

I'd like the memory of me
To be a happy one,
I'd like to leave

an afterglow of
smiles
when life is done.

I'd like to leave an echo
Whispering softly down the ways,
Of happy times and laughing times
And bright & sunny days.

I'd like the tears of those who grieve,
To dry before the sun
Of *happy memories*
that I leave behind
When life is done.

Arrangements By
HARTQUIST FUNERAL HOME

IN LOVING
Memory



Gerdena Van Eck

July 1, 1935 - May 21, 2025

Gerdena Mae Van Eck was born on July 1, 1935 to Albert and Jenny Schelhaas (Beckering) at home on the family farm in Pipestone County near Edgerton, Minnesota where she was raised and attended Edgerton Christian School. She was baptized as an infant at the Christian Reformed Church in Edgerton and confirmed there in 1952. She was united in marriage on September 29, 1953 to John Van Eck at Edgerton Christian Reformed Church in Edgerton. Following their marriage, they moved several times, always remaining in the Ruthton, Minnesota area. In 1981, Gerdena and John moved to an acreage south of Ruthton on highway 23. In 2009, after retiring, they moved to a townhome in Pipestone, Minnesota. John preceded her in death on April 7, 2014. After his death, she remained in their home.

Gerdena was a member of the Christian Reformed Church in Holland/Pipestone where she was a circle member. She enjoyed gardening, puzzles, quilting, reading, sewing and crocheting. She loved playing dominoes, fishing and vacationing. She especially enjoyed her winters in Texas, but most of all her Sunday afternoon rides with her son, Larry. Gerdena passed away peacefully on Wednesday, May 21, 2025, at the Edgebrook Care Center in Edgerton, at the age of 89 years, 10 months and 20 days.

She is lovingly remembered by her children, Gary Van Eck of Ruthton, Minnesota, Larry Van Eck of Ruthton, Judy (Brad) Bowen of Pipestone, Minnesota, Lori (Harv) Dragstra of Edgerton, Minnesota, Sharon (Fritz) Morgan of Shakopee, Minnesota and Kathy (David) Anderson of Plano, Texas; 18 grandchildren; 27 great-grandchildren; one brother, Rolland (Grace) Schelhaas of Edgerton; and one sister, Barbara Nykamp of Edgerton. Gerdena was preceded in death by her husband, John; her parents; one infant brother, Alvin; and one brother, Leroy.

IN LOVING
Memory
Gerdena Van Eck
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Funeral Service

Saturday, May 24, 2025 - 10:30 AM
Christian Reformed Church
Pipestone, Minnesota

Officiating - Rev. Stephen Wynja

Scripture Readings

I Peter 1:13-25
Romans 8: 28-39

Accompanist - Steve Weets

Congregational Hymns

"How Great Thou Art" - Hymn 37
"Jesus Paid It All" - Insert
"The Old Rugged Cross" - Insert

Honorary Casket Bearers

Amanda Kehoe	Heather Brinkmeyer
Amy Robinson	Holly Vos
Callie Van Eck	Haley Morgan
Hannah Morgan	Rachel Morgan
Amber Morgan	Lili Shearer
Deegan Shearer	Jack Shearer
Haden Anderson	Sloan Anderson

Casket Bearers

Kirk Dragstra	Justin Dragstra
Matt Van Eck	Chris Kehoe
Cory Robenson	Dan Vos
Kyle Thomsen	

Interment

Holland Cemetery - Holland, Minnesota