

I'm Free

Don't grieve for me, for now I'm free.
I'm following the path God has laid you see.
I took His hand when I heard Him call,
I turned my back and left it all.

I could not stay another day,
To laugh, to love, to work or play.
Tasks left undone must stay that way.
I found that peace at the close of the day.

If my parting has left a void,
Then fill it with remembered joy.
A friendship shared, a laugh, a kiss.
Oh yes, these things I too will miss.

Be not burdened with times of sorrow,
I wish you the sunshine tomorrow.
My life's been full, I savored much,
Good friends, good times, a loved one's touch.

Perhaps my time seemed all too brief.
Don't lengthen it now with undue grief.
Lift up your hearts and peace to thee.
God wanted me now; He set me free!

Author unknown



Life is changed...
not taken away.





Nila Schiefen was born in Geddes, South Dakota on September 24, 1929, to Oscar B. Gibson and Esther Paulson Gibson. At the age of 5, she moved with her parents to the rural Hudson, South Dakota area. Nila attended several one room rural school houses in the Hudson and Beresford area. She ultimately graduated from Alcester High School in 1947.

On March 31, 1948, Nila was united in marriage to John Lawrence Schiefen at St. Mary's Catholic Church. Together they lived on the Schiefen farm 3 miles west of Hawarden for 28 years before moving into Hawarden in 1976.

Nila enjoyed time spent with friends, dancing, and jigsaw puzzles. Nila could also be found volunteering at Hillcrest Care Center. Nila attended St. Mary's Church for 48 years before joining American Lutheran in August of 1996. Above all else, time with family provided many cherished memories. Nila passed away on Saturday, January 31, 2026 at the Hillcrest Health Care Services in Hawarden at the age of 96.

Nila is survived by her sons, Eugene and Susie Schiefen of Primghar, Iowa, Robert Schiefen of Newton, Iowa, and Duane and Theresa Schiefen of Hawarden, Iowa; daughters, Linda and David Hicks of West Lake, Louisiana, Sharon and Bruce Eich of Madison, South Dakota, and Mary Schiefen (special friend, Rod Erikson) of Juneau, Alaska; 19 grandchildren; and 27 great-grandchildren.

Nila was preceded in death by her parents; husband, J. Lawrence; son, Roger Schiefen; sister, Delores Gibson; great-grandson, Jase Hicks; and great-granddaughter, Reina Eich.

In Memory Of
Nila LaVonne Schiefen

FUNERAL SERVICE

1:00 p.m. Saturday, February 7, 2026

Porter Funeral Home
Hawarden, Iowa

OFFICIATING

Pastor Carolyn Salberg

SOLOIST

Tori Mendez

"One Day At A Time"

"Hallelujah"

INURNMENT

At a later date

Grace Hill Cemetery
Hawarden, Iowa

Please join Nila's family at Central Café
for fellowship and refreshments
following the funeral service.