



*God, let me be a messenger
Of happiness, I pray.
A smile, a note, a phone call
To brighten someone's day.
The hours of life go swiftly;
There isn't time to wait.
I want to spread some happiness;
Too soon 'twill be too late.*

- Ken Brown 1984

Please use this QR code to access
Betty's online guestbook.



IN LOVING MEMORY OF

Betty J. Kloster

WHO WAS BORN

July 6, 1940

Coldwater Township, McIntosh County, North Dakota

AND CALLED TO HER ETERNAL HOME

April 26, 2026

Milbank, South Dakota

FUNERAL SERVICE

Friday, May 8, 2026 - 2:00 p.m.

Living Word Lutheran Church

Milbank, South Dakota

OFFICIANTS

Pastor Sandy Marquardt

Rev. Craig Werling

MUSICIANS

Vicki Strege, Organist

Vocalists:

David Kloster | Sue DeJong | Sharon Hyde

SPECIAL SONGS

"For All The Saints" | "It Is Well With My Soul"

"Great Is Thy Faithfulness"

CASKET BEARERS

Brad Olson | Bob Capp | Delton Heil

Mark Hehr | Tim DeJong | Warren Beck

INTERMENT

Milbank City Cemetery

Milbank, South Dakota

APPRECIATION

Betty's family is grateful for your attendance at this service.

Your expressions of kindness and love are deeply appreciated.

Following the graveside service, please join the family for a time of refreshments and fellowship in the church fellowship area.

Mundwiler Funeral Home - Milbank, South Dakota

Betty Janette (Heil) Kloster was born July 6, 1940, in Coldwater Township, McIntosh County, ND, to Fred and Barbara (Saylor) Heil. She was baptized at St. Lucas Lutheran Church and confirmed at Peace Lutheran (Schumacher) Church. She grew up on the family homestead east of Ashley, ND, raising horses, cattle, and caring for her younger brothers so that her parents and the older brothers could work outside on the farm. She attended a one-room country school only through the 8th grade since high school was too far and expensive for her to attend. However, that didn't stop her from secretly "borrowing" her country school math and science textbooks so that she could continue to educate herself at home.

In 1960, Betty decided to leave the farm and moved to Ellendale, ND, to take a job at the hospital. She moved into a basement apartment across the street, her first home with running water. At the hospital, she worked as a nurse's aide and a surgical technician in the operating room, assisting doctors with their instruments. While living in Ellendale, she continued to acquire high school textbooks to study and passed her GED examination.

After deciding that pursuing a nursing degree would take her too far from home, Betty moved to Wahpeton, ND, in 1967, to attend North Dakota State School of Science. She earned degrees in Secretarial Training and Stenography in 1969. Afterward, she worked in the offices of Montgomery Ward and Sturdevant's Auto before taking a government job at the local ASCS branch. During this time, she met Edward Kloster through friends at school. They were married November 11, 1972, and lived in Breckenridge, MN. In 1974, Ed and Betty moved to Milbank, SD, with the new Big Stone Power Plant and bought a home where they lived together for fifty years and raised their two children.

Betty stayed at home full-time in Milbank, but she volunteered her time for several school functions and took many shifts at the Community Thrift Store. She enjoyed traveling around in her camper trailer, drinking coffee with friends, growing vegetables in her garden, and planting flower beds in her yard, many of which still return years later.

Betty was an active member at American Lutheran Church for 35 years before becoming a charter member of Living Word Lutheran Church in Milbank. She was a disciplined follower of Jesus Christ. She was diagnosed with cancer in 2002 and again in 2017. Her faith sustained her through these difficult struggles, and she survived both illnesses to spend several more years with her family.

Betty is survived by her husband, Ed, of 53 years; older brother, LeRoy (Aldora) Heil of Ashley, ND; younger brother, Leslie Heil of Jamestown, ND; daughter, Barbara Kloster of Milbank, SD; son, David (Abigail) Kloster of Austin, TX; and many nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents; four infant brothers; one infant sister; and younger brothers: Delbert and DeWayne Heil.

