



Jean Audrey Den Herder was born on July 9, 1938, to Nels Oliver and Irene L. Swenson. She grew up near Garretson and graduated from Garretson High School. On August 6, 1958, she married Kenneth “Skeeter” Den Herder at Palisade Lutheran Church outside of Garretson. They lived in Valley Springs where Jean was

bookkeeper for the Valley Springs Farmers Coop for over 33 years. She retired in 2008. Skeeter passed away on July 21, 1990.

Jean enjoyed spending time at the family cabin on Big Stone Lake. She traveled to Hawaii and North Carolina and loved spending her winters in Arizona. She enjoyed dancing, visiting friends and family, and seeking out the closest lutefisk feed.

Jean passed away on Monday, March 9, 2026, at Avera McKennan Hospital in Sioux Falls, at the age of 87.

Jean is survived by her children: Tim Den Herder, Tammy Den Herder, and Troy Den Herder, all of Valley Springs; grandchildren: Sadie (Keith) Den Herder Elsberry, Garretson, Loraea (Randy) Krull, Beaver Creek, Larissa (Jordan) Walker, Sioux Falls, Trent Lunt, Sioux Falls, and Sony Swanson, Garretson; great grandchildren: Gavin and Owen Den Herder, Garretson; Aurora Walker, Sioux Falls, and Alyssa, Tamie Kay, Rilynn, and Gracelyn Krull, Beaver Creek; sister, Marleen Swenson, Madison; and many other relatives and friends. She was preceded in death by her parents; husband, Kenneth; grandson, Nathan Den Herder; and sisters, LaVonne Sorenson and Lorna Sunde; and her very special and cherished boyfriend for 14 years, Donald Van Bockern.

In Memory Of **Jean Audrey Den Herder**

July 9, 1938 † March 9, 2026

Funeral Service

1:00 PM

Wednesday, March 18, 2026

First Lutheran Church

Valley Springs, South Dakota

Officiating

Rev. Mark Eliason

Pianist

Ellen Aadland

Congregational Hymns

“Borning Cry”

“How Great Thou Art”

Special Music

“Go Rest High on That Mountain”

Vince Gill

Pallbearers

Sadie Den Herder
Larissa Walker
Gavin Den Herder

Loraea Krull
Sony Swanson
Owen Den Herder

Alyssa Krull

Interment

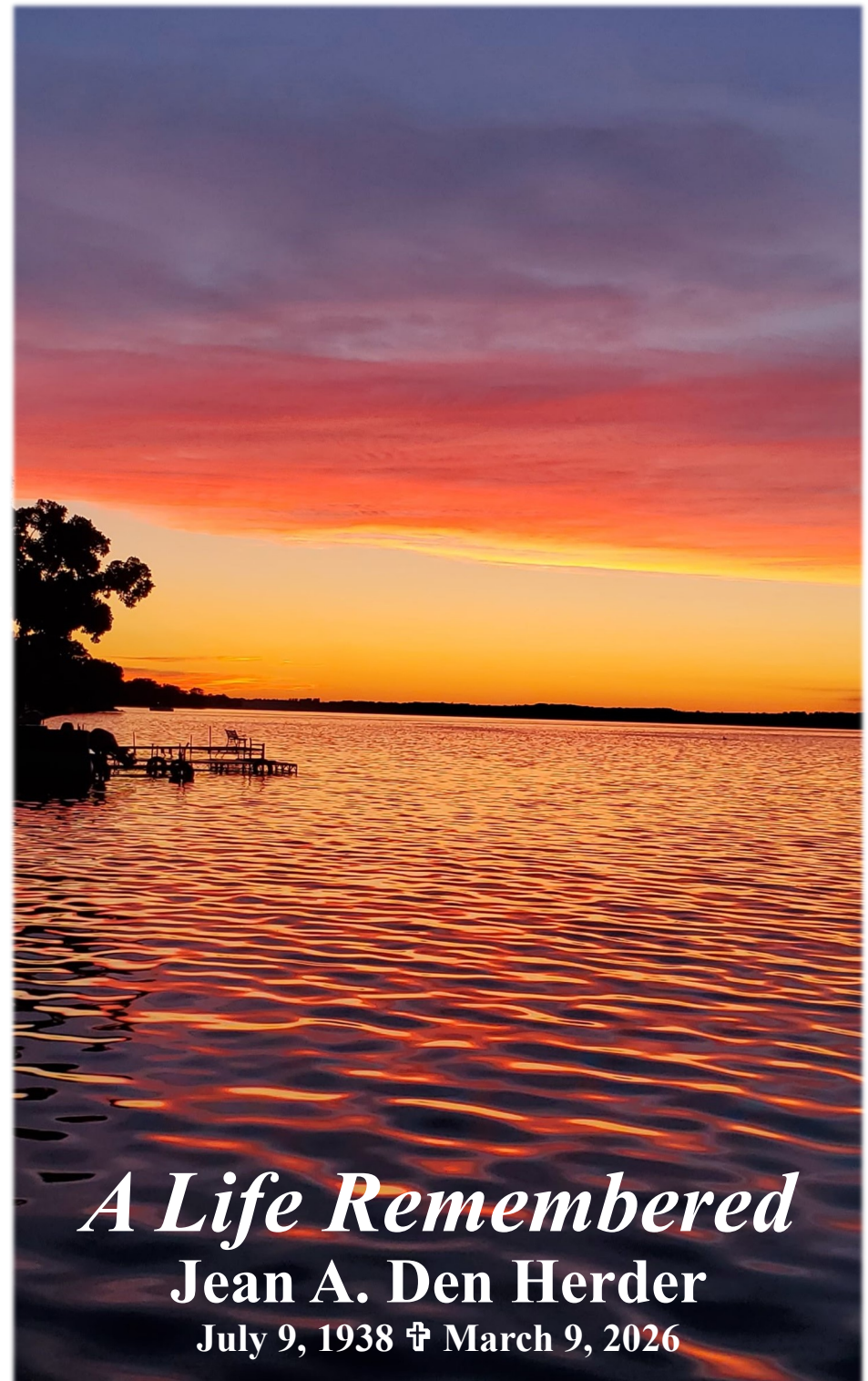
Pleasant View Cemetery
Valley Springs, South Dakota

"But as for me, I know that my Redeemer lives, and he will stand upon the earth at last. And after my body has decayed, yet in my body I will see God! I will see him for myself. Yes, I will see him with my own eyes. I am overwhelmed at the thought!"

-Job 19:25-27



 MINNEHAHA
FUNERAL HOME
& CREMATION SERVICES



A Life Remembered

Jean A. Den Herder

July 9, 1938 † March 9, 2026