



I'm Free

*Don't grieve for me, for now, I'm free,
I'm following the path God laid for me.
I took his hand when I heard him call,
I turned my back and left it all.*

*I could not stay another day
to laugh, to love, to work or play.
I've found that peace at the close of day.*

*If my parting has left a void,
then fill it with remembered joy.
A friendship shared, a laugh, a kiss,
Ah, 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 heart and share with me,
God wanted me now; He set me free.*

In Loving Memory of

Alyce Faye Steckelberg

January 5, 1927 ~ July 20, 2023

Funeral Service

United Church of Christ
Chamberlain, SD

2:00 p.m., Friday, August 4, 2023

Officiating

Pastor Jim Oleson

Music

Mel Hargens - Pianist

Malerie & Tim Yeaton – "When I Get Where I'm Going"

Paul Cozine – "Amazing Grace"

Malerie Yeaton – "Let There Be Peace On Earth"

Casketbearers

DJ Steckelberg

RD Steckelberg

TC Steckelberg

Corbin Lingeman

Kendra Beringer

Shane Steckelberg

Shannon Steckelberg

Matthew Steckelberg

Jacob Steckelberg

Alayna Steckelberg

Andrew Steckelberg

Katie Steckelberg

Interment

Riverview Cemetery
Chamberlain, SD

Everyone is invited for lunch and fellowship
back in the church hall following the committal services.

Arrangements By: Hickey Funeral Home, Chamberlain, SD

Alyce Faye Speckels Steckelberg was born on a farm 4 miles NE of Chamberlain SD to George Speckels and Francis Chamberlain Salisbury on January 5, 1927. Alyce weighed about 4 pounds at birth and was kept warm behind the wood stove in the kitchen. Her mother died when she was 4 and she went to live with her aunt and uncle, John and Dora Glissman. Alyce's dad, George married Iva Hilton on May 12, 1937, and Alyce moved back home with her 2 brothers, Millie and her new mother Iva, and Iva's daughters, Evelyn and Ruth.

Alyce attended grade school at the Glissman country school and attended high school in Chamberlain where she boarded in a small house with several other students during the week, going home for weekends. She graduated from Chamberlain High School. Iva was a loving mother and a much loved grandmother to the boys. Iva was an important part of the family until her death.

Alyce married Milton Wayne Steckelberg on June 16, 1945.

They made their home on a farm N of Chamberlain until moving to town where Milton and his brothers, Harold and Darwin, started the block building business, which evolved into the Redi Mix Concrete business in Chamberlain.

Milton and Alyce welcomed five sons and Alyce was primarily a homemaker. She was an excellent cook and baker. It seemed she could put on a feast for 50 in 5 minutes!! She had 5 active boys and a yard full of neighbor kids during the years the Big Bend Dam was being built.

Milton's dream of building the Flintstone theme park became a reality in 1965. The family packed up and moved to Custer during the summer where everyone worked! Alyce started up and managed the drive-in serving brontosaurus burgers, etc to tourists, something for which she had no experience but was very successful in doing.

After selling the Flintstones, Alyce and Daughter in law Connie Steckelberg (now deceased), started and ran the Fabric Inn, a successful fabric store in downtown Chamberlain.

Alyce was extremely active in the United Church of Christ, singing in the choir as a talented soprano, involved in women's fellowship and ran the kitchen for funerals for many years

Alyce had a fun and full life. She had wonderful times with her girlfriends, she and Milton traveled with 3 other couples in 2 campers to the west coast etc, she babysat a lot of grands, entertained a host of people in their backyard pool, voluntarily drove several people to Sioux Falls for their cancer treatments, she was a very creative, artistic, and she loved painting in various mediums on canvas, and on and on---she had a great life!

2 years ago, Alyce decided to sell her beloved home, which Milton built, and moved into the Regency assisted living center. She loved her time there and was lovingly looked after by a wonderful staff until her death.

Alyce was preceded in death by her husband, Milton, sons, Dennis, (Hertha) and Gerald, (Julie Mertz); brothers Woodrow and Edward Speckels, sisters Millie Wieczorek and Evelyn Peterson, grandson, Danny, and daughter in law Peggy Steckelberg (Oz).

Alyce passed away on July 20, 2023 at home in Chamberlain at the age of 96. Alyce is survived by sons, Dob, (Diane) Yankton, Don "Oz", (Kathy), Chamberlain, Mike (Judy) Sioux Falls, daughter in law Hertha (Denny) Albert Lea, MN 12 grandchildren, 11 great grandchildren, and very special daughter in law Julie Mertz (Tim) Chamberlain and their 3 children and 7 grandchildren.



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