



God's Garden

God looked around His garden, and He found an empty place. He then looked down upon this earth, and saw your tired face. He put His arms around you, and lifted you to rest; God's garden must be beautiful, He takes only the best. He knew that you were suffering, He knew you were in pain, He knew that you would never get well on earth again. So He closed your weary eyelids, and whispered "Peace be thine." It broke our hearts to lose you but you did not go alone; for part of us went with you, the day God called you home.



In Loving Memory of

Vivien R. Gillings

October 3, 1936 ~ September 3, 2025

Scripture Service

St. James Catholic Church, Chamberlain, SD
7:00 p.m., Monday, September 8, 2025

Funeral Service

St. James Catholic Church, Chamberlain, SD
10:00 a.m., Tuesday, September 9, 2025

Officiating

Father Richard Fox

Deacon Maurice Barrett

Music

Brenda Smith ~ Pianist

Matt Schroeder ~ Cantor

St. James Choir

Casketbearers

Vivien's Family & Friends

Interment

Riverview Cemetery, Chamberlain, SD

Family invites everyone for lunch & fellowship back at the church following the committal services.

Arrangements By: Hickey Funeral Home, Chamberlain, SD



Vivien R. Gillings, 88, of Chamberlain, South Dakota, passed away peacefully on September 3, 2025 at Sanford Medical Center in Chamberlain.

Born to Arthur and Carmen (Banks) Hodgin, on October 3, 1936, in Reliance, SD, Vivien lived a life filled with love, laughter, and devoted service to her family and community. After graduating from high school in 1954, she earned her teacher's certificate from Presentation College and began her

career teaching in Lyman County, where she later met her beloved husband, Belvin. They married in 1958 and together built a warm, welcoming home. After living in Chamberlain for two years they moved to Academy where they farmed and made their home until Belvin's death in 2020. Vivien then moved to Regency Retirement Assisted Living in Chamberlain in the spring of 2021.

Vivien's talents were many: she was an excellent gardener, canning the bounty of her harvest each year, a remarkable cook who hosted countless holiday meals, and a gifted artist whose beautifully crafted birdhouses reflected her creativity. Her humor and lightheartedness shone through in every situation, even in her final days, bringing smiles to visitors and hospital staff alike.

A devoted member of St. James Catholic Church, Vivien's faith was central to her life.

She is survived by her son Tim and daughter Joyce, her brother Theron Hodgin, and lovingly remembered by all who knew her.

She was preceded in death by her parents, husband Belvin, twin infant daughters Tina and Tiffany, infant son Andrew, and eight siblings.

Vivien's legacy of kindness, hospitality, and joy will live on in all whose lives she touched.



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