

Clara Beth (Simons) Peterson was born March 19, 1932, on her grandmother, Clara's, birthday to Sam E. and Ada B. (Burditt) Simons in Sturgis, SD. She was raised on the family ranch between Marcus and Plainview. Clara Beth attended the one-room Barada rural school for grades 1-8. She attended high school in Sturgis, where she was an honor student and participated in sports, choir, and Homemakers of America. After graduating in 1950, she attended Black Hills Normal School to obtain her teaching certificate. She taught grades 1-8 for one year at Bench School in rural Meade County.

Clara Beth married her high school sweetheart, Bobby D. Peterson, on June 4, 1951. They lived and raised their 4 children on a ranch near Volunteer. Clara Beth was involved with her children's 4-H Clubs and was a member of the 4-H Leaders Association. She participated in the Volunteer Extension Club and the Meade County Fair Board. She served as a Horticulture/Flower Judge for the Fair for many years. Clara Beth was a Master Gardener and raised a large garden and beautiful flowers every year. She was known for her cooking skills; her bread was a favorite of many.

In 1977, Bobby and Clara Beth moved to Sturgis, where she kept books for their business, Peterson Oil Co. They were avid square and round dancers and card players. Clara Beth especially loved playing Bridge with her sisters and friends.

Clara Beth was a member of the First Presbyterian Church of Sturgis since high school. She was also a member of the VFW Auxiliary and the Sturgis Senior Citizens Center.

Clara Beth Peterson, 87, of Sturgis, passed away on Sunday, September 15, 2019, at Sturgis Regional Senior Care.

Clara Beth is survived by her four children, Nancy (Larry) Carpenter, Sturgis, Kevin (Dee) Peterson, Gillette, WY, LuAnn Carlson, Sioux Falls, SD, and Ila (Steve) Kool, Sioux Falls, SD; her ten grandchildren, Amber Carpenter, Annette (Steve) Dourney, Zach (Sharon) Peterson, Krystal (Travis) Schmidt, Andrew Carlson, Jen (Jon) Schreurs, Laura Carlson, Scott (Mandy) Kool, Stuart Kool, and Sam Kool; her fourteen great-grandchildren, Yvette Dourney, Dysen and Bryley Peterson, Jolene, Clair, and Frankee Schmidt, Jayden and Jacey Schreurs, Dylan, Sullivan, Calvin, and Ivy Grinsell, and Henry and Harrison Kool; brother, Walt (Barbara) Simons; sisters, Freda Wilson and Kay Ingalls; and her extraordinary private care assistant, Stacey Knight.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Bobby; parents, Sam and Ada Simons; brothers, William, Wayne, and Vern Simons; sister, Gladys Edwards; brothers-in-law, Emerson Wilson, Howard Ingalls, and Billy Peterson; sister-in-law, Beverly Peterson; and great-grandson, Elijah Grinsell.

Memorials have been established to First Presbyterian Church and the Meade County Fairgrounds Event Center Building Fund.

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

*The family invites you to join them for fellowship and lunch in the Erskine Room in the church basement following the funeral service prior to the committal.*

*We thank you for your presence and condolences.*



*In Loving Memory*

**Clara Beth Peterson**

*March 19, 1932 ~ September 15, 2019*





*In Memory Of*  
**Clara Beth (Simons) Peterson**

***Date of Birth***

March 19, 1932  
Sturgis, South Dakota

***Date of Death***

September 15, 2019  
Sturgis, South Dakota

***Funeral Service***

Friday, September 20, 2019, at 10:00 a.m.  
First Presbyterian Church  
Sturgis, South Dakota

***Officiating***

Reverend Paul Henschen

***Musicians***

Laura Johnson and Carolyn Bobbitt

***Songs***

"In The Garden"  
"For All The Saints"  
"Amazing Grace"  
"The Old Rugged Cross"  
"When We All Get To Heaven"  
"Leaning On The Everlasting Arms"

***Pallbearers***

Zach Peterson   Andrew Carlson   Scott Kool  
Stuart Kool   Sam Kool   Dysen Peterson

***Final Resting Place***

Bear Butte Cemetery  
Sturgis, South Dakota

*My Mother*

*She carried me under her heart;  
Loved me before I was born;  
Took God's hand in hers and walked  
Through the Valley of Shadows that I might live;*

*Prayed for me through all the days,  
When flooded with sunshine or saddened by shadows;  
Though we lay down our lives for her  
We can never pay the debt we owe to a mother.*

