



Our Mother kept a garden.  
A garden of the heart;  
She planted all the good things  
That gave our lives their start.

She turned us to the sunshine  
And encouraged us to dream:  
Fostering and nurturing  
The seeds of self-esteem.

And when the winds and rains came,  
She protected us enough;  
But not too much; she knew we'd need  
To stand up strong and tough.

Her constant good example  
Always taught us right from wrong;  
A marker for our pathway  
To last our whole life long.

We are our Mother's garden -  
Her nurtured family.  
We pray that we'll continue  
Her Godly legacy.

Celebrating the Life of  
**JOAN LOUISE BELL**

**Born** June 4, 1934  
Sidney, Montana

**Passed** January 31, 2023  
Sidney, Montana

**Funeral Services**

10:00 AM Saturday, February 11, 2023  
Assembly of God Church - Sidney, Montana

**Officiating**

Pastor Tom Foisy (Grandson-in-law)  
Pastor Dustin Morgan

**Music**

*"In the Garden"*

Congregation - Accompanied by Jan Bell  
*"If We Could See Beyond Today"*

Arveda Fisher - Accompanied by Loretta Thiel  
*"It is Well With My Soul"*

PJ Brennan - Accompanied by Janet Brennan

**Favorite Scriptures**

Jory Bell (Grandson)

**Memories of Grandma (Grandchildren)**

Darin LaBar Brittany Cuellar Shania Rohner Brady Bell

**Reading of the Obituary**

Vera Rediger (Sister)

**Message**

Tom Foisy

**Casketbearers (Grandsons)**

Dan LaBar Tobin Bell Darin LaBar Brady Bell  
Daryl LaBar Jory Bell Devin Bell Jace Bell

**Ushers (Grandsons-in-Law)**

James Rohner Joshua Cuellar

**Invitation to Lunch**

Ryan Bell (Son)

**Final Place of Rest**

Sidney Cemetery - Sidney, Montana

*Celebrating*  
THE LIFE OF



**JOAN LOUISE BELL**

*June 4, 1934 - January 31, 2023*



Joan Bell, 88, peacefully entered into her eternal home in heaven on January 31, 2023, after a short battle with cancer.

Joan Louise Knels Bell was born on June 4, 1934 to Dave and Elizabeth Knels in Sidney, MT. Her family lived in the Bloomfield area at the time of her birth. Her father passed away when Joan was nearly 6 years old. Her mother then moved Joan and her two sisters, Betty and Vera to Sidney so Joan could attend the first grade. She graduated from Sidney High School in 1952. Following graduation, she worked at the Yellowstone Merc. Joan met Bob in the Spring of 1953 at the Wheel Inn Café where Bob's mother and sister were running the cafe. Joan had a spot on her jacket and Bob was sure there was some spot remover in the back of the café so he invited her back. The spot was removed and a spark of love began. They were married September 17, 1954. Bob and Joan started their home and family on a small farm southeast of Sidney along the Yellowstone River, where they remained for 36 years, before moving to town. Their marriage was blessed with five children; one daughter Jolene and four sons, Randy, Rodney, Raymond and Ryan.

Joan enjoyed her role as mother and lived it well. She had a lifelong dream of building a home for the enjoyment of her family and that dream came true in 1990. She was blessed with the gift of hospitality and she shared that gift with her family and many friends in that home. Her door was always open. Until her death her children, grandchildren and great grandchildren would often stop for a visit and a snack or meal.

Always having the desire to stay busy, Joan had many pastimes. She enjoyed gardening, landscaping, quilting and basket weaving. She

loved being able to share her talents with her family and the community.

Throughout their marriage Joan worked alongside her husband to earn a living for their family. This included driving school bus for 29 years, helping pick and sell sweet corn and working full time for Bob's Pickup and Delivery.

Faith in Jesus was a very important part of Joan's life. She faithfully attended church and shared the love of Jesus to many.

Joan was preceded in death by her parents, her husband of 64 years, Bob, and her 4-month-old grandson, Brennan Bell.

Surviving Joan are her daughter Jolene (Dave) LaBar (Union City, Michigan) sons Randy (Carla) Bell (Billings, MT), and Rodney (Jan) Bell, Raymond (Trish) Bell, and Ryan (Nicki) Bell (all of Sidney); sisters Betty Miller (Johnny) (Billings, MT) and Vera Rediger (Albuquerque, NM); sister-in-law Jena Bell (Garrison, ND); 13 grandchildren, Daniel (Dorothy) LaBar, Darin (Elise) LaBar, Daryl (Ashley) LaBar, Shannon (Tom) Foisy, Brittany (Josh) Cuellar, Devin (Kaitlin) Bell, Brianna (Anthony) Red Cloud, Karina (Lance) De Zwarte, Shania (James) Rohner, Tobin Bell, Brady (Bethany) Bell, Jory and Jace Bell; and 18 great-grandchildren.

Joan will be missed greatly for her enormous heart that loved her family and friends well. She brought the love of Jesus to many even during her final days.

Memorials may be made to the Eastern Montana Bible Camp in Joan's name, the Foundation for Community Care or the charity of one's choice.

