

Claire Odegard, 98, Fargo, died Wednesday, October 7, 2026 at Bethany on University.

She was born December 3, 1927 near Glenburn, ND, the daughter of Albert and Minnie Boettger. She lived there until 1946 when the family moved to Hankinson, ND, then moved to Fergus Falls, MN in 1947. She lived there until 1952, worked for Northwestern Bell, and transferred to Fargo, ND in 1954. Claire married Raymond Odegard on July 14, 1955. The couple made their home in Fargo, ND, raising three sons.

She enjoyed gardening, canning, and quilting with women from Grace Lutheran Church for Lutheran World Relief.

She is survived by three sons, Merle (Nancy) Odegard, Fargo, ND, Jerry Odegard, Fort Lauderdale, FL, Steven (Jacqueline) Odegard, Vergas, MN; five grandchildren, Ashley (Spencer) Richter, Fargo, ND, Andrew (Kayla) Odegard, Moorhead, MN, Emily Odegard, West Fargo, ND, Kelsey Odegard, Minneapolis, MN, Joshua (McKenzie) Odegard, East Grand Forks, MN; five great grandchildren, Isla, Stellan, Tilden, Ivy, and Winter.



In Loving Memory



Claire Selma Odegard

December 3, 1927 – October 7, 2026

*For Those I Love;
For Those Who Love Me...*

When I am gone, release me, let me go...

I have so many things to see and do.

You mustn't tie yourself to me with tears.

Be happy that we had so many years.

I gave you my love; You can only guess how
much you gave me in happiness.

I thank you for the love you all have shown.

But now it's time I traveled alone!

So grieve a while for me, if grieve you must,
Then... let your grief be comforted by trust.

It's only for a while that we must part

So, bless the memories within your heart.

So, if you need me, call and I will come.

Though you can't see or touch me, I'll be near.

And if you listen with your heart, you'll hear
all of my love around you, soft and clear.

And then, when you must come this way alone...

I'll greet you with a smile and "Welcome Home!"

-- Author Unknown

Remembering

Claire Odegard

December 3, 1927 – October 7, 2026



Funeral Service

Tuesday, October 13, 2026 – 2:00 PM

Grace Lutheran Church

Fargo, North Dakota

Rev. Michael Suelzle, *Officiant*

Sharon Smelzer, *Organist*

Congregational Hymns

"What a Friend We Have in Jesus" #770

"Amazing Grace" #744

"Children of the Heavenly Father" #725

"How Great Thou Art" #801

Burial

Riverside Cemetery

Fargo, North Dakota

All are invited for refreshments following the service.