



Sylvia Bernice (Dobyns) Wetz

Sylvia Bernice (Dobyns) Wetz was born on August 17, 1925, the oldest of eight children born to Clement and Edna (Bennett) Dobyns at Oshkosh, NE. She moved with her family to the Newell/Vale/Nisland area as a child. She graduated from Vale High School in 1943 as salutatorian of her class. She began her teaching career on a six-week certificate from Spearfish Normal School. She taught at rural Meade County schools starting at the Alkali School and then the Wetz School. While teaching there, she met the older brother

of several of her students and fell in love. She and Harold John Wetz were married on June 5, 1945, at Sturgis. Seven children were born to the couple – Norman, Kenneth, Beth, Roger, Linda, Paul, and April.

In the mid-1960s, she resumed her teaching career at the Wetz School. After her last child was born, she completed her Bachelor of Science in Education degree at Black Hills State University, graduating in 1968. She taught school in northeast Montana until her retirement in 1989. She had a lifelong love of learning.

After she and Harold retired, they spent their winters in Arizona and summers at their home in Nashua, MT. They could often be found camping and fishing at Fort Peck. She enjoyed tending to her garden, bowling, and spending time with family and friends. In 2006, the couple moved to Spearfish where she had resided since.

She was a member of Lions Club, South Dakota Education Association, Montana Education Association, Red Hat Society, garden club, Butte County Historical Society, and Nashua and Spearfish Senior Citizens. She loved to play cards and was always up for a game of pinochle. She was an avid reader, a talented painter, quilter and seamstress, and a skilled fisherman alongside her husband, children and grandchildren. She loved to cook and bake and always enjoyed feeding anyone who came to her door.

Sylvia, 93, of Spearfish, passed away Wednesday, December 26, 2018, in Rapid City, SD, surrounded by family after a brief illness.

She is survived by her children, Norman (Gloria) Wetz, Glendale, AZ, Kenneth (Donna) Wetz, Newell, SD, Beth (Bill) Kelley, Great Falls, MT, Roger (Carol) Wetz, Billings, MT, Linda (Phillip) Dutton, Pauls Valley, OK, Paul (Vicky) Wetz, Glasgow, MT, and April (Roy) Baker, Vaughn, MT; 18 grandchildren; 36 great-grandchildren; and three great-great-grandchildren; siblings, Perry Dobyns, WY, and Mary (Nelson) Dillingham, KS; brothers-in-law, Jim (May) Wetz, CO, and Darrell (Dorothy) Wetz, MT; sister-in-law, Helen Seitz, WA; and numerous nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her husband of 70 years, Harold Wetz; her parents, Clem and Edna Dobyns; siblings, Betty, Leonard, Dorothy, Hazel, and Gerald; and grandson, Doug Kelley.

A memorial has been established for the preservation of the Wetz School.

Condolences can be left at www.kinkadefunerals.com.



In Loving Memory Of



Sylvia Bernice Wetz

1925 ~ 2018

The family would like to invite you to join them for fellowship and lunch following the service in the church hall. We thank you for your presence and condolences.



I'm Free

Don't grieve for me, for now I'm free
I'm following the path God has laid you see.
I took His hand when I heard His call
I turned my back and left it all.

I could not stay another day
To laugh, to love, to work or play.
Tasks left undone must stay that way
I found the peace at the close of day.

If my parting has left a void
Then fill it with remembered joys - -
A friendship shared, a laugh, a kiss
Oh yes, these things I too will miss.

Be not burdened with times of sorrow.
I wish you the sunshine of tomorrow.
My life's been full, I savored much,
Good friends, good times, a loved one's touch.

Perhaps my time seemed all too brief - -
Don't lengthen it now with undue grief.
Lift up your hearts, and peace to thee - -
God wanted me now: He set me free.



In Loving Memory Of **Sylvia Bernice Wetz**

Born

August 17, 1925
Oshkosh, Nebraska

Died

December 26, 2018
Rapid City, South Dakota

Memorial Service

Saturday, December 29, 2018, at 10:30 a.m.
United Methodist Church
Spearfish, South Dakota

Officiating

Pastor Scott McKirdy

Accompanist

Colleen McKirdy

Soloist

Kevin Nakajima

Musical Selections

"Amazing Grace" "How Great Thou Art"
"The Lord's Prayer"

Pallbearers

Jade Canen ~ Kevin Wetz ~ Skylar Dutton
John Curtiss ~ Dean Kelley ~ Jesse Wetz ~ Angela Wetz

Inurnment

Vale Cemetery
Vale, South Dakota