



Verlie Jeanne Cooper was born to Edwin and Faith Allan on August 13, 1935 in Camp Crook, SD. She graduated from Ekalaka, MT in 1952. About this time, she met the love of her life, Robert “Bob” Cooper, and married him on November 6, 1953. They spent the first years of their married life ranching near Ekalaka. During this time they had 3 children.

Bob and Verlie left the ranch and moved to Billings, MT, where Bob completed college. Ultimately, Bob’s work took them to Aberdeen, SD, where they raised their children.

In 1980 they moved to Rapid City and eventually they bought a small horse ranch near Box Elder. They raised thoroughbred race horses and hobby quarter horses. They also raised a succession of beloved pugs.

After Bob died in 2001 Verlie moved to Spearfish, where she lived and worked until completely retiring at age 76. Verlie then moved to Sturgis, where she lived until her death on December 29, 2020.

Verlie will be remembered for her quick wit and snappy comebacks. You never had to wonder what she was thinking. During her last years, she raised another pug and several parrots. She loved all animals, especially pugs and horses. She read, painted, and was always up on current events. She followed horse racing and could predict the Kentucky Derby winner almost every year. Verlie had a steadfast belief in God that saw her through her darkest days.

Verlie was preceded in death by her husband, Bob; her parents, Edwin and Faith Allan; one sister, Virginia; and great-grandson, Easton Sims.

She is survived by her sisters, Vonnice and Vicki; and children, Valerie (Mark) Hoffman, Terry (Brenda) Cooper, and Ted Cooper. She is also survived by her grandchildren, Jennifer, Nicki, Tara, Heather, Bobbie, Caitlin, and Robert; as well as numerous nieces, nephews, and great-grandchildren.

Because of her love of animals, a memorial has been established to the Sturgis Animal Shelter.

We miss you Mom.

Condolences may be sent to the family at [www.kinkadefunerals.com](http://www.kinkadefunerals.com).



*In Loving Memory*

Verlie Jeanne Cooper

August 13, 1935 ~ December 29, 2020





*In Memory Of*  
**Verlie Jeanne Cooper**

***Date of Birth***

August 13, 1935  
Camp Crook, South Dakota

***Date of Death***

December 29, 2020  
Sturgis, South Dakota

***Visitation***

1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.  
Saturday, January 9, 2021  
Kinkade Funeral Chapel  
Sturgis, South Dakota

***Final Resting Place***

To Be Held Later In The Spring  
Black Hills National Cemetery  
Sturgis, South Dakota

*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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

