

I've traveled paths you've yet to walk
Learned lessons old and new
And now this wisdom of my life
I'm blessed to share with you

Let kindness spread like sunshine
Embrace those who are sad
Respect their dignity, give them joy
And leave them feeling glad

Forgive those who might hurt you
And though you have your pride
Listen closely to their viewpoint
Try to see the other side

Walk softly when you're angry
Try not to take offense
Invoke your sense of humor
Laughter's power is immense!

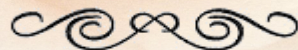
Express what you are feeling
Your beliefs you should uphold
Don't shy away from what is right
Be courageous and be bold

Keep hope right in your pocket
It will guide you day by day
Take it out when it is needed
When it's near, you'll find a way

Remember friends and family
Of which you are a precious part
Love deeply and love truly
Give freely from your heart

The world is far from perfect
There's conflict and there's strife
But you still can make a difference
By how you live your life

And so I'm very blessed to know
The wonders you will do
Because you are my children
& grandchildren
And I believe in you



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Furness Funeral Home

Gregory E. Furness
Clark, South Dakota

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Going Home

Florence Brenden, age 94, formerly of Clark, died peacefully with family at her side on Wednesday, November 3, 2021, in the Good Samaritan Center at DeSmet where she had resided since June of 2018. She was the widow of Lyle Brenden.

She was born Florence Charlotte Gustafson on September 6, 1927 at Bryant, SD, the daughter of John and Rachel (Braaten) Gustafson. Florence attended school in the Dixon #3 Hamlin County School and graduated from Bryant High School in 1945.

On September 8, 1945 she was united in marriage to Lyle Brenden in the parsonage of the Lutheran Church at Vienna. They left the Vienna area and purchased farmland in Fordham Township, south of Raymond, SD. They farmed with his parents for the next two years and then their own farm where Florence helped farm, even driving tractor, while raising their children. She also drove the school bus, a station wagon, in Fordham Township. They retired from farming and moved into Clark in 1981.

In the late 1980's, she began working as a CNA at Clark Care Center which she did for 21 years. She was a member of the Pleasant Lutheran Church near Vienna and since the early 1960's an active member of St. Paul Lutheran Church at Clark. Her Church home was very important to her, having served various offices of WELCA, belonging to circle, quilting and being instrumental in annual the lutfisk supper. In the community, Florence was also active having served as a 4-H Leader for 20 years with the Fordham 4-H club and a member of the Jolly Neighbors Club. In her free time in years past, she thoroughly enjoyed flower and vegetable gardening, canning, sewing, and baking lefse and the "Best Apple Pie". Family was extremely important to her as well, taking an active part in the annual "Brendenfest" held each August for over 17 years, a gathering of her entire family for a great weekend of family activities.

Preceding her in death were her parents, her husband, Lyle, her 2 Angels (Pink roses on piano in memory of), daughter, Cheryl Ann and granddaughter, Nichole, and her siblings, Agnes Spilde, Arvid Gustafson, Ruth Olson, Herbert Gustafson, George Gustafson, Clarence Gustafson, and John E. Gustafson.

Grateful for having shared in her life are her children, Dennis (Margy) Brenden of Brookings, Roxy (Larry) Jensen of Mitchell, Jean (Scott) Rogers of Sioux Falls and Lori (Bill) DeLay of Long Lake, MN; 8 grandchildren, Megan (Shane) Madsen, Mark Brenden, Jason (Kari) Pommer, Josh (Kasey) Pommer, Renee' (Stephen) Varga, Jeremy Sedelmeier, Lauren (Jackson) Stephens and Taylor DeLay; and 10 great-grandchildren, Landon, Connor, Brenna, Hayden, Elijah, Ben, Gage, Brady, McKenna and Brayden. She also leaves in-laws, Genny, Shirley, & Mavis Brenden & Robert Forest along with numerous nieces, nephews and a special friend and care-giver, Kelly McCune.



Celebrating the Life of Florence Brenden



Services from

St. Paul Lutheran Church
Clark, South Dakota
Saturday, November 6, 2021
1:00 PM

Officiant

Pastor Jim Millman & Pastor Jody Peterson

Music

Dorothy Fuller — Organist
"How Great Thou Art"
"In the Garden"

Casket Bearers

Florence's Grandchildren & Great Grandchildren

Interment

Pleasant Lutheran Cemetery
Vienna, South Dakota



*Following the service, please join the family for refreshments
and a time of fellowship in the church basement.*

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