

In Loving Memory of
Irene Elizabeth (Eagle Thunder) Skunk

May 24, 1928 ~ May 7, 2026

“Our Rock”

I loved to come and visit you,

no matter what we chose to do.

Your home was filled with faith and grace,

and love was felt in every place

Your gentle prayers and caring heart were gifts

to all throughout your life.

In every movement spent with you,

we felt God’s peace and endless light.

Though Heaven called you home to rest,

your love remains with us each day.

Until we meet again in Christ,

your memory will guide our way.

Wake Services

Lower Brule Community Center

Lower Brule, SD

7:00 p.m., Tuesday, May 12, 2026

7:00 p.m., Wednesday, May 13, 2026

Funeral Service

Lower Brule Community Center

Lower Brule, SD

1:00 p.m., Thursday, May 14, 2026

Officiating

Father Floriber Buló SCJ

Sisters of the Sacred Heart

Father Marius Saptura SCJ

Charlie Quinn

Casketbearers

Jarvis Kelly Skunk

Julius Skunk Sr.

Gavin Drapeau

Jarvis P.A. Skunk

Trey Skunk

Phil Battese Sr.

Westley Skunk

Eugene Skunk

Chris Skunk

Leland Skunk

Bernard Laroche Jr.

Joseph D.F. Skunk

Alphonso Drapeau II

Deveron Stands

Honorary Bearers

Julia Yellow Robe

Alsephine Josphine

Orville “Red” Langdeau

Neil “Cody” Russel

John & Jody McCauley

Jennifer Bad Horse

Sue Choal

Dr. Molyneaux

Michael B. & Jackie Jandreaux†

Irene Flute†

Maxine Grassropet†

Harlee Langdeau I

Percy Goodface

The Jandreaux Family

LB Catholic Parish

Florentine Blue Thunder

Dorothy Jones

Mark Wakey

Phylis Wright

Jim & Jan Brouse

Georgia Wilson

Nathan & Tisha Herman

Anthea Isburg

Trish Lundell

Doris Grassrope †

Ruth Flute†

Shirley Flute †

Fred Goodface

The Middletent Family

Sanford Chamberlain Medical Staff

Pearl Kirkie

Lou Whitelight

Kristin Ziegler

Charlie & Marlene Quinn

Barb Bad Horse

Bobbie Sinclair

Robert Johnson

Trish Jandreaux

Butch & Annie Felix

Lee and Kay Gourneau†

Scott Jones †

Rose McCauley†

The Gourneau Family

LB Elderly Committee

All those she had a special bond with throughout her 97 years!

Interment

St. Mary’s Catholic Cemetery, Lower Brule, SD

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

Irene Elizabeth (Eagle Thunder) Skunk was born on May 24, 1928, at Iron Nation to Obed & Florence (Fire Thunder) Eagle Thunder. She was delivered at home by Lillian (Iron Nest) White and joined her siblings Catherine, Bertha, and Eugene.

She attended school at St. Joseph's Indian School in Chamberlain, SD until she was 11 years old. She then attended Brainerd Indian School in Hot Springs, SD until 8th Grade. During this time both of her parents got sick, so she returned home to help care for them.

Irene had a daughter who passed in infancy named Ruby Irene Eagle Thunder. She later was united in marriage to Joseph P. Skunk and from this union 8 children were born; Cleveland, Josephine, Lucille, Joseph Wayne, Ella, Beverly, Susan. and Fedelia. Throughout the years Irene opened her home to numerous foster children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren. She also raised several grandchildren and great-grandchildren including; Shannon, Jarvis Kelly, Derek, Julius Sr., Jessye Jo, Jewell Iron Heart, Taylee, and Julius Jr.

Irene started working as a teenager and maintained employment for most of her life. Her first job was working at Fairmont Factory in Presho, SD at age 15. She then worked in Chadron, NE and White River, SD shucking corn and doing farm work. She also worked for the Lower Brule Community Garden, Lower Brule Elementary as teacher's aide and drove the Elderly meal delivery van. She then started working as a cook's aide for the Lower Brule Nutrition Center a position she held until COVID forced her retirement at age 92.

She is survived by her daughters Josephine Skunk, Lucille Skunk-Marshall, and Fedelia Skunk all of Lower Brule, SD and Ella (Alphonso) Drapeau of Fort Thompson, SD; her son Jarvis Kelly Skunk of Lower Brule, SD. She was survived by eight kids, 35 grandkids, 90 great grandkids, and 39 great great grandkids.

She is preceded in death by her parents Obed and Florence Eagle Thunder, her sons Cleveland F. Skunk, and Joseph W. Skunk; daughters Beverly M. Skunk, Susan A. Skunk; sisters Catherine Goodface and Bertha Fire Cloud; brother Eugene Eagle Thunder.; grandchildren Derek M. Skunk, Vincent A. Battese. Sr., Clinton M. Skunk., and Glenda Stands; great-grandchildren Tayshawn Battese and Audonne Duran.

Irene was known as "Grandma," "Auntie Irene," & "Mom" by many. She had special bond with so many different people throughout her 97 years on Unci Maka.



Wahahokipa Win
"Honors Her People"

Irene Elizabeth (Eagle Thunder) Skunk

Sunrise: May 24, 1928

Sunset: May 7, 2026