



Legacy of Love

A wife, a mother, a grandma too,
This is the legacy we have from you
You taught us love and how to fight
You gave us strength, you gave us might.
A stronger person would be hard to find,
And in your heart you were always kind.
You fought for us all in one way or another
Not just as a wife not just as a mother.
For all of us you gave your best
And now the time has come for you to rest.
So go in peace, you've earned your sleep,
Your love in our hearts we'll eternally keep.



"The beautiful irony is that our loss is another's reunion-
and oh what a reunion it is!"

Celebrating

THE LIFE OF



EILEEN GRATZ

March 28, 1938 — January 24, 2025

Eileen Gratz, 86, passed away at her home, surrounded by her loving family, on Friday, January 24, 2025.

Eileen was born March 28, 1938, to George and Rose (Geiger) Schmidt. She was raised on the family farm and attended Steffenson Elementary School by Center, ND, then transferred to Mandan High and graduated in the class of 1956. On November 5, 1957, she married David Gratz, and they were very blessed with almost 67 years before losing David on July 25, 2024. Their six-month separation was more than a broken heart could handle; she is now reunited with Dad and Darv. Eileen spent the majority of her married life raising her six children, then babysitting and spoiling her grandchildren and great grandchildren. She provided many, many home-cooked meals. Her potato salad, borscht soup, German dishes and homemade pickles were some of her family's favorites.

Eileen is survived by her children, Reyne (Dave) Helfrich, Steve (Jane) Gratz, Laurie (Tom) Pfliger, Pattie (Paul) Feller, and Darren (Denise) Gratz; her grandchildren and great-grandchildren, Tyler (Brittany, Paysen, Suttin, Colter), Elisha (Zach, Waylon), Travis (Lacy and Walter), Jared, Emily (Maliyah, Kobin, Haizlee), KyLee (Derrek, Taten, Collin, Brooks, and Baby), Tara (Chris), Justin (Kaysee), Jaden, Jennifer (Preston), Skylar, Laken, Kenley and Brityn. Eileen treasured each and every one. She was also a second mom to many! She also is survived by her two sisters, Vivian Erhardt and Clem Meyer; and one brother, Reynard (Joletta) Schmidt; as well as three sisters-in-law, Lillian Rennich, Bernice (Emanuel) Geiger, Jeannie (Jim) Fitterer; and many very special nieces and nephews.

Eileen was preceded in death by her husband, David; her son, Darwin; great-grandson, Kingston; her parents; mother-and-father-in-law, Steve & Rose Gratz; sister-in-law, Carol Radmer; brothers-in-law, Norman Meyer, Connie Erhardt, Frank Rennich and Bob Radmer; along with many relatives and friends whom she never forgot.



Scan to watch Eileen's Celebration of Life video.

Parish Rosary/Vigil

Wednesday | January 29, 2025 | 7:00 PM

Weigel Funeral Home | Mandan, ND

Presider

Deacon Randy Frohlich

Funeral Liturgy

Thursday, January 30, 2025 | 10:30 AM

St. Joseph's Catholic Church | Mandan, ND

Celebrant

Fr. Josh Waltz

Musicians

Regina McLain | Gene Mosbrucker

Prelude

"The Old Rugged Cross"

Opening Song

"How Great Thou Art"

Liturgy of the Word

Old Testament Reading

Ecclesiastes 3:1-11

Lector

Skylar Helfrich

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 25

"To you, O Lord, I lift my soul."

New Testament Reading

Timothy 4:6-8

Lector

Laken Gratz

Gospel Reading

Luke 23:33, 39-43

Homily

Liturgy of the Eucharist

Preparation of Gifts Song

"Be Not Afraid"

Presentation of Gifts

Kenley | Brityn | Suttin | Kobin | Collin | Maliyah
Paysen | Waylon | Taten | Brooks | Colter | Haizlee | Walter

Eucharistic Prayer

Communion Songs

"I Am The Bread Of Life"
"Hail Mary, Gentle Woman"

Communion Meditation

Final Commendation

"Song of Farewell"

Closing Song

"Amazing Grace"

Pallbearers

Tyler | Travis | Jared | Justin | Jaden | Zack | Derrek | Laken | Tara
Elisha | Emily | Skylar | Kylee | Jennifer

Graveside Service

Mandan Union Cemetery

You are invited for lunch and fellowship at the Mandan Eagles Club immediately following the graveside service.

