

SHOES

By Roy Holdren, written for our Mother,
Agnes Stevens

Growing up as a young boy, on the
South Dakota plains, left alot of happy
memories that still echo in my brain,
like hanging out at Stevens' farm,
6 girls & 4 boys. When we all got
together it was such a happy noise!

Might drive out in the pasture, climb up in
the barn, pull a car hood down a dirt road
when snow was packed so hard
Or come sneaking in a 2am, quiet as a mouse
But day or night, every time, that you'd
come in the house.....

"Kick your shoes off at the doorway,
line 'em up in the entry hall
Pad around in stocking feet,
laugh and have a ball!
Thirteen pair of shoes in the hallway
in a line and I'm so blessed one pair
of shoes were mine"

I'd come down in the morning and
every time I'd see a place at the
breakfast table, waiting just for me
How did Agnes do it?

One day she spilled it all
Every morning she would go and count the shoes out in the hall

CHORUS

Kick your shoes off at the doorway line them up in the entry hall
Pad around in stocking feet laugh and have a ball
Thirteen pair of shoes in the hallway in a line
And I'm so blessed one pair of shoes were mine
Yes I'm so blessed one pair of shoes were mine.

Thank you Agnes



In Loving Memory of

Agnes J. Stevens

December 16, 1929
Elkader, Iowa

October 2, 2016
Faulkton, South Dakota

WAKE SERVICE: 7:00 p.m., Wednesday, October 5, 2016
St. Thomas the Apostle Church ~ Faulkton, South Dakota

HYMNS: "You Are Mine" "Let There Be Peace on Earth"

MASS OF CHRISTIAN BURIAL: 10:30 a.m., Thursday, October 6, 2016
St. Thomas the Apostle Church ~ Faulkton, South Dakota

OFFICIATING: Fr. Christopher Hughes

LECTOR: Hazel Holt

OFFERTORY GIFTS: Kevin and Shannon Miles

ALTAR SERVERS: Chase Melius, Jaden Melius, Philip Holsing

PLACING OF THE PALL: Molly Neilan, Amy Stevens,
Rainy Stevens, Layla Stevens, LaNae Stevens

CASKET BEARERS: Thomas Neilan, Tim Stevens, Kellen Eiesland,
Justin Eiesland, Keegan Miles, Caelan Miles

HONORARY CASKET BEARERS:

All of Agnes' Grandchildren and Great Grandchildren

ORGANIST: Linda Bartholomew

VOCALIST: Jerry Bowar

HYMNS: "Blest Are They" "Hail Mary, Gentle Woman"
"Taste and See" "Ave Maria" "Sing With All the Saints In Glory"

INTERMENT:

St. Thomas the Apostle Cemetery ~ Faulkton, South Dakota

Agnes J. Stevens was born on December 16, 1929 along with her twin sister, Margaret Dahlhauser, to Frank and Stella Farrell on their farm in Elkader, Iowa. Agnes and Margaret were one of three sets of twins, along with five single siblings. After graduating high school, she moved to Rochester, MN to attend St. Mary's Nursing School. Upon graduation, she worked at St. Mary's Hospital in Rochester, where she had a patient named Duane Stevens. A year later, on August 18, 1952, they married and moved to Faulkton, SD for a short time and then to the Stevens' farm east of Faulkton. Here they raised ten children and taught them the importance of love of God above anything else, the courage to forgive, to love one another always, and to pray unceasingly. She returned to nursing in 1972 and worked for many years at the JP Shirk Memorial Home. They retired from farming and moved to Faulkton, due to Duane's health, in 2002. Duane passed away in August of 2003 and Agnes stayed in their house until 2008 when she moved to The Meadows Assisted Living Center then eventually to the Faulkton Health Care Center where she lived at the time of her death.

Agnes loved playing sports and started a girls' softball team in Miranda, SD; where she played along with her daughters. She also started the Miranda Ladies Neighborhood gathering, which has met once a year for the past 11 years and has grown considerably. She celebrated every child's birthday and every holiday with such excitement it was as if royalty was arriving! She would take her kids, and any neighbor kids who wanted to go, swimming at Lake Gerken. With ten children, very often they would bring a friend or two home and she loved it! She counted the shoes in the hall in order to set the table for breakfast! She was the very best loving, hard-working, giggling, cooking (she could knead bread dough so fast you could hardly see her hands), energetic, spiritual Mom, and blessed her husband and ten children every day with her presence.

Agnes is survived by her children: Maureen Eiesland, Rapid City, SD, Colleen Stevens, Buffalo Gap, SD, Erin (Jeff) Talbot, San Gabriel, CA, Kathleen (George) Ybanez, Eugene, OR, and Shannon (Kevin) Miles, Sioux Falls, SD, Patrick Stevens, Cresbard, SD, Timothy (Roxanne) Stevens, Escondido, CA, and Kelly Stevens, Springfield, SD; thirty grandchildren; thirteen great-grandchildren; sisters: Estelle (Vern) Holtz, San Gabriel, CA, and Margaret (Art) Dahlhauser, Nashville, TN; and numerous nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her wonderful husband, Duane Stevens; her oldest child, Michael; her youngest child, Theresa; her grandsons, Cody Neilan and Colby Eiesland; brothers: Conrad, Frank, James, Raymond, Timothy, Thomas, and Danny; sister, Dorothy; her parents, Frank and Stella Farrell; and many nieces and nephews.



Faulkton, South Dakota
www.familyfuneralhome.net

