



Merle Page

Merle Page, 93, of Spearfish, passed away peacefully at Garden Hills Assisted Living Center on Tuesday, February, 18, 2014. Merle was born August 11, 1920, at Forsythe, MN, to Roy and Ivy MacKenzie. Her early life was spent on Long Island, NY. At age 11 she moved to Burtrum, MN, where she met and married Harry Potts in 1937. To that union two sons and two daughters were born. They lived in Burtrum, MN, until October 1948, when the family

moved to Rapid City, SD. Her introduction to South Dakota was the 1949 blizzard. In 1952, the family moved to Sturgis, SD.

Merle was not only a wife and mother, she was employed at Sturgis Memorial Hospital as a nurse's aide for one year, when with the encouragement of Dr. Massa, she attended L.P.N. school in Pierre, SD, graduating in the spring of 1964. She then worked as office nurse in Spearfish, for Dr. J.C. Betts, until June of 1966, when the family moved to Dickinson, ND. She received her R.N. degree from Dickinson State College, at age 49, after she was a grandmother. As an R.N. she taught in St. Joseph Hospital School of Practical Nursing, in Dickinson, ND, until the school closed in August of 1972. She then worked as a Public Health nurse in Beach, ND, from August 1972 to May 1974, when she returned to Sturgis to accept the position of Public Health Nurse for Meade County.

She married Richmond Page November 10, 1977, at the Fort Meade Chapel. Together, they dedicated all their spare time and musical talents, giving concerts, both sacred and secular, sharing their love of music with others. They served many hours at the Fort Meade Veterans Hospital and Chapel, receiving a commendation for her service there. Merle was a member of the V.F.W. Auxiliary, the American Legion Auxiliary, World War 1 Auxiliary, the Hospital Auxiliary, the Senior Citizen R.S.V.P., and was a member of the Presbyterian Church of Whitewood. She spent the years after Richmond's death crocheting afghans for the Massa Barry Nursing Home. At age 81 she had finished 65.

She is survived by daughter and son-in-law, Karen and Barry Lutes, of Broomfield, CO; daughter, Michele Knock, Rapid City, SD; grandson, Dr. William Lutes D.O. and wife, Angie; great-grandchildren, Conner, Brooke, and Logan Lutes, Libertyville, IL.; one sister and brother-in-law, Sharon and David Griffiths, Andover, MN. She was preceded in death by her husband, Richmond, and two sons, Blane and Bruce Potts.

Memorials have been established for a nursing scholarship at Sturgis Regional Hospital (949 Harmon St, Sturgis, SD, 57785, Attn: Sandy Massa) and to Merle's Church, First Presbyterian of Whitewood (901 Laurel St, Whitewood, SD, 57793).



Celebration Of Life



To Sing.....To Serve

Merle T. Page

1920 ~ 2014



In Loving Memory Of
Merle T. Page

Born

August 11, 1920
Little Fork, Minnesota

Died

February 18, 2014
Spearfish, South Dakota

Funeral Service

Thursday, February 27, 2014 at 2:00 p.m.
Kinkade Funeral Chapel
Sturgis, South Dakota

Clergymen

Pastor Steve Agan
Pastor Howard "Skip" Smith

Special Music

"His Eye Is On The Sparrow"

"His Hand In Mine"

"Every Time We Say Goodbye"

Merle & Richmond recorded these selections in June, 1981,
to be used to celebrate their lives

Soloist

William "Bill" Clark
"You'll Never Walk Alone"

Interment

Bear Butte Cemetery
Sturgis, South Dakota

*The music calls me from God's Heavenly Garden fair
I have just gone to join the loved ones gone before
Just rejoice I'm with them there
I have no words to tell you how the angel voices ring
But, I've sent you each a special gift of my undying love
It was the most important gift in the story Jesus told
Please love and keep each other as our father said to do
I can't count the blessings he has for you
Now wipe away your heartache
Do not grieve for me my dears
For I'm in that heavenly choir singing prairies clear
I know how much you'll miss me
I feel the pain within your hearts
But be happy for me loved ones
Just hold me in your hearts.*

~ Merle T. Page
August 1, 1998

*The family invites you to join them for fellowship and lunch at the Vets Club following the
committal service. We thank you for your presence and condolences.*