

Our beloved mother and grandmother, Darlene Ann Noecker, passed away peacefully at SMP Health-St. Raphael on July 7th, 2026, at the age of 81, surrounded by her family. Born on April 21, 1945, in Sanborn, she was the middle child of three siblings and was the heart of her family, raising three daughters with love and dedication. She was known for her warm smile and her caring heart.

Darlene grew up on the family farm and attended Sanborn High School, where she was active in basketball, cheerleading, and band, graduating in 1963. She married Ronald Noecker, and they lived on a farm near Sanborn, where they raised their children. Later, Darlene moved to Valley City, where she worked as a receiving manager in retail for over 30 years.

Darlene loved gardening, crafts, dancing, bowling, camping, and snowmobiling, in which she was a member of the Sheyenne Sno Drifters snowmobiling club. She was a wonderful and caring person to all her family and friends. Her home was a place where everyone felt welcome, and her laugh would make everyone smile.

She is survived by her daughters, Sheila (Gerson) Echeverry, Ronda (Neil) Amann, Georgia (Brian) Welken; grandchildren, Riley (Ashley) Adams, Caden Amann, Amelia Echeverry, Santiago Echeverry, Gavin Welken, and Halle Welken; great grandchildren, Oaklyn and Peyton Adams; brother, Gerald (Karen) Wendel; sister Kathy Carlson; along with many nieces, nephews, and cousins. She was preceded in death by her parents, Wilfred and Alice (Gill) Wendel.



IN LOVING MEMORY

Darlene Ann Noecker

APRIL 21, 1945 ~ JULY 7, 2026

No Goodbyes

*Oh Father, can you hear me? I'm sending a prayer your way,
I'm clutching hard to my faith, as mom taught me, as she draws closer to you each day.*

I talk to her in whispers, and I hope she hears me pray,

I hope you send an angel to guide her towards your way.

*I continue to tell her I love her and thank her for all the sacrifices she has made
And for the unconditional love, no matter what kind of behavior I displayed.*

Mom, can you hear me? I have so much more to say.

*I will continue with your legacy. I hope I can be as strong as you one day.
You taught me the importance of family. I have learned from the very best.*

Don't you worry yourself now, Mom, you keep yourself at rest.

I'm sorry if I'm selfish. I'm not ready to let go of your hand.

I'm trying to remember the message from "Footprints In The Sand."

Dear Mom, can you please wake up? I have not heard your voice today.

I promise I would sit and listen to everything you want to say.

I know you are getting weary. You are ready to go home.

I imagine you are dreaming of your Savior sitting upon his throne.

I hope you take my love with you, as tears fall on your cheek.

Dear God, please carry me through this, I'm feeling very weak.

Dear Mom, I'm very thankful for all the years we've had.

I'm trying to remember you laughing so I will not stay so very sad.

Through the rest of my life, I will carry all your love with me.

I promise I will be the best mom, grandmother and person that I can possibly be.

God must think your time is almost done here. I feel you going away,

I love you, Mom. No goodbyes. I will see you again one day.

Poem by ~ Annette R. Hershey

FUNERAL MASS

Tuesday, July 14, 2026 ~ 10:30 a.m.

St. Catherine Catholic Church

Valley City, North Dakota

CELEBRANT

Father Brian Bachmeier

Deacon James McAllister

MUSIC

Susan Kohler ~ Organist

Dan Klein ~ Cantor

PALLBEARERS

Riley Adams ~ Santiago Echeverry ~ Caden Amann

Gavin Welken ~ Todd Wendel ~ Brad Carlson

HONORARY PALLBEARERS

Amelia Echeverry and Halle Welken

BURIAL

Sacred Heart Cemetery

Sanborn, North Dakota

