



Margaret "Marge" Mertz was born on April 25, 1947, the 7th child of 11, on the farm near Java to the late Ladislaus and Elizabeth (Kosters) Raba. After graduating from Java High School in 1965, she attended Northern State College and received a Bachelor's degree in Music Education.

She married Don Mertz on June 7, 1969, at St. Anthony's Catholic Church in Selby. Their reunion has been blessed for 56 years.

Marge was employed at the First National Bank in Mobridge for 7 years after which she took a position with the State of South Dakota, Department of Labor

and Regulation in Mobridge as an Unemployment Clerk and later became the Manager of the Department. She retired from this position in 2012 after working for 35 years.

Marge's love for music had her playing the organ/piano for church services starting in the 8th grade at St. Anthony's Catholic Church in Selby. After her marriage she moved to Mobridge and started playing for services in 1981 at St. Joseph's Catholic Church in Mobridge. She continued over the years and became the music director for the church in 1998. Because of problems with cancer, she retired from the position in October of 2020 but was still playing for funerals and weddings. Her greatest love was spending time with family and friends. She also loved music (playing the piano, organ, accordion, and guitar), playing tennis, embroidery, crossword puzzles, playing cards, and spending time with her children and grandchildren. In 2023 she again began planning all music for the weekend Masses and playing again for the choir at the 10:00 AM Mass, and for weddings and funerals at St. Joseph's Catholic Church in Mobridge.

She is survived by and will be sadly be missed by her husband Don, one son Scott (Melanie) Mertz of Mobridge, two daughters, Denise (Jesse) Foster of Pierre and Kristi (Jess) Kraft of Mobridge; and five grand-children Abigail Elizabeth Foster (Alex Hegg), Braedon Mark Foster and Amelia Kaye Foster; and River Joseph Kraft and Emerie Rose Kraft. Survived by her siblings; Donald (Linda) Raba, Jeanette (Bernie) Neal, Theresa (Pat) Russell, Rose (Jerry) Mittleider, Tony (Barb) Raba, Greg Raba, Susanne (Max) Smylie. Also survived by her sister-in-laws; Ilene Raba, Jane Mertz, Lynn Mertz and Mary Mertz.

She was preceded in death by her parents Ladis and Elizabeth Raba, two sisters; Geraldine Raba and Marilyn Bohlander, one brother Marvin Raba, one niece Sandra Bohlander. Three sister-in-laws Eleanor Gab, Ellina Barth and Ella Schneider; Seven brother-in-laws Walter Barth, Johnny Gab, Roland Mertz, Quintine Mertz, Allen Mertz, Vernard Schneider and Edward Bohlander.

In Loving Memory

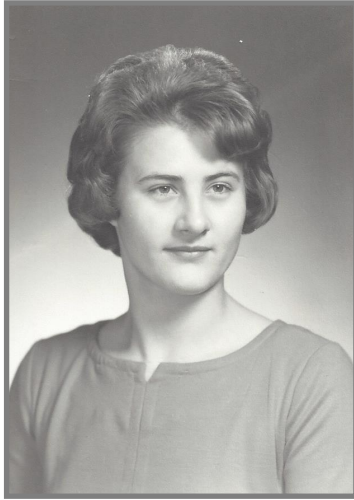


Margaret "Marge" Mertz

April 25, 1947 - May 20, 2026

IN LOVING MEMORY OF:
Margaret "Marge" Mertz

79 years ~ 0 months ~ 25 days



BORN:
April 25, 1947
Java, South Dakota

PASSED AWAY:
May 20, 2026
Mobridge, South Dakota

MASS OF CHRISTIAN BURIAL:
10:00 AM, Thursday, May 28, 2026
St. Joseph's Catholic Church
Mobridge, South Dakota

CLERGY:
Father Michael Griffin

LECTOR:
Jesse Foster

CONGREGATIONAL HYMNS:
"I Heard The Voice of Jesus" ~ "You Are Mine"
"Hail Mary, Gentle Woman" ~ "Oh, Loving God"
"Song Of Farewell"

USHERS:
Scott Ulmer ~ Steve Schneider, Sr.

CASKETBEARERS:
Braedon Foster ~ Tanner Ulmer ~ Alex Hegg
Steve Schneider, Jr. ~ Mike Russell ~ Steve Russell

HONORARY CASKETBEARERS:
Marge's Prayer Group

INTERMENT:
Greenwood Cemetery
Mobridge, South Dakota

When Tomorrow Starts Without Me

When tomorrow starts without me,
please try to understand,
That an angel came and called my name,
and took me my the hand;
The angel said my place was ready,
In Heaven far above, And that I'd have to leave
behind all those I dearly love.
But when I walked through Heaven's Gates,
I felt so much at home, for God looked down,
smiled at me, And told me "Welcome Home."
So when tomorrow starts without me,
Don't think we're far apart,
for every time you think of me
I'm right there in your heart.