

In Loving Memory Of

Annette was born on April 7, 1926, in Cartwright, ND, the daughter of George and Ellen Marie (Lien) Melland. Annette started school in Sidney. After her father died, her mother and young family moved to Tacoma, WA. When the family moved to Tacoma, Annette and her brother, Buddy, moved to Williston, ND to attend high school. Annette graduated from Williston High School in 1943 and then attended college in Dickinson, ND where she studied Elementary Education. Her first teaching jobs were at Elm Coulee and Shadwell. While teaching she lived with nearby families. She was united in marriage to Charles (Buster) Atkinson in the Fall of 1946, in Tacoma, WA. They made their home in Sidney, MT, then her husband entered the United States Air Force and they lived in Washington, California and England. After his discharge from the service, they moved back to Sidney where she resumed her teaching career. A few of the schools she taught at were Rau, Horse Creek, Crane, Newlon, and Brorson. Annette was united in marriage to Clarence "Pete" Pedersen, on July 24, 1966, in Elko, NV. Following the marriage they made their home in Sidney, MT. Her husband, Pete, died in December of 1990 and Annette remained in Sidney.

Annette was a member of Trinity Lutheran Church in Sidney. Her former students have told family members of Annette reading "The Lord of the Rings" to them and changing voices with the various characters. (This was before the movies made this a household name.) She loved being a teacher and continued to tutor children long after retirement. She valued education and took great pride in her grandchildren going to college. She enjoyed animals, knitting, sewing, her yard, and collecting rocks and antique bottles. Annette always said she was a jack of all trades, master of none. She had a love of reading that she passed on to her children. She also had a love of music in church, school and with the grandchildren. Annette was also very active in politics and world events and was not shy in voicing her opinion about both.

Annette M. Pedersen died on Saturday, August 30, 2008 at the Sidney Health Center Extended Care Facility.

Surviving her are: her son, K. C. (LuAnn) Atkinson, Columbus, MT; her four daughters, Sherry (Coy) McMorris, Sidney, MT, Robin (Robert) Hernandez, Fairview, MT, Amanda "Mandy" (Mike) Cerino, Ennis, MT, and Jorji (Brad) Benn, Rochester, WA; her sister, Lois (Jim) Prideaux, Seattle, WA; thirteen grandchildren and four great grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her parents, husbands--Charles Atkinson and Clarence "Pete" Pedersen, her brothers--Thomas Melland and Gerald "Buddy" Melland.



Annette Pedersen

