

Shirley said, "I'm Getting Tired."

God saw she was getting tired,
A cure was not to be.
He put his arm around her,
And whispered, "Come with me."

A golden heart stopped beating,
A tired body put to rest.
God broke our hearts to prove to us,
He only takes the best.



I'm Free

Don't grieve for me, for now I'm free
I'm following the path God has laid you see.
I took His hand when I heard His call
I turned my back and left it all.
I could not stay another day
To laugh, to love, to work or play.
Tasks left undone must stay that way
I found the peace at the close of day.
If my parting has left a void
Then fill it with remembered joys -
A friendship shared, a laugh, a kiss
Oh yes, these things I too will miss.
Be not burdened with times of sorrow.
I wish you the sunshine of tomorrow.
My life's been full, I savored much,
Good friends, good times, a loved one's touch.
Perhaps my time seemed all too brief -
Don't lengthen it now with undue grief.
Lift up your hearts, and peace to thee -
God wants me now; He set me free.

Author Unknown

Celebrating
THE LIFE OF



Shirley Wathen

March 15, 1925 - February 28, 2025

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Shirley Ann Wathen was born to William and Ida (Demuth) Boese on March 6, 1935 in Mora, Minnesota. When she was a small child, she moved with her parents to Woodstock, Minnesota where she attended school. While she was in the fourth grade, she moved with her mother to Pipestone, Minnesota and attended school there. In 1953, she graduated from Pipestone High School. One week after her graduation, she was united in marriage to Richard Wathen on June 9, 1953 at St. Leo Catholic Church in Pipestone. Following their marriage, they resided in Pipestone. During the time Shirley was raising their children, she ran a day care in their home. She also did a lot of cleaning for area people and businesses. In 1968, she became employed as a cook for the Pipestone school system. Richard preceded her in death on January 10, 2002. At the time of her retirement in 1998, she was the supervisor of this department. On April 24, 2023, she became a resident at Good Samaritan Communities of Pipestone where she died on Friday, February 28, 2025 at the age of 89 years.

Shirley was a member of St. Leo Catholic in Pipestone where she was active in the CCW. She liked dancing and camping. She loved to crochet things for her family, and she made afghans for all of her grandchildren. She especially enjoyed cooking and trying new recipes.

She is lovingly remembered by five daughters, Julie Brustad and friend Gale Nordstrum of Madison, South Dakota, Jacqueline of Olivet, South Dakota, Joni and her husband Dean Dethmers of Pipestone, Minnesota, Jeanie and her husband Gene Palmer of Sioux Falls, South Dakota, and Joy and her husband Don Klingbile of Brandon, South Dakota; ten grandchildren and 19 great-grandchildren; one brother, Bill, Jr., and his wife Sandy Boese of Cambridge, Minnesota; and three cousins who were raised with Shirley, Pauline Callahan of Minnetonka, Minnesota, Joe Demuth of Minneapolis, Minnesota, and Carol Demuth and her husband Don Wickstrom of Toledo, Oregon. She was preceded in death by her husband, Richard; her parents; and two son-in-laws, Bryon Whalen and Rod Brustad.

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Mass of Christian Burial
 Friday, March 7, 2025 - 10:30 AM
 St. Leo Catholic Church - Pipestone, Minnesota

Officiating
 Msgr. Gerald Kosse

Scriptures
 Wisdom 3:1-6, 9 1 Thessalonians John 5: 24-29

Music
Organist - Carol Haubrich **Cantor** - Jim Baustian
Soloist - Jacob Dethmers - "Hail Mary Gentle Woman"

Congregational Hymns
 "Amazing Grace" "On Eagles Wings" "Alleluia"
 "Here I Am Lord" "Gift of Finest Wheat" "How Great Thou Art"

Casket Bearers
 Brad Dethmers Scott Dethmers Matt Johnson
 Steve Roozing Dan Langdon Tyler Bowden

Honorary Bearers
 Shirley's Grandchildren and Great-Grandchildren

Interment
 St. Leo Catholic Cemetery - Pipestone, Minnesota

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