



God's Garden Must Be Beautiful

*God looked around his garden
and he saw an empty place.
He then looked down upon
this earth and saw your tired face.
He put His arms around you
and lifted you to rest.
God's garden must be beautiful,
He always takes the best.
He knew the road was getting rough
and the hills were hard to climb.
So He closed your weary eyelids
and whispered, "Peace be with you".
It broke our hearts to lose you,
but you did not go alone.
For part of us went with you,
the day God called you home.*

In Loving Memory LaVerne Carol Anne Strid

Born to Martin John & Cora Belle Zelmar
December 20, 1938 ~ Crosby, North Dakota

Called Home to Her Heavenly Father
April 24, 2024 ~ Tioga, North Dakota

Funeral Service
Wednesday, May 1, 2024 ~ 11:00 AM
Zion Lutheran Church
McGregor, North Dakota

Officiating
Pastor Mike Olson

Music
"On Eagles Wings" ~ Processional
"I Want To Stroll Over Heaven With You"
"Precious Lord Take My Hand"
"When We All Get To Heaven"
"It Is Well With My Soul" ~ Recessional
Brenda Kutter ~ Accompanist

Pallbearers
LaVerne's Grandchildren
Brandon Mehlhoff La'tish Mehlhoff
Tara Fjeldahl Tyler Fjeldahl
John Strid Ryan Strid Matthew Strid

Honorary Pallbearers
The Tioga Long Term Care Staff
& Tioga Medical Center Team

Final Resting Place
Sharon Cemetery ~ McGregor, North Dakota

Arrangements By
Fulkerson Stevenson Funeral Home ~ Tioga, ND



In Loving Memory

LaVerne Strid

December 20, 1938 - April 24, 2024

*A
mother's love
gives us
our first glimpse
of heaven.*



LaVerne Carol Anne (Zelmar) Strid was born to Martin John and Cora Belle (Pepper) Zelmar on December 20, 1938 at Crosby, ND in Divide County.

LaVerne attended 1st and 2nd grade at a Country School by the Zelmar farm/ homestead. They shared summers on the farm and winters in Wildrose where she attended her remaining school years. She graduated from Wildrose High School in

1957. While attending Wildrose High she was the 5'2 Bass Drummer of the Wildrose Band for 4 years. She even played for them after she was married when they needed help. She told stories of "dancing down the street" while marching with the Bass drum.

LaVerne was baptized and confirmed in the Lutheran faith at Wildrose Lutheran church.

She also worked as a waitress at the Wildrose Café which her mother Cora Zelmar operated.

LaVerne met Anton "Tony" Strid while walking with a friend to a dance in Wildrose. He stopped his "beautiful new blue car" and asked them if they would like a ride. She and her friend thought "yes, they would like a ride," but neither wanted to sit next to him. So she and her friend argued back and forth "you sit by him.....No, you sit by him...." Eventually LaVerne ended up sitting next to Tony and the romance began and continued for 2 years. They were married in Wildrose Lutheran Church on July 7, 1957. They remained happily married sweethearts for 59 years.

LaVerne and Tony farmed, raised cattle, chickens and milk cows. They had two children; a daughter, Renae LaVonne (Strid) Mehlhoff and a son, RayDean Jon Strid. LaVerne also sold Mary Kay.

She was a member of McGregor Zion Lutheran Church and an active member of WELCA.

LaVerne was preceded in death by her husband, Anton "Tony" Strid; her parents, Martin & Cora Zelmar; siblings: brother, Verdian Zelmar; sisters: Claryce Frederickson, Darlene Zelmar, Lillian Soholt, & brother-in-law, Thor Strand.

She is survived by her children, Renae (Robert) Mehlhoff of Bismarck ND, and RayDean (Juli) Strid of McGregor ND. She has 6 grandchildren: Brandon Mehlhoff, John Strid & Fiancée, Fritzie Joy DeLeon, Ryan (Chrystal) Strid, La'tish Mehlhoff, Matthew Strid, Tara (Tyler) (Mehlhoff) Fjeldahl and 1 great-grandson, Roland Jeremy Strid. She is also survived by numerous nieces, nephews and cousins and sisters-in-law, Eileen Strand, Eva Renn & Irene Jakobsen.

Although Tony was known for his storytelling; LaVerne could also be very entertaining! Her favorite title was "Grandma" and her grandchildren absolutely adored & loved her. She loved singing and dancing. She and Tony square danced in McGregor. She enjoyed ceramics, embroidery, crocheting afghans, reading, camping with family and friends, gardening, canning, flower beds, cooking and baking. They also enjoyed two cruises one to the Caribbean and an Alaskan Cruise which they thoroughly loved.

LaVerne had a heart of gold. She had the knack of touching the hearts of many as seen by the sparkle of her eyes, her cheerful smile and wide-open arms which offered hugs for everyone she met. She was well loved by many young and old alike. She truly lived the motto:

"The love in your heart wasn't put there to stay; love isn't love until you give it away."

Please share and continue "LaVerne's Legacy" by sharing that love with others each and every day.



A Mother Never Dies

*You have never lost your Mother
though you've said the last good-byes
though there's heartbreak in the parting
no one's Mother really dies.*

*If you love to hear the old songs
for the memories they bring
it's because you had a Mother
who taught your heart to sing.*

*If you stop to help a neighbor
search your heart and you will find
it's because you had a Mother
who taught you to be kind.*

*If you go to church when weary
seeking God to guide your way
it's because you had a Mother
who taught you how to pray.*

*No, you've never lost your Mother
though you've said your last good-byes.
Through your thoughts and deeds she's living
no one's Mother really dies.*