



Virginia Bloomenrader, 90, Highmore, passed away, Friday, June 18, 2010 at the Highmore Healthcare Center.

Virginia Ruth Bloomenrader was born on July 27, 1919, in Popejoy, Iowa to Hugh H. and Louise (Krismer) Hartshorn.

In February of 1920, Virginia moved to South Dakota with her parents who had recently purchased the ranch where Virginia was raised and spent her entire life.

Virginia attended country grade school through eighth grade and then began high school in Highmore. It was in high school she met Leon Bloomenrader, the man she would marry. Leon and Virginia were married in March of 1937, shortly before she graduated from Highmore High School as Salutatorian of the Class of 1937.

Not long after their marriage, they settled on the present day Bloomenrader Ranch. In 1938, the first of their five children were born. Thus began 40 years of life together on the ranch where Leon and Virginia worked as partners. Virginia had no greater love than for her family and the ranch. She was an accomplished horseman and spent many hours in her youth riding the prairie with her younger sister, Jane. Long after her children were born, when it was time to round-up the cattle, you would often find her in the saddle, lending a hand.

In the late 1960's, Virginia, feeling she had her family well-grown and in school, began work as the Postmistress at Stephan Mission. She held this job for over 30 years, retiring in 1999, after she turned 80. In her spare time, Virginia enjoyed painting, writing poetry and short stories, and was a voracious reader. She dearly loved her pet cats, who kept her company after Leon passed away in 1979. Mostly, she just loved her family and being a country girl and life on the ranch.

Left to cherish her memory are her five children: Judy Blair, of Pierre, SD; Dennis (Carla) Bloomenrader of Highmore, SD; Scott (Karen) Bloomenrader of Billings, MT; Bret (Wendy) Bloomenrader of Highmore, SD; and Ricki Bloomenrader (Dale Kiepke) of Pierre, SD; 12 grandchildren; 33 great-grandchildren; and several great-great-grandchildren.

Virginia was preceded in death by her husband, Leon; her parents; her sister, Jane; her brother, Fred; and her son-in-law, Earl Blair.

In Loving Memory

Virginia Bloomenrader

July 27, 1919
Popejoy, Iowa

June 18, 2010
Highmore, South Dakota

Memorial Service

10:30 a.m., Monday, June 28, 2010

Luze Funeral Home
Highmore, South Dakota

Clergy

Roger Day

Soloist

Roger Day

"How Great Thou Art"

"In The Garden"

"Amazing Grace"



Highmore, South Dakota
www.familyfuneralhome.net

In tears we saw you sinking,
And watched you pass away.
Our hearts were almost broken,
We wanted you to stay.
It broke our hearts to lose you,
But you did not go alone,
For part of us went with you
The day God took you home.

If roses grow in Heaven,
Lord, pick a bunch for me
Place them in my mother's arms,
And tell her they're from me.
Tell her I love her and miss her
And when she turns to smile,
Place a kiss upon her cheek
And hold her for awhile.
Because remembering her is easy,
I do it every day.
But there's an ache within my heart
That will never go away.

Don't think of her as gone away,
Her journey's just begun.
Life holds so many facets,
This earth is only one.
Just think of her as resting
From the sorrows and the tears
In a place of warmth and comfort
Where there are no days and years.
Think how she must e wishing
That we could know today
Nothing but our sadness
Can really pass away.
And think of her as living
In the hearts of those she touched,
For nothing loved is ever lost
And she is loved so very much.

Author Unknown

