

Barbara Andrews Bertel, 95, of Fargo, ND, passed away Wednesday, August 20, 2025, at SMP Health - St. Catherine South in Fargo.

Barbara was born May 23, 1930, in Fargo, to Lillian and Mark Andrews. She graduated from Fargo Central High School and later from the University of Wisconsin-Madison, where she made lifelong memories living in her sorority house.

Following college, Barbara moved to Washington, D.C., where she worked for the National Security Agency as a Chinese translator, deciphering intercepted communications from mainland China. During her years there, she also enjoyed exploring the East Coast alongside her former sorority sisters.

In 1956, Barbara returned to Fargo and married Charlie Bertel. Together, they began raising a family in 1957 and built a life on 9th Street South, where she continued to live for the rest of her years.

Barbara was active and engaged in her community. She participated in the Junior League, P.E.O., and the Republican Party. She cherished her mornings playing bridge, loved traveling with Charlie and friends, and was a gracious hostess known for her cocktail parties and signature hors d'oeuvres.

After Charlie's passing in 1992, Barbara continued her love of travel, exploring the world with family and friends. She especially treasured summers at the family cabin on Pelican Lake and winters in Surprise, Arizona.

Barbara was preceded in death by her parents; her brother, Mark Andrews II; and her husband, Charlie. She is survived by her sons, Charlie (Peg), Dave (Joni), and John (Erin); eight grandchildren; and nine great-grandchildren.

Her family is deeply grateful for the compassionate care she received from Home Instead, Sanford Health, and St. Catherine's.

## *In Loving Memory*



*Barbara Andrews  
Bertel*

May 23, 1930 - August 20, 2025



God saw the road was getting rough  
the hills were hard to climb  
He gently closed her weary eyes  
and whispered "Peace Be Thine".

The golden gate stood open,  
He saw she needed rest,  
God's garden must be beautiful,  
for he always picks the best.

Her life was a beautiful memory,  
her absence a silent grief,  
She sleeps in God's beautiful garden  
in the sunshine of perfect peace.



**HANSON  
RUNSVOLD**  
Cremation • Burial

*Remembering*

## Barbara Bertel

May 23, 1930 - August 20, 2025

### Memorial Service

Friday, September 12, 2025 - 1:00 PM  
Gethsemane Episcopal Cathedral  
Fargo, North Dakota

the Very Rev. Mark Strobel, *Celebrant*  
the Rev. Terry Overbo, *Deacon*  
Dr. Kira Haler Knutson, *Organist*  
Kristen Hatfield, *Cantor*  
Kathryn Bertel & John Bertel, *Lectors*  
Quinn Palmer, *Crucifer*

### Music

“Amazing Grace”  
“On Eagle’s Wings”  
“The Lord’s Prayer”  
“I Am the Bread of Life”  
“Praise to the Lord”

### Pallbearers

Elizabeth Bertel - McKenzie Lehfelt  
Zachery Chenze - Kathryn Ritchie - Michael Bertel  
Andy Gradient - Jacque Gradient - Parker Bertel

### Interment

Gethsemane Episcopal Cathedral Columbarium  
Fargo, North Dakota

*All are invited to a reception following the service.*