

Togetherness

Death is nothing at all. I have only slipped away into the next room.

Whatever we were to each other, we still are. Call me by my old familiar name. Speak to me in the same easy way you always have. Laugh as we always laughed at the little jokes we enjoyed together. Play, smile, think of me, pray for me.

Life means all that it ever meant. It is the same as it always was. There is absolute unbroken continuity. Why should I be out of your mind because I am out of your sight? I am but waiting for you, for an interval, somewhere very near, just around the corner.

All is well. Nothing is past. Nothing has been lost. One brief moment and all will be as it was before—only better. Infinitely happier. We will be one, together forever.

In Loving Memory of
Betty Kindopp

February 3, 1925 ~ August 18, 2025

Funeral Service

*Zion Lutheran Church
Chamberlain, SD*

1:00 p.m., Saturday, August 23, 2025

Officiating

Pastor Tom Mueller

Music

Mel Hargens ~ Pianist

Casketbearers

Keith Reuer

Rod Reuer

Darrel Reuer

Larry Kindopp

Rick Norton

Forrest Norton

Interment

*Riverview Cemetery
Chamberlain, SD*

Everyone is invited for refreshments and fellowship back at the church following the committal services.

Arrangements By: *Hickey Funeral Home, Chamberlain, SD*

Betty Jane Norton was born in Reliance, South Dakota, on February 3, 1925, to Herbert and Hazel Norton. She grew up in Reliance, attending both grade school and high school there, and graduated with the class of 1943.

On June 19, 1944, Betty married Gustaf "Gus" Kindopp in Armour, South Dakota. Just days after their wedding, Gus left to serve with the U.S. Army. When he returned from his service in June of 1946, the two settled in the Reliance area and began farming together. In 1960, they purchased a farm north of Chamberlain, where they raised their family and built a life filled with hard work, love, and community.

Betty was not only a devoted farm wife but also worked in town. She managed the Montgomery Ward's Catalog Store for 21 years, where she was known for her warm smile and the many friendships she made. She later worked at Chamberlain Livestock for several years.

After Gus' untimely passing in 1988, Betty remained on the farm for nearly three decades. Even after suffering a serious stroke in 2014, she showed remarkable strength and determination by continuing to live there until moving to Regency Assisted Living in Chamberlain in November of 2016.

Faith and community were always important to Betty. She was a longtime member of Zion Lutheran Church and the LWML, and she enjoyed time spent with the West Point Community Club and her many neighbors. Betty was a volunteer for the American Cancer Society for many years. She loved to read, write the occasional poem, and play dominoes. A gifted seamstress, Betty created countless beautiful quilts, which remain treasured keepsakes for her children and grandchildren. A favorite pastime was dancing with Gus on Saturday nights, a joy that reflected the deep love they shared.

Betty's greatest joy came from her family. Grateful for sharing her life are her daughters, Judy Brownell of Chamberlain, Carol Stanton and Melva Lynn Kindopp, both of Rapid City; her brother, Ray Norton of Reliance; her grandchildren Lee, Scott, and Todd Brownell, Jamie and Dana Stanton, and Michelle Andersen; along with many great-grandchildren and great-great-grandchildren; and the many much-loved in-laws and dear friends who touched her life over her 100 amazing years.

She was preceded in death by her beloved husband, Gus; sons-in-law Duane Stanton and Tom Hanssen; honorary son-in-law, Larry Saukerson; her parents, Herbert and Hazel Norton; her brothers, Forrest, Gene, and Jack Norton; her sister, Shirley Baer; and her grandparents, Clyde and Ethel Norton, and Clyde and Olive Shoemaker.

Betty's life was one of love, resilience, and quiet strength. She will be deeply missed by all who knew her.



In Loving Memory Of

Betty Jane Kindopp

1925 ~ 2025