

Grandma

Her hands are a wrinkly, creamy white
And the softest skin you will ever feel
Wispy grey hair flows away from kind eyes
They are quiet, perceptive and thoughtful
When she smiles your heart will be moved

To both soar and sigh

She says little with her voice, yet her expressions speak volumes

Oceans of emotions

~ Enya Cheyenne Wallace ~

Sept 4, 2021



In Loving Memory of Lois Rae Rykhus 1932—2022



“Our Prayer To God is God’s Gift To Us”

- A Catholic Sister -



Lois Rae Rykhus was born on a homestead in Perkins County near Lemmon, SD, January 9, 1932. She lived her young life in the country near Lemmon and Clark, SD, and in the town of Clark for part of high school. Lois was a loving mother and passionate about her four children. She loved attending theater, dancing, reading, taking photographs, playing cards, and having coffee and tea with friends and family.

Lois loved the beauty of the outdoors and spending family time with her children outside, including camping with family and climbing Harney Peak in the Black Hills throughout her 50's. She had a passion for theater both in South Dakota and afar, traveling as far as Connecticut and New York City to see theater with her children in her mid 60's.

Education was very important to Lois. In her late 40's, after being married for over 25 years to Donald James Rykhus, she first finished her Bachelor of Arts degree and then two Master's degrees, in Psychology and Crimi-

nology. All were conferred by South Dakota State University. She loved her art classes, beginning in 1968 and into the 1990s and was a wonderful painter and artist throughout her life in Roundup, Montana, and Elkton, SD.

As an 18-20 year old, after an 18 month teacher certificate program, Lois worked as a country school teacher near Clark, SD. She volunteered with Meals on Wheels and did community volunteer work through her church. She was closely involved with The Baptist Church in Elkton, SD, and United Campus Ministries at South Dakota State University.

She worked as a secretary in Brookings early in adult life and worked briefly for a nonprofit organization in Brookings, SD, after completing one or more of her degrees in Brookings.

Thirteen years ago Lois had a stroke, which limited her ability to communicate. She still enjoyed having family come to visit and especially loved looking at pictures. She was well cared for by a facility in Sioux Falls and by Avantara Nursing Home in Clark.

She passed at 11:40 am CST on June 4, 2022. She will be missed by all those who loved her. She is survived by Sons: Steven James (Emily) Rykhus, Michael Dean (Alana) Rykhus, Jeffery Mark Rykhus, Daughter: Angela Joan (Mike) Rykhus-Lemay, grandson Zachary (Jacqueline) Rykhus, granddaughter Enya Wallace, and great grandchildren Logan and Claire Rykhus. She was preceded in death by parents James Raymond and Eva Mathilda Arthur, her brother James D. Arthur, her sister Mary Lou Hallberg and her grandson Austin Michael Rykhus.



Paintings by Lois Rykhus

Families are like Branches on a Tree. We may grow in different directions, yet our roots remain as one.

Author Unknown

Celebrating the Life of Lois Rae Rykhus

Ashoken Farewell

(Jay Ungar)

Prayer

Poem

When I must leave you
(Helen Steiner Rice)

Thoughts and Remembrances

Poem

God's Messengers
(Helen Steiner Rice)

The Lord's Prayer

(Matt 6:9-13)

Our Father which art in heaven,
Hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done
in earth, as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our debts,
as we forgive our debtors.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil:
For thine is the kingdom, and the power,
and the glory, for ever. Amen.

Amazing Grace—My Chains are Gone

(Chris Tomlin)

God's Messengers

By: Helen Steiner Rice

*The unexpected kindness
from an unexpected place,
A hand outstretched in friendship,
a smile on someone's face.
A word of understanding
spoken in a time of trial
Are unexpected miracles
that make life more worthwhile.
We know not how it happened
that in our hour of need
Somebody out of nowhere
proved to be a friend indeed.
For God has many messengers
we fail to recognize,
But He sends them when we need them,
and His ways are wondrous and wise.
So keep looking for your angel
and keep listening to hear,
For on life's busy, crowded streets
you will find God's presence near.*