patti) Herker of Medical Lake, WA, sister Eva (Ron) Frank of Blaine, MN, brother Ron (Mary Jo) Herker of Coon Rapids, MN, three sisters in-law, Sally Herker of Kennewick, WA, Helen Schmidt of Willow Lake, SD, Laurie Herker of Litchfield, MN, and numerous nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents, her husband Menno, son Allen, a grandson Erik, six brothers, six sisters, and numerous other family members.



Celebrating the Life of Phyllis Schmidt



Services From

Willow Lake Evangelical Lutheran Church
Willow Lake, South Dakota
Wednesday, February 1, 2023
11:00 AM

Officiant

Pastor Randy Bader

Music

Barb Wegman - Pianist

“Precious Lord, Take My Hand” - #451

“God Be With You ‘Til We Meet Again” - #327

“Beautiful Savior” - #369

Honorary Casketbearers

All of Phyllis' Nieces & Nephews

Casketbearers

Michael Schmidt	Garrett Schmidt	Elijah Garcia
Mike Thomas	Dan Schmidt	Johnny Tomasich

Interment at a Later Date

Collins Cemetery
Willow Lake, South Dakota



*Please join the family after the service for lunch
and a time of fellowship in the St. James Parish Hall.*

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