

Arlene Hemminger, 80 years, six months and 10 days, of Highmore, passed away Wednesday, October 26, 2011 at the Highmore Health in Highmore.

Arlene was born April 16, 1931 in Highmore, South Dakota to Tom and Helen (Johnson) Brooks. Arlene attended school in rural Hyde County and Holabird Schools, graduating from Highmore High School in 1951. After attending college in Aberdeen, she taught school in rural Hyde County.

On December 21, 1952, she married Howard Hemminger. They made their home on the Hemminger homestead in William Hamilton Township. Arlene continued teaching and helping with the farm operation. She remained on the farm in their home until moving to Highmore in 2004.

Howard and Arlene were blessed with two children, Don, born November 20, 1963 and Dixie, born June 19, 1966. Raising Don and Dixie was the most important thing to Arlene and Howard. Some memorable events of "Mom" to Don and Dixie while growing up included mom driving the tractor, against her will and tearing out many fences and hitting rock piles; cultivating corn and losing a shank and then having to go back to the field to look for it; and playing pranks with the water faucet. They also remember their mom attending many school activities, driving them to town for music lessons; attending church functions and helping with 4-H activities. They fondly remember their mother attending the state fair year after year and staying throughout the long week. As a mother, Arlene also carpooled with the other neighborhood mothers to take children to school. Not only a mother, Arlene spent many hours enjoying her many nieces and nephews when they would come to the farm for holidays, weekends and during summer months.

In later years, one of Arlene's biggest enjoyments were her six grandchildren thus she became known as "Granny".

After the drought in 1976, Arlene began working as a cook at the Highmore Healthcare Center and remained in that position until the fall of 2004.

She was a member of Our Savior Lutheran Church, Miriam Circle, Community Club, Senior Citizens Center and was on the William Hamilton Township Board for many years. She taught Sunday school over the years and was a 4-H leader. She enjoyed reading, playing cards, putting puzzles together and listening to baseball games on the radio, later watching them on television. One thing she did not enjoy was singing, but she loved to listen to music.

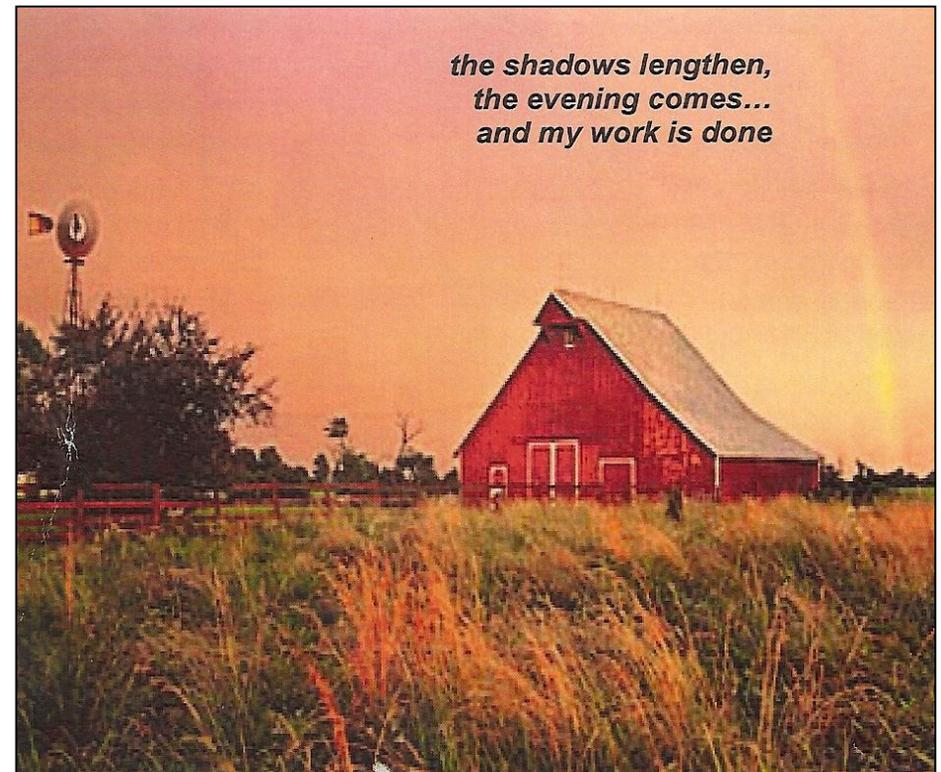
Her memory will be cherished by her children: Don (Sandi) Hemminger and Dixie (Mike) Volek, all of Highmore; grandchildren: Haley (Bill) Wurdeman of Mitchell, NE, Shanda (Nathan) Spilde of Highmore, Blake Hemminger of Eagle Butte, Tia Hemminger of Sioux Falls and Sherise Volek of Highmore; sister-in-law, Faye Brooks; brother-in-law, Ralph Buthe; and a host of nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents; husband, Howard; grandson, Winston Hemminger; brothers: Ray, Cleo, Jay and Leonard Brooks; and sisters: Maxine Buthe, Beulah Kirtz, LaVina Brooks, Florence Brooks, Belva Brooks, Mayme Blackburn and Veva Buchholz.

Arrangements Entrusted To



Highmore, South Dakota
www.familyfuneralhome.net



*the shadows lengthen,
the evening comes...
and my work is done*

God's Farm

*God needs someone in heaven
To plow and plant the rows
And when He calls on me,
I know that I must go.
Remember that I won't be gone,
I will just be away,
Working on God's farm
'till we're united again one day.
There will be no storms in heaven
And the fields are long and straight.
When it's time for you to join me,
I'll be waiting inside heaven's gate.
Remember until the day arrives,
When once more our lives we'll share,
To look in the green fields growing
And you'll see me working there.*

Celebrating A Life

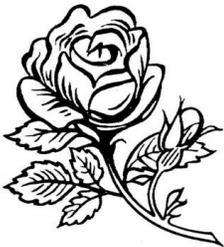
Arlene Hemminger

April 16, 1931
Highmore, South Dakota

October 26, 2011
Highmore, South Dakota



*A Mother holds
her children's hands
for a while...
their hearts forever.*



FUNERAL SERVICE

10:00 a.m., Monday, October 31, 2011
Our Savior Lutheran Church
Highmore, South Dakota

OFFICIATING

Pastor David Peterson

CASKETBEARERS: Grandchildren

Haley (Hemminger) & Bill Wurdeman
Shanda (Volek) & Nathan Spilde
Blake Hemminger – Tia Hemminger – Sherise Volek

HONORARY CASKETBEARERS

Mark Hague – Randy Hague – Hazel Clement
Greg Clement – Everett Clement – Jerry Dittman
Clara Mae Hoffman – Velma Walker

USHER

Randy Hague

GUESTBOOK

Eleanor Steptoe – Lois Hart

FLOWERBEARERS

Pat Childs – Mary Robinson

MUSICIAN

Cynthia Sampson

"I Was There To Hear Your Borneing Cry"

CONGREGATIONAL HYMNS

"We Are Called" – "Sent Forth By God's Blessing"

INTERMENT

Highmore Cemetery
Highmore, South Dakota