

Darlene (Bunning) Brunner was born October 20, 1935 in Sterling, CO. to parents Willard (Bill) Bunning and Lydia Herzog Bunning. Darlene attended school in Padroni, CO, graduating in 1953. During her high school years she was in music, cheerleading, FHA, annual staff and many other activities that a small school offers. She was active in the Community Baptist Church where she was in the choir, played piano, taught Sunday school, and was in the youth group.

After High School she worked as a bookkeeper in Sterling, CO, until her marriage to her high school sweetheart William (Bill) Brunner, on February 17, 1957, at the First English Lutheran Church in Sterling, CO. He was truly her soul mate, they spent every minute they could together. They had four children and lived in Sterling, CO, until 1960 when they moved to Weldona, CO until 1968 when they were transferred to Fairview, MT. While in Fairview, she and her good friend Marge Deming baked and decorated wedding cakes; they spent many hours, and had so much fun during the hours they spent together decorating and setting up wedding cakes, each one special in their own way especially the ones they made for their own daughters. She was also very proud of the fact that she was able to make two of her granddaughter's wedding cakes, and most of her grandchildren's graduation and birthday cakes over the years.

In 1994, they moved to Sidney, MT, later transferring to Brighton, CO and then returning to Sidney in 1996 to be near their children and grandchildren. Darlene loved watching her children and grandchildren sing, dance, play sports and any other kind of activity they were involved in, she was their greatest cheerleader. In 1997, Bill retired and they spent a lot of time at McDonalds and made many friends, renewed old acquaintance with friends from Fairview, Clara and Eddie Dschaak, who they met often for lunch, sometimes every day of the week; they never ran out of things to visit about. They were blessed with 8 Grandchildren 3 girls and 5 boys. They were all blessings each in their own special way.

Bill and Darlene made many trips to Billings, MT and Breckenridge, MN to watch their grandchildren in sporting events or music concerts. She loved her own children very much, but her grandchildren were the light of her life. In 2006 she was blessed with a great granddaughter Alexa Mae Warner, what a delight she was; once again a baby to hold and watch grow and play. In 2009, another great grandbaby, this time a boy Parker Nelson; in 2010 another great grandson Sterling Warner, and in 2012 another little bundle arrived, this time a girl Taylor Nelson; they were all blessings each in their own special way. Darlene enjoyed all the new things she was able to watch them do, like talk, walk, and giggle and learn to play together and all the other cute little things babies do. She had to see most of it in pictures but enjoyed it all, they were definitely one of Gods many special gifts.

Darlene died on Monday, December 23, 2013 at the Sidney Health Center.

Darlene is survived by her husband, William; three daughters, Pamela (Dan) Smith, Sidney, MT, Tami (Terry) Weaver, Billings, MT and Peggy Brunner, Sidney, MT; one son, Jeffery (Shelly) Brunner, Breckenridge, MN; three granddaughter's, Lisa (Robert) Warner, Billings, MT, Heather (Brock) Nelson, Dickinson, ND and Megan Smith, Dickinson, ND; five grandson's, Alex (Jamie) Weaver, Bozeman, MT, Jess Weaver, Billings, MT, Brandon Brunner, Breckenridge, MN, Nathan Brunner, Breckenridge, MN, and Nicholas Brunner, Breckenridge, MN; four great-grandchildren, Alexa Mae Warner, Billings, MT, Sterling Warner, Billings, MT, and Parker and Taylor Nelson Dickinson, ND.

Darlene is preceded in death by her parents, Willard and Lydia Bunning; brother, William Bunning; and an infant son.

## *In Loving Memory of*



## *Darlene Mae Brunner*

## ***“If Tomorrow Starts Without Me”***

*If tomorrow starts without me, and I'm not here to see,  
If the sun should rise you find your eyes all filled with tears for me;  
I wish so much you wouldn't cry the way you did today,  
While thinking of the many things we didn't get to say.  
I know how much you love me, as much as I love you  
And each time that you think of me, I know you'll miss me too.  
But when tomorrow starts without me please try to understand,  
That an angel came and called my name and took me by the hand.  
He said my place was ready, in heaven far above  
And that I'd have to leave behind all those I dearly love.  
But as I turned and walked away a tear fell from my eye.  
For all my life I'd always thought, I didn't want to die.  
I had so much to live for, so much left yet to do.  
It seemed almost impossible that I was leaving you.  
I thought of all the yesterdays the good ones and the bad.  
I thought of all the love we shared, and all the fun we had.  
If I could relive yesterday, just even for a while,  
I'd say goodbye and kiss you and maybe see you smile.  
But then I fully realized that this could never be,  
For emptiness and memories would take the place of me.  
When I thought of worldly things I might miss come tomorrow  
I thought of you and when I did my heart was filled with sorrow.  
When I walked through heavens gates I felt so much at home.  
God looked down and smiled at me from his great golden throne  
He said, "This is eternity and all I've promised you"  
Today your life on earth has passed but here life starts anew.  
I promise no tomorrow, but today will always last  
And since each day is the same there's no longing for the past.  
You have been so faithful so trusting and so true.  
Though there were times you did some things you knew you shouldn't do.  
You have been forgiven and now at last you're free.  
So won't you come and take my hand and share my life with me?  
So when tomorrow starts with out me don't think we're far apart,  
For every time you think of me, I'm right here in your heart.*

## **Darlene Mae Brunner**

### **Born**

*October 20, 1935  
Sterling, Colorado*

### **Died**

*December 23, 2013  
Sidney, Montana*

### **Memorial Service**

*10:00 A.M., Saturday, December 28, 2013*

*Lonsdale United Methodist Church  
Sidney, Montana*

### **Officiating**

*Pastor Vicki Waddington*

### **Music**

*Doris Norby      Mary Pfau*

### **Honorary Casketbearers**

*Darlene's Grandchildren ~*

*Lisa Warner      Heather Nelson      Megan Smith  
Alex Weaver      Jess Weaver      Brandon Brunner  
Nathan Brunner      Nicholas Brunner*

### **Ushers**

*Gina McIntyre      Jodi Evenson*

### **Interment**

*By Cremation*

*Interment will take place at a later date in  
Sidney Cemetery  
Sidney, Montana*

**Lunch will be served at the church  
following services**



*You may share your remembrances and condolences with  
the family at the Fulkerson Funeral Home website*

**[www.fulkersons.com](http://www.fulkersons.com)**