

*One night I had a dream -  
 I dreamed I was walking along the beach  
 with the Lord and across  
 the sky flashed scenes from his life.  
 For each scene I noticed two sets  
 of footprints in the sand.  
 One belonged to me, and the other to the Lord.  
 When the last scene of my life flashed before me,  
 I looked back at the footprints in the sand.  
 I noticed that many times along  
 the path of my life,  
 There was only one set of footprints.  
 I also noticed that it happened at the very lowest  
 and saddest times in my life.  
 This really bothered me and I questioned the Lord about it.  
 "Lord, you said that once I decided to follow you,  
 You would walk with me all the way.  
 But I have noticed that during  
 the most troublesome times in  
 my life, there is only one set of footprints.  
 I don't understand why in times when I  
 needed you most, you would leave me."  
 The Lord replied, "My precious, precious child,  
 I love you and I would never, never leave you  
 during your times of trial and suffering.  
 When you see only one set of footprints,  
 it was then that I carried you."*



## *Bernice C. Volk*

**Born to Frank & Philomena Miller**

May 23, 1938

Orrin, North Dakota

**Returned to Her Heavenly Father**

Sunday, October 15, 2023

Watford City, North Dakota

**Mass of Christian Burial**

Saturday, October 21, 2023 @ 10:00 AM

Epiphany Catholic Church

Watford City, North Dakota

**Officiating**

Father Brian Gross

**Reader**

Linda Knutson

**Accompanist**

Teri Taylor

**Pallbearers**

Brandon Alexx

Brad Wolfe

Joe Wolfe

Ed Evanson

Dave Hansen

Scott Haugen

**Honorary Pallbearers**

All of Bernice's Friends & Family

**Ushers**

Arden Berg

Steve Rolla

**Final Resting Place**

Schafer Cemetery

Watford City, North Dakota

**Arrangements By**

Fulkerson Stevenson Funeral Home

Watford City, North Dakota

*In Loving*  
 M E M O R Y



*Bernice C. Volk*

May 23, 1938 - October 15, 2023





Bernice Catherine (Miller) Volk was born to Frank and Philomena (Schmaltz) Miller on May 23, 1938 in Orrin, ND, where she was raised and educated. She was united in marriage to Paul Volk on October 8, 1956 in Orrin at the Sacred Heart Catholic Church. They traveled to

many different states following the oilfield, until they finally settled in Watford City in 1963. They were married for 52 years. They enjoyed dancing in their younger years and gardening in the latter years. Bernice was a stay-at-home mom until all of her children graduated high school and then started her career at the Good Shepherd Home in the Laundry Department. She took tremendous pride in her work, folding things just so and enjoyed showing her grandchildren her place of work during the Easter Egg hunts they had there.

Bernice was talented in many areas, but especially with vegetable and flower gardening, as her thumb was Emerald Green for sure (her favorite color). Her prize cabbages, corn, carrots – etc. were pictured in the McKenzie County Farmer many times. She also entered items in the McKenzie County fair winning many ribbons. Bernice made sure that her children knew the importance of education and religion. She continued her own education later in life, working toward receiving her GED. Bernice wrote a weekly newspaper column for the Drake, ND paper called "Round Lake Ripples" for a time and had a lot of fun doing that. She was an active member of the Epiphany Catholic Church, where she participated in the Women of Epiphany and Alter Society. Her Catholic faith was very important to her. Bernice loved playing Bingo and the slots at the Casino, she was very lucky at both – but was just lucky at winning in general. Bernice shared a love of collecting cookbooks – always saying "I only have one cookbook" each time she received a new one and loved to cook, bake and can. She made the best jelly.



Bernice loved to go hunting with her son and would clean and butcher deer on the dining room table. She volunteered for her son's Cub scouts, daughter's Campfire Girls, she raised money for the March of Dimes for years and helped older friends/

neighbors in town when she was able. Bernice had a great smile, an awesome laugh and a fun sense of humor. She loved babies and was the best grandma when her grandchildren were young – always playing games, going for walks to the park, feeding them junk and often times watching them in the evenings or after-school. She tried to attend as many activities of her grandchildren as she could and was very proud of them all. Bernice enjoyed Holiday gatherings and was famous for her Knox Blox. She enjoyed spending time with her family and visiting with friends on the phone in later years. Lucy and Lorna were very special friends to her. She was proud to be a great-grandmother as well.

Bernice passed away peacefully on Sunday, October 15, 2023 at her home in Watford City with her son by her side.

Bernice is survived by her loving family; son, Robert Volk and friend Diane, Watford City; daughters, Beverly Volk and friend Tom, West Palm Beach, Florida and Joanne (Brian) Alex, Watford City; three grandchildren, – Brianna (Ryan) Chaffee, Watford City, Brandon Alex, Watford City, and Bridget Alex, Duluth, MN; one great-granddaughter, Klara, one great-grandson due next week; two sisters, Mabel (Myron) Cuning, Gold Canyon, AZ and Anna Volk, Rugby, ND; numerous nieces, nephews and friends.

Bernice was preceded in death by her parents, Frank and Philomena; step-father, Friedrich W. Nissen; her husband of 52 years, Paul; three brothers, Christian, Roy and Johnnie; two sisters, Margareta Miller and Irene Wolfe.