



A Beautiful Life

*A beautiful life that came to an end,
She died as she lived, everyone's friend.*

*In our hearts a memory will always be kept,
of one we loved, and will never forget.*

IN LOVING MEMORY OF

Shirley Neal O'Brien

WHO WAS BORN ON

September 20, 1931 - Royal, Iowa

CALLED TO HER ETERNAL HOME

April 3, 2023 - Milbank, South Dakota

MASS OF CHRISTIAN BURIAL

Wednesday, April 12, 2023 - 10:30 a.m.

St. Lawrence Catholic Church

Milbank, South Dakota

CELEBRANT

Father Gary DeRouchey

MUSICIANS

Bobbi Jo Meyer-Hanson, Pianist

St. Lawrence Funeral Choir

CASKET BEARERS

Christian Karels | Logan Karels | Noble Karels

Jacob O'Brien | Kylie Mielitz | Sammi Hamman

Zachary Christiansen | Lane O'Brien

HONORARY BEARERS

Catholic Daughters of America

St. William's and Whetstone Ins. Cancer Team

INTERMENT

St. Lawrence Cemetery

Milbank, South Dakota

APPRECIATION

Shirley's family is grateful for your attendance at this service.

Your many expressions of kindness and love are deeply appreciated. Following the graveside service, please join the family for food and fellowship in the church dining room.

Mundwiler Funeral Home - Milbank, South Dakota

Shirley Neal O'Brien was born on September 20, 1931, in Royal, Iowa. She was the daughter of Lamar and Ruth (Shuck) Englert. One of twelve children, Shirley grew up on a farm near Royal and attended school in Royal.

Shirley was united in marriage with James O'Brien on January 25, 1951. The couple farmed together in Spencer, IA, Hartley, IA, and Milbank, SD. She was a member of St. Lawrence Catholic Church and a faithful member of Catholic Daughters. She was a dedicated employee at St. William's Care Center for 27 years. She worked as a housekeeper and later moved to head of housekeeping. She loved her job and loved the sisters and residents.

She enjoyed playing cards, solitaire, made beautiful jean quilts, collected recipes, was an avid reader, liked putting puzzles together, and patching jeans for family. She loved attending her children's and grandchildren's events. Shirley was recognized by Modern Woodmen of America for her countless hours of service, as she sat at the front desk of St. William's Care Center as a greeter. She was a faithful team member of St. William's and Whetstone Insurance Company Cancer Walk Team for It Only Takes A Spark for 27 years. She enjoyed mowing her own lawn on her riding lawn mower. She had a big garden and enjoyed canning her harvest.

Left to cherish her memory are her children: Dan (Dana) O'Brien of Tomball, TX; Mike (Lisa) O'Brien of Watertown, SD; Joel (Annie) O'Brien of Milbank, SD; and Shari (Paul) Karels of Milbank, SD; nine grandchildren; nine great-grandchildren; siblings: Dorothy Gray of Romulus, MI; Aurie Urban of Tucson, AZ; Helen Burton of Phoenix, AZ; Patti Hobaica of Phoenix, AZ; Marge (Jim) Barglof of Spencer, IA; Karen Bentley of Phoenix, AZ; Ron (Jan) Englert of Spencer, IA; and Rich (Judy) Englert of Everly, IA. She was preceded in death by her parents: Lamar and Ruth; husband, James; siblings: Bernard Englert, Charles Englert, and Gene Brugman.

Celebrating THE *Life* OF



Shirley O'Brien
1931 - 2023