

### ***When God Created Mothers...***

*When the good Lord was creating mothers He was into His sixth day of "overtime" when the angel appeared and said, "You're doing a lot of fiddling around on this one."*

*And the Lord said, "Have you read the specs on this order? She has to be completely washable, but not plastic, have 180 movable parts...all replaceable, run on black coffee and leftovers, have a lap that disappears when she stands up, a kiss that can cure anything from a broken leg to a disappointed love affair and six pair of hands."*

*The angel shook her head slowly and said, "Six pair of hands...no way."*

*"It's not the hands that are causing me problems," said the Lord. "It's the three pair of eyes that mothers have to have."*

*"That's on the standard model?" asked the Angel.*

*The Lord nodded. "One pair that sees through closed doors when she asks, 'What are you kids doing in there?' when she already knows. Another here in the back of her head that sees what she shouldn't but what she has to know, and of course the one here in front that can look at a child when he goofs up and says, 'I understand and I love you' without as much as muttering a word."*

*"Lord," said the angel, touching His sleeve gently, "Come to bed. Tomorrow..."*

*"I can't," said the Lord. "I'm so close to creating something so close to myself. Already I have one who heals herself when she is sick...can feed a family of six on one pound of hamburger and can get a nine-year-old to stand under a shower."*

*The angel circled the model of a mother very slowly. "It's too soft," she sighed.*

*"But tough!" said the Lord excitedly. "You cannot imagine what this mother can do or endure."*

*"Can it think?"*

*"Not only think, but it can reason and compromise," said the Creator.*

*Finally the angel bent over and ran her finger across the cheek. "There's a leak," She pronounced. "I told You that You were trying to put too much into this model."*

*"It's not a leak," said the Lord, "It's a tear."*

*"What's it for?"*

*"It's for joy, sadness, disappointment, pain, loneliness and pride."*

*"You are a genius," said the angel.*

*The Lord looked somber. "I didn't put it there."*

*Erma Bombeck*

### ***In Loving Memory Of***

***Edna Marie Matz***

#### ***Born***

November 30, 1926  
Sturgis, South Dakota

#### ***Died***

April 4, 2012  
Sturgis, South Dakota

#### ***Funeral Service***

Saturday, April 7, 2012, at 10:00 a.m.  
Kinkade Funeral Chapel

#### ***Officiating***

Chaplain Randy Bradley  
Pastor Herbert Cleveland

#### ***Musical Selections***

"On The Wings Of A Dove"  
"What A Friend We Have In Jesus"  
"Whispering Hope"

#### ***Pallbearers***

Steve Culbertson ~ Justice Culbertson ~ Lanny Culbertson  
Kevin Culbertson ~ Thomas Griffie ~ Jacob Williamson

#### ***Honorary Pallbearers***

Grandchildren and Great-Grandchildren

#### ***Interment***

Bear Butte Cemetery  
Sturgis, South Dakota



*The Twenty-Third Psalm*

*The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want.  
He maketh me to lie down in green pastures:  
He leadeth me beside the still waters.  
He restoreth my soul: He leadeth me in the  
paths of righteousness for His name's sake.  
Yea, though I walk through the valley of  
the shadow of death, I will fear no evil:  
for thou art with me; Thy rod and  
thy staff they comfort me.  
Thou preparest a table before me in the presence  
of mine enemies: thou anointest my head  
with oil; my cup runneth over.  
Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me  
all the days of my life: and I will  
dwell in the house of the Lord forever.*

*The family invites everyone to a time of fellowship and lunch  
at the Sturgis Vet's Club following the interment service.  
We thank you for your presence and condolences.*

*In Loving Memory Of*



*Edna Marie Matz*

*1926 ~ 2012*



## Edna Marie Matz

Edna Marie Erickson was born November 30, 1926, to Elmer H. and Bessie Mae (Smith) Erickson at the family homestead on Middle Alkali, twenty miles east of Sturgis, SD. Since no doctors were available, Elmer delivered his first daughter!

