

Charlotte Ann Gorres was born October 31, 1942, in Sleepy Eye, MN the daughter of Raymond and Viola (Lux) Strate. She grew up on the family farm and graduated from St. Mary's Catholic High School in 1960. She met Richard Gorres drag racing on the streets of Sanborn in her dad's 1957 Hudson Hornet. They married at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Sleepy Eye on August 4, 1962. They made their home in Wilmar and were blessed with five children, Cathy, Chrissy, Bobby, Paul and Carol. Charlotte was a stay-home mom for several years and worked weekend nights at the Willmar American Legion. She cooked alongside her mother-in-law Joyce Gorres, and they were well known for their good food and good service. After the kids were in school Charlotte worked alongside her husband Dick at Team Electronics in the Willmar Kandi Mall. He was the store manager, and she was a bookkeeper. When Team closed Charlotte went to work as the receptionist at Bethesda Heritage and later at Bethesda Pleasantview. Charlotte retired after 20+ years at Bethesda.

Dick and Char enjoyed traveling. They visited 48 states and Europe including Luxembourg where her grandparents came from. Char enjoyed sewing, knitting, gardening and canning. She loved all animals, especially her three birds Chickie, Petie and Fritzer. She enjoyed old time music and would get out her accordion to play polkas and waltzes. But mostly she enjoyed her grandkids and great grandkids. Dick and Char attended all of their concerts, ballgames, parades, etc. They loved hearing about their adventures and supported them in whatever they were doing. Char always had a twinkle in her eye and brought joy wherever she went. She liked to have a good time and would even instigate a little mischief once in a while. Dick and Char enjoyed 57-years of marriage before he passed in 2019. They were an example to everyone who knew them that marriage is a commitment with ups and downs but can and should be done with a smile.

Charlotte is survived by four children, Cathy (and Tom) Dahl of Kerkhoven, Bob Gorres of Cosmos, Paul Gorres of Willmar and Carol (and Eric) Tollefson of Sunburg; seven grandchildren, Brandin Dahl (and special friend, Madelyn Shugart), Austin Dahl, Tyler Smith (and special friend, Kayla Henderson), Jesse (and Michelle) Smith, Kailey Gorres (and special friend, Brandon Larson), Mitch (and Becca) Tollefson and Megan (and Will) Fournier; and six great-grandchildren Autumn, Payton and Paislee Smith, Axel and Cash Smith and Noah Tollefson. Also surviving is her brother, Lynn Strate of Bemidji, as well as many nieces, nephews and friends.

She was preceded in death by her parents; her husband, Richard in 2019; one daughter, Christine Ann Smith in 2016; and two brothers, Louis Strate and Chuck Strate.

# *Celebrating the Life of*



## *Charlotte Ann Gorres*

**1942 - 2025**

In Loving Memory Of

# Charlotte Ann Gorres

October 31, 1942  
Sleepy Eye, Minnesota

February 20, 2025  
Willmar, Minnesota

*Jesus said, "Let not your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me. In my Father's house are many rooms. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, that where I am you may be also. And you know the way to where I am going." Thomas said to him, "Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?" Jesus answered him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me."*

*"A little while longer and the world will see Me no more, but you will see Me. Because I live, you will live also."*

*-John 14:1-6, 19 (NKJV)*

*Peterson Brothers Funeral Home  
Celebrating A Life Remembered*

## Mass of Christian Burial

Monday, February 24, 2025 - 11:00 a.m.

Church of St. Mary  
Willmar, Minnesota

## Celebrant

Fr. Josh Bot

## Music

Pianist: Tim Cayler

Resurrection Choir

*Opening Song: Here I Am Lord*

*Psalm Responsorial: Psalm 23*

*Preparation of Gifts: In The Garden*

*Communion: Gentle Woman*

*Song of Farewell: The Old Hundredth*

*Closing Song: On Eagle's Wings*

## Honorary Casketbearers

Autumn Smith   Payton Smith   Paislee Smith  
Axel Smith   Cash Smith   Noah Tollefson

## Active Casketbearers

Tyler Smith   Jesse Smith   Mitchell Tollefson   Megan Fournier  
Kailey Gorres   Austin Dahl   Brandin Dahl

## Interment

St. Mary's Catholic Cemetery  
Willmar, Minnesota