

Roberta B. Freeman, 86, of Sturgis, South Dakota, passed away on April 5, 2023, at Rapid City Monument Health, Rapid City, SD.

Roberta was born in Lead, SD, May 19, 1936, to Benjamin and Florence (Warren) Bauer in their home on Terraville Avenue. The family moved many times and she ended up going to school in Lead and Rapid City, SD. While going to high school in Rapid City she met William (Corky) Bausch and they were married in 1951. While in Rapid City four children were born; Linda Newland, Larry Bausch, Robert William (Bill) Bausch, and Kay Marie Grant. The family moved to Sturgis in 1963. Roberta worked as a waitress at Philtown in Sturgis and at the Sturgis Community Nursing Home. In 1965 she went to work at the Fort Meade VA Hospital in the Dietary Department, serving our veterans there until 1980. Her marriage to Corky Bausch ended in 1979.

Shortly after she met Clifford Freeman. He was a bachelor with no family, and he proposed by saying, "If we get married then your kids would be my kids." He loved them all and Clifford and Roberta were married on May 21, 1980. Being a rancher, he moved Roberta out to the ranch at Union Center, SD, where they lived happily for 10 wonderful years. Cliff died in 1990, but Roberta stayed on the ranch until 1994 when she finally sold the place and moved back to Sturgis. It was then that she began her nine-year career with Dietary Services and Housekeeping at Sturgis Community Hospital. After her retirement she became a Foster Grandparent at Sturgis Elementary School, working 10 years with Melissa Pankrantz and her Kindergarteners, 3rd graders, and 4th graders. She loved working with the children fondly remembers her grandchildren coming to her classroom to eat her snacks!

For 10 years, during the summers, she volunteered at the Sturgis Public Library, helping the Children's Librarian. She was nominated and received the Volunteer of the Year Award in 2014, but wasn't able to be at the ceremony because she broke her arm the day before! She was spokesperson for the Foster Grandparent program, appearing on television and radio several times.

Roberta is survived by her children; Kay (Dale) Grant, Linda Newland, Larry (Roxanna)Bausch; grandchildren, Misty (Tim) Meyers, Marcy Paklin, Chad Paklin, Cathleen (Edward) James, Brittney Bausch, Shawn Bausch, Shawn Paulson, Lisa Mickelson, Amada Cates, and Josh Bausch; brother, Walt (Rose) Bauer; sister, Doris Ward; 18 great grandchildren, 3 great great grandchildren; and wonderful neighbor and helper, Dave Murtha.

She was preceded in death by her parents; husband, Cliff; son, Bill Bausch; 2 great grandsons, Jaden and Devon; 2 brothers; and 2 sisters.

Condolences may be sent to the family at www.kinkadefunerals.com.

*The family invites you to join them in the basement
for fellowship and refreshments following the service.
Thank you for your presence and condolences.*

A Celebration Of Life



Roberta Belle Freeman

May 19, 1936 ~ April 5, 2023

In Loving Memory Of
Roberta Belle Freeman

Born

May 19, 1936
Lead, South Dakota

Died

April 5, 2023
Rapid City, South Dakota

Memorial Service

Tuesday, April 11, 2023, 1:00 p.m.
First Presbyterian Church
Sturgis, South Dakota

Officiant

Reverend Paul Henschen

Musician

Brenda Schaffer

Musical Selections

“The Old Rugged Cross”
“In the Garden”
“Amazing Grace”

Honorary Pallbearers

Misty Meyers Marcy Paklin Chad Paklin
Cathleen James Brittney Bausch Shawn Bausch
Shawn Paulson Lisa Mickelson Amanda Cotes Josh Bausch

Final Resting Place

Bear Butte Cemetery
Sturgis, South Dakota

Dear Mom,

*This is just a note to thank you
From the bottom of our hearts.*

*For many acts of kindness
Which your loving soul imparts.*

*We can't begin to tell you
In the smaller things we do.*

*How much you mean to each of us
As we journey this life through.*

*You've stood by us through thick and thin
Though we have often err'd*

*But you have always been right there
To let us know you cared*

*So on this day we hope that you
With all God's blessing find.*

*And may his Angels guard you well
And bring you peace of mind.*