Edna was the sixth child born to this family. She followed five brothers, Richard Harold, Carroll Dwight, Lloyd Elmer, and twins Wayne E. and Wilber E. Following Edna's birth, the family increased by 3 more with the birth of Raymond LeRoy, Melvin Loren, and Mary Lou Emma.

Edna received her education from 1<sup>st</sup> grade through 8<sup>th</sup> grade in a one-room school house (Hall School) District #56 located east of the family home. After graduating from the 8<sup>th</sup> grade, Edna missed school for a year as she worked on neighbors' dairies in order to help out with the family finances. While Edna was in high school, she worked for room and board for an army major's family at Ft. Meade. In January 1945, Edna moved to Washington State and found employment at Madigan General Hospital at Ft. Lewis as a patient dining room aide.

While living in Washington, Edna met and fell in love with Corporal Robert Andrew Culbertson. They were married on Sept. 8, 1945, in Tacoma, WA. The family grew with the birth of 3 daughters, Janis Marie, Sherrill Mae, and Karlene Mary and 2 sons, John Douglas and Robert Andrew, Jr. The marriage ended in divorce in 1958 and Edna became the sole support for the family.

Through Edna's hard work and love, their family life stabilized. Her children all attended school in Sturgis and were baptized in the Methodist Church. The following years were a time spent maintaining a bond with her children and grandchildren that she referred to as her "blessings".

On Oct. 4, 1971, Edna found love again and was married to Earl Thomas Matz in Las Vegas, Nevada. They made their home together in Sturgis until Earl Passed away on Oct. 20, 2006.

Edna took pride in her membership in the Methodist Church, 4-H Club, Bernice Rebekah Lodge, Matopaha Chapter of Eastern Star, Daughters of the Nile, Alkali Busy Bees Extension Club, and other endeavors. Edna also had served for several decades as superintendent or ward worker of City, County, State, and Federal Election Boards.

Edna also developed an interest in several different areas and directed her energy towards photography, poetry, cake decorating, and sewing, which included wedding dresses, family histories, and all forms of artwork. She was especially proud of a 168 page Erickson Family Cookbook that she lovingly put together as a legacy to her family.

Edna spent most of her life working in food service from the time she worked at Ft. Lewis, WA, until she retired on her 81<sup>st</sup> birthday on Nov. 30, 2007. During

those years, she was employed as a chef, pastry cook, salad chef, making breads and desserts. She worked at various businesses around Sturgis.

Edna fought diabetes for about 20 years and was diagnosed with inoperable lung cancer in March 2011.

Edna Marie Matz, 85, of Sturgis, SD, passed away at home on April 4, 2012, surrounded by family.

Survivors include her two sons and their spouses, John and Mary (Frey) Culbertson, and Robert and Sharon (Sundquist) Culbertson; three daughters and their spouses, Janis Culbertson, Sherrill and Van Dennis and Karlene and Dwight Griffiee. Edna was grandmother to 16 grandchildren, 32 great-grandchildren, and 2 great-great-grandchildren. She is also survived by two brothers, Wilbur Erickson of Redmond, WA, and Melvin Erickson, Sturgis. Additional survivors include sisters-in-law, Marguerite Erickson, Agnes Erickson, Carolyn Erickson, Geraldine Erickson, and Patricia Erickson; and numerous cousins, nieces, and nephews.

Edna was preceded in death by her parents, Elmer and Bessie Erickson; her husband, Earl Thomas Matz; her five brothers, Richard, Carroll, Lloyd, Wayne, and Raymond Erickson; and one sister, Mary Lou McDougall. Also preceding her in death were one grandson, Shane Culbertson; two granddaughters, Heide and Christine Werlinger; two brothers-in-law, Orville Matz and Charles "Mac" McDougall; one sister-in-law, LaVaughn Erickson; one step-daughter, Sandra Singleton; and one ex-daughter-in-law, Bonnie Culbertson. Her children's father, Robert Culbertson, also preceded her in death.

Memorials can be directed to Hospice of the Northern Hills or Golden K Community Cupboard.

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

