

Geraldine “Gerry” Theresa Day was born in Hawarden, Iowa on March 17, 1939, to Louis and Ila Kemner. Gerry grew up on their farm near Hawarden helping with all the farm chores. She was surrounded by family, laughter, and all the simple joys she cherished most.

Gerry married Melvin Driver, who was a military man, at the age of 18. Together they traveled around the country and overseas as they raised their four children: Jackie McMillan, Corwin Driver, Vicki Mason, and Thomas Driver. She spent many of her retirement years doing the things she loved with her dear friend Rozy.

She was known for her warm heart, and the way she brought everyone together, especially around the holidays, where her famous mashed potatoes were loved by everyone. A woman of many talents, Gerry found great joy in traveling, country dancing, making quilts, and reading novels. Gerry was an avid reader, easily reading two or three books a week sometimes. She continued to read right up until she passed.

She loved country music and Elvis Presley. One of her favorite songs was Love me tender...love me true, all my dreams fulfilled...

Gerry left a mark on everyone who knew her. She was blessed with seven grandchildren and fifteen great-grandchildren, all of whom adored their “Grandma Day”. They will carry her spirit forward in their hearts. Her family and friends will remember her as a devoted mother, grandmother, and great-grandmother, whose warmth and love stitched their family together as beautifully as one of her quilts.

Gerry, to everyone’s surprise, even changed her feelings about dogs when she met Daisy, Vicki’s Sheepa-doodle. They came to be fast friends and companions. She came to let Daisy lick her hands and even a kiss on her face sometimes. Daisy visited her at Brookstone Manor almost every day giving her great comfort. Gerry passed away peacefully on October 27, 2025, at the age of 86.

Gerry is survived by her sisters, Carol Bolluyt, and Linda (John) Higgins; children, Jackie McMillan, Corwin (LaVonda) Driver, Vicki Mason and Thomas Driver; grandchildren, Katherine Feltman (Jon), Nicholas Moothart (Haley), Anthony Gambaiana (Kim), Joseph Gambaiana (Erin), Julia McGuigan (Matt), and Tamara Driver; and 15 great grandchildren, Charlie, Chance, Lou, Sam, Grace, Rocco, Lennon, Shawn, Leo, Addisyn, Boomer, Birdie, Ace, Kaydren and Keondre.

Gerry was preceded in death by her parents; special friend, LaVerle “Rozy” Rozell; brother, Stanley Kemner; brother-in-law, Dean Bolluyt; sons-in-law; Larry McMillan and Shawn Mason; and grandson, Brian Lynott.

Celebrating the Life of **Gerry Day**

March 17, 1939 ~ October 27, 2025

MEMORIAL SERVICE

11:00 AM, Saturday, November 1, 2025
American Lutheran Church ELCA
Hawarden, Iowa

OFFICIANT

Pastor Kandi Anderson

SPECIAL MUSIC

“Supermarket Flowers”

Matthew McGuigan, grandson-in-law

SPECIAL MESSAGES

John Higgins, brother-in-law
Tony Gambaiana, grandson

MUSICAL SELECTIONS

“Dancing in the Sky”

Dani and Lizzy

“How Great Thou Art”

Carrie Underwood (with Vince Gill)

“Take My Hand, Precious Lord”

Elvis Presley

INURNMENT

Grace Hill Cemetery
Hawarden, Iowa

Gerry’s family invites everyone to the church foyer following the committal service at the cemetery for a time of food and fellowship.

Our Grandma Taught Us

Written by: her grandchildren

Our grandma taught us that life is not measured by the tangible things you own, but rather the *love and kindness you share with others*. Our grandma focused on simply being present for us, rather than materialistic.

Our grandma taught all three of her granddaughters to be crafty. From helping us sew potholders to stitching quilts and embroidering flour sack dishtowels, she demonstrated that *good things take time and perseverance always pays off*.

Our grandma taught us the importance of letting those you love know that they are being thought of by sending personalized greeting cards in the mail. This reminds us *that a simple act of kindness can brighten someone's entire day*. Her cursive handwriting will always be remembered.

Our grandma taught us that *distance does make the heart grow fonder*. Our family spans many states, but regardless of where we each call home, we all knew how important it was to grandma for us to do our very best to attend our Driver Family Reunions. Our family bonds are precious and should be nurtured.

Our grandma taught us to *slow down our busy lives and take time to enjoy the outdoors*. We will always treasure the conversations we shared outside on her deck in Hawarden, while on the pontoon in Plattsmouth and while pushing her in her wheelchair outside at Brookstone. She reminded us to appreciate everyday moments and enjoy the simple pleasures of life.

Our grandma taught us to *enjoy taking time for ourselves*, whatever that means for each of us individually. She showed us this through her love of reading and always being perfectly content with quiet surroundings.

Our grandma taught us and encouraged us to *continually love and respect our sometimes-crazy parents* and now we are "trying" to do the same with our own children.

Our grandma taught us that *working hard is always the route to take* instead of waiting for luck to come your way. (despite her having a St. Patrick's Day birthday)

Our grandma taught us *not to say goodbye but rather see you later*. Goodbyes have a finality about them, so Gma Day, we will look forward to seeing you later!

In Loving Memory



Geraldine Theresa Day

March 17, 1939 ~ October 27, 2025

