

Remembering the Life....

Marlas Cellestine (Johansen) Schmidt was born to Jens and Alfreda (Anderson) Johansen on May 23, 1934. Marlas was baptized at Sverdrup Lutheran Church in Underwood, MN on July 3, 1934 and confirmed at Sverdrup Lutheran Church on May 16, 1948. Marlas graduated from Underwood High School on May 29, 1952. She then worked for Victor Lundeen's in Fergus Falls while living with her sister Jeanette.

Marlas met Arnold W. Schmidt in August 1958 on a blind date. They were married on March 15, 1959, at Sverdrup Lutheran Church. Following a honeymoon to Colorado, they lived on the Schmidt family farm northwest of Fergus Falls. They were blessed with five children, Matthew, Mark, Randy, Neal, and Amy and over 52 years of marriage.

Marlas was a devoted farmer's wife and helped Arnold with chores while also cooking, baking, making jams and jellies, canning and freezing fruits and vegetables grown in her own garden or purchased by the carton. Marlas started working for the Otter Tail County Human Services Department in 1986 and retired in 2008.

Marlas was a member of Bethel Lutheran Church in Fergus Falls and spent many years as a Sunday School teacher and served on various Women's Ministry Fellowship groups. For several years, she stuffed the weekly bulletins for the church, missionary letters for the Lutheran Brethren International Mission organization and made apple crisps for the Bethel Food Ministry program. She enjoyed the monthly Primetimer's gatherings at Bethel and the monthly women's group meetings held at the YMCA. Every morning, she would listen to The Morning Watch on the radio and read the Our Daily Bread devotional.

Marlas was a member of the Otter Tail County Historical Society and spent many hours in their library doing genealogical research on both her and Arnold's family. She also enjoyed reading the newspaper, doing crossword puzzles, crocheting, and watching Minnesota Twins games. Holidays and special events of her grandchildren were important to her, and she enjoyed traveling to Colorado, Wisconsin or Litchfield or hosting a gathering at her home to celebrate them.

Marlas went to be with her Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ on April 19, 2025 at 90 years of age with her family by her side.

Marlas is survived by children, Mark (Jane) Schmidt, and their children: Sarah, Rebecca (fiancé Chris James), Levi, and Grace of Darwin, MN; Randy (Heather) Schmidt of Duluth, MN; Neal (Shari) Schmidt, and their children: Austin and Ethan Mahrer and Kyler Schmidt of Fergus Falls, MN; Amy (Robert) Socha of Fergus Falls, MN; daughter-in-law, Sally Schmidt of West Bend, WI and her children, Christina and Peter; great-grandsons: Preston and Zealand Mahrer; along with several nieces and nephews.

Marlas was preceded in death by her husband, Arnold; son, Matthew Schmidt; parents, Jens and Alfreda Johansen; sister and brother-in-law Jeanette and LaVern Berg; sister and brother-in-law Hazel and Orris Torgrimson; nephew Todd Torgrimson; nephew Rickie Johansen; sister-in-law Laura (Ervin) Fanselau; sister-in-law Florence (Harold "Pat") Hanneman; brother-in-law Harold Schmidt.

Blessed be the Memory of Marlas

Celebrating the life of



Marlas Schmidt

In Loving Memory Of
Marlas Schmidt

May 23, 1934 ~ April 19, 2025

Funeral Service

Monday, April 28, 2025 at 11:00am
Bethel Lutheran Church
Fergus Falls, Minnesota

Officiating

Pastor Dave Foss
Pastor Rich Iverson

Music

Peggy Talsness, organist
Cornell Svaren, pianist
Caleb Larson, soloist
“*The King Is Coming*”

Congregational Hymns

“*My Hope Is Built On Nothing Less*”
“*Near The Cross*”
“*I Know That My Redeemer Lives*”

Casketbearers

Mark Schmidt, Jane Schmidt, Randy Schmidt, Heather Schmidt, Neal Schmidt, Shari Schmidt, Amy Socha, Rob Socha

Honorary Casketbearers

Sally Schmidt, Christina Waala, Peter Schmidt, Sarah Schmidt, Rebecca Schmidt, Levi Schmidt, Grace Schmidt, Austin Mahrer, Ethan Mahrer, Kyler Schmidt, Preston Mahrer, Zealand Mahrer

Interment

Oak Grove Cemetery
Fergus Falls, Minnesota

Appreciation

Marlas’s family is grateful for your attendance at this service. Your many expressions of kindness and love are deeply appreciated. Please join family and friends for lunch and fellowship following the service.

*Beyond the rainbow’s farthest end, there lies
A land that’s always filled with love and light.
Where shadows never fall and dim the skies;
For in this lovely land, there is no night.
In this celestial place of joy and peace,
There is no time or space, no doubt or fear;
For those who come to it, all troubles cease.
All worldly difficulties disappear.*

*And though the loss of loved ones or of friends
Brings sorrows and is hard for us to bear:
If we could see beyond the rainbow’s end
We know that we could find them waiting there
In that celestial dwelling place above—
The land of peace and joy, of light and love.*

Glende-Nilson Funeral Home ~ Fergus Falls