

## Mary Ester Parsons

Mary was born April 18, 1938, in a tiny two room home at Gettysburg, SD, to Harold G. and Emma R. (Udahl) Rud. The family moved to a farm North East of Gettysburg in March of 1943 when Mary was 5 years old and her last sister was 21 days old. Mary attended Lucas #28 country school until the 8<sup>th</sup> grade. She graduated from Gettysburg High School in 1956 and St. Mary's school of practical nursing in 1957.

She married Gale W. Parsons on March 15, 1958. To this union, four children were born.

Mary worked at St. Mary's Hospital in Pierre in the pediatric ward. They moved to Chamberlain in 1961 where Mary worked at the Chamberlain Hospital. They moved back to Pierre in 1965 where she went back to St. Mary's pediatric department. Mary moved to Sturgis and worked at Ft. Meade VA Hospital for 25 years and moved into her new home in Whitewood after retirement.

She worked for Black Hills Special Services and later the Dorsett Home in Spearfish until November of 2012.

Mary enjoyed gardening, bowling, reading, knitting, crocheting, cross stitch, and cross country skiing.

Mary Ester Parsons, 75, Whitewood, died Friday, December 20, 2013, at Rapid City Regional Hospital.

Survivors include her sons, Michael Parsons, Box Elder, and Colin (Darla) Parsons, Whitewood; daughters, Michelle Parsons Busby (James) Roe, Beatrice, NE, and Colleen Tassler, Beulah, WY; sister, Betty (Donnie) Berger, Whitewood; 17 grandchildren; and 14 great-grandchildren; two sister-in-laws, Edina Rud, Pierre, SD, and Joyce Leach, Portland, OR; and one aunt, Bessie Weinert, Gettysburg.

She was preceded in death by her parents, three brothers, one sister and three grandchildren.

A memorial has been established.

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

## *In Loving Memory Of*



*Mary Parsons*

*1938 ~ 2013*

*The family invites you to join them for fellowship and lunch at Black Hills  
Baptist Church in Whitewood following the committal service.  
We thank you for your presence and condolences.*



**God's Garden**

God looked around his garden  
and found an empty place,  
He then looked down upon the earth  
and saw your tired face.  
He put his arms around you  
and lifted you to rest.  
God's garden must be beautiful  
He always takes the best.  
He knew you were suffering.  
He knew you were in pain.  
He knew that you would never  
get well on earth again.  
He saw the road was getting rough  
and the hills were hard to climb.  
He closed your weary eyelids  
and whispered, "Peace be thine."  
It broke our hearts to lose you,  
but you didn't go alone.  
Part of us went with you  
the day God called you home.  
All of you who have loved ones,  
cherish them with tender care.  
You will never know the heartaches  
until they are no longer there.

*In Loving Memory Of*  
**Mary Ester Parsons**

***Born***

April 18, 1938  
Gettysburg, South Dakota

***Died***

December 20, 2013  
Rapid City, South Dakota

***Funeral Service***

Saturday, December 28, 2013, at 2:00 p.m.  
Kinkade Funeral Chapel

***Officiating***

Pastor Wayland Holbrook

***Accompanist***

Bethany Fleischmann

***Musical Selections***

"Amazing Grace"  
"How Great Thou Art"  
"It Is Well With My Soul"  
"Because He Lives"  
"Wind Beneath My Wings"

***Pallbearers***

Tammy Freeman ~ Shawna Harmer ~ Wolf Parsons  
Travis Parsons ~ Tyrell Crawford ~ Darwin Parsons  
Terry Rud ~ Harold Berger

***Interment***

Bear Butte Cemetery  
Sturgis, South Dakota