

In Loving Memory of Mae Ann Donovan (née Loecker)

*Mae Ann Donovan (95), born on January 30, 1929, in Menominee, Nebraska, peacefully departed this life on April 29, 2024. She was the daughter of John and Anne Loecker. Born and raised on the family farm in Cedar County, Nebraska with her two brothers. She attended elementary school in her hometown and graduated from Mount Marty Academy in Yankton, South Dakota. Following her graduation, Mae worked as a secretary and bookkeeper. Mae married Richard (Dick) E Donovan on May 2, 1950, at St. Boniface Catholic Church in Menominee, Nebraska.*

*Mae is preceded in death by her husband, Dick, her 2 brothers Leander (Sylvia), Darold and daughter-in-law Vicki Donovan. She is survived by sister-in-law Geri Loecker and her eleven children: Tom Donovan (Powell, WY), Pam Frichtl (Chamberlain, SD), Rod Donovan (Laurie – Middlesex, NJ), Randy Donovan (Toni – Winner, SD), Clair Donovan (Jackie Jermolenko – Spearfish, SD), Mary Beth Church (Tony – Denver, CO), Theresa O'Grady (Peter - Cadillac, MI), Renee Cortright (Rick – Troy, MI), John Donovan (Amy – Chamberlain, SD), Chris Donovan (Sonya - Spearfish, SD), and Tony Donovan (Mindy - Chamberlain, SD). Additionally, Mae leaves behind 32 grandchildren, 36 great-grandchildren and 1 great-great-grandchild. This large family is Mae and Dick's legacy.*

*Mae and Dick's journey together started on the plains of South Dakota, where they dedicated nearly a decade to ranching in Miller before Dick transitioned to the auction business. They nurtured their growing family as they traversed South Dakota, living in Orient, Mitchell, and lastly Chamberlain. While Mae's primary role was that of a homemaker, she also lent her talents as a clerk and bookkeeper, supporting Dick's auction business in the sale barns of Mitchell and Chamberlain.*

*A woman of unwavering faith, Mae found solace and purpose in her active involvement with the Catholic Church community. She generously shared her time and talents, teaching CCD classes, participating in the St. James Altar Society, and advocating for Brule County Right to Life. Alongside Dick, she embraced the principles of support and recovery as active members of AA and Al-Anon, offering hope and guidance to those in need.*

*Mae's creative spirit found expression in her passion for painting, sewing clothes, quilting, embroidering gifts and the creation of memory and genealogy scrapbooks for each child and grandchild. She also enjoyed traveling to visit family and friends, which included several international trips. She particularly loved socializing with friends and family around the card and game table.*

*Rest peacefully, dear Mae, mother, mom, grandma, great-grandma and friend.*

**Rosary Service**

*St. James Catholic Church, Chamberlain, SD*

*7:00 p.m., Monday, May 6, 2024*

**Assisting ~ Dcn Jim Bregel**

**Music By: Randy Donovan**

**Processional:** On This Day O Beautiful Mother #703

**Rosary:** lead by Dcn Jim Bregel and Tom Donovan

**Memories of Mae:**

**Recessional:** We Shall Rise Again by Young #682

**Funeral Mass**

*St. James Catholic Church, Chamberlain, SD*

*10:00 a.m., Tuesday, May 7, 2024*

**Officiating ~ Father Richard Fox**

**Assisting ~ Dcn Maurice Barrett**

**Processional:** Be Not Afraid by Dufford #439

**First Reading:** Revelation 21:1-5a, 6b-7

**Psalm:** Psalm 23: The Lord is my Shepherd by Hart #757

**Second Reading:** Philippians 3:20-21

**Gospel Acc:** "Come to me, all you who labor and are burdened and I will give you rest, says the Lord" (Matt 11:28)

**Gospel:** Matthew 11:25-28

**Offertory:** Hail Mary/Gentle Woman by Landry #707

**Mass setting:** Mass of Renewal by Stephan #879-884

**Communion:** Lord You Have Come to the Seashore by Gabarain

**2nd Communion:** Ave Maria by Schubert

**Song of Farewell:** Receive her soul and present her to God the Most High

**Recessional:** City of God by Schutte #391

**Lectors**

*Rod Donovan*

*John Donovan*

**Altar Servers**

*Xavier Donovan*

*Zoe Donovan*

**Gift Bearers**

*Sawyer Donovan*

*Eli Donovan*

*Cain Donovan*

**Music**

*Randy Donovan*

*Mary Beth Church*

*Robyn Knecht*

**Casketbearers**

**Mae's Sons**

*Tom, Rod, Randy, Clair, John, Chris & Tony Donovan*

**Interment**

*Riverview Cemetery, Chamberlain, SD*

Everyone is invited for lunch & fellowship  
in the church community center following the committal service.

**Arrangements By:** Hickey Funeral Home, Chamberlain, SD

## *Mae-isms*

"I'm fit as a fiddle and I lie a little"

"You look spiffy-iffy"

"The Lord works in mysterious ways"

"If I was in there it would be cruelty to animals"

"Keep it simple"

"If it's meant to be, it's meant to be"

"It is what it is."

"You are you so let it be"

"It's a lot of water under the bridge"

"It's the schizzle-fits"

"That's just asinine"

"Dummkopf" (German for dumbbell)

"If you don't know how to spell it look it up in the dictionary"

"I wish there was a magic answer"

"The Lord works in your favor"

"If you're going to do something, do it right"

"When there's a will there's a way"

"Offer it up for the poor souls in Purgatory"

"See you later alligator"

"Well that's that!"



*God, Grant me the  
Serenity*

To accept the things I cannot change

*Courage*

To change the things I can

*and*

*Wisdom*

To know the difference



*In Loving Memory of*

*Mae Ann Donovan*

*January 30, 1929 ~ April 29, 2024*