

Helen Marie Knippling was born October 30, 1930 to Lambert and Alice (Kintigh) Knippling at Gann Valley, SD. She attended grade school in the ranch's back yard school, and high school at Mount Marty in Yankton. She obtained her teaching certificate from Mt. Marty and taught a few years at the Knippling School. Helen obtained her degree in Education from Huron College and taught for several years in Harrold and Ft. Thompson.

Helen married Wayne Peterson on June 5, 1952 at Immaculate Conception Church, Stephan, SD. To this union eight children were born: Thomas (Candi), Burien, WA, Cheryl (Fred) Schaefer, Polo, SD, Janet (Rick) Martinmaas, Polo, SD, Elizabeth (Steve) Clark, Ft. Pierre, SD, James (Tammy), Fruitdale, SD, and John Charles (Georgeen), Wolsey, SD. They lost two children at birth, Kenneth and Mary Alice.

Wayne and Helen farmed and ranched south of Holabird until retiring to Highmore in 2005. She spent the early 1980's caring for the ranch, including calving out a large herd of cattle with son Jim, while Wayne was traveling the country as a leader of the American Agriculture Movement. At the age of 56, Helen graduated from Dakota Wesleyan College as a Registered Nurse, and worked in Huron, Pierre, and Highmore. She was a member of the CPH club, Catholic Daughters, Church Altar Society, NFO, and American Ag Movement. She loved the South Dakota prairies, and the secrets to be found in its soil, from Indian artifacts to treasures left behind by settlers. Her family loved to listen to her play the piano and organ. Helen tried every craft from tatting to quilting. She was happy to share the history of quilts and its ties to American History. She loved to cook, and there was always plenty! She could take 3 pounds of frozen hamburger from freezer to table in 30 minutes! Helen was the keeper of family history for both the Peterson and Knippling families.

Helen is survived by children: Tom, Cheryl, Betty, Jim and Charlie; her brothers: Francis (Donna), John (Cheryl), Joe (LeAnn); brother-in-law, Frank Schnell; sister, Carol Ann (Larry) Marsh; and sister-in-law, Claire Ryan.

She was preceded in death by daughter, Janet Martinmaas; husband, Wayne Peterson; parents, Lambert and Alice; sisters: Catherine Van Balen and Margaret Schnel; brothers: Robert and Howard; sisters-in-law: Ethel Knippling and Karen Knippling; and brother-in-law, Ross Van Balen.

The family would like to thank the Faulkton Hospital doctors and staff for the wonderful care they provided. Also Fr. Christopher for the time he spent with us. God bless each of you who spent time with us or called, and all who held her up in prayer. It meant so much to us to be in Faulkton, where we felt free to pray, laugh, cry, argue, and share love.

In Loving Memory

Helen M. Peterson

October 30, 1930
Gann Valley, South Dakota

January 18, 2016
Faulkton, South Dakota

ROSARY & WAKE SERVICE: 6:30 p.m., Sunday, January 24, 2016
St. Mary's Catholic Church ~ Highmore, South Dakota

ROSARY BY: Catholic Daughters of the Americas-Orient/Polo, Highmore

EULOGIST: Maureen Schaefer

MASS OF CHRISTIAN BURIAL: 11:00 a.m., Monday, January 25, 2016
St. Mary's Catholic Church ~ Highmore, South Dakota

OFFICIATING: Fr. Chester Murtha

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTER: Connie Hageman

CASKETBEARERS: Scott Martinmaas, Grady Peterson,
Luke Peterson, Paul Schaefer, Jacob Schaefer, Sam Schaefer

HONORARY CASKETBEARERS: All of Helen's Grandkids

PLACING OF THE PALL: Helen's Family

ALTAR SERVERS: Kade Ries and Lily Schaefer

OFFERTORY GIFTS: Joni Martinmaas, Danielle High Bear,
Josie Schaefer, Kally Peterson

READERS: Bella Schaefer, Kimberly Peterson, Lacy Peterson, Jessica Boldt

USHERS: Skeet Smith and Larry Kerr

ORGANIST: Katherine Porter

SONG LEADER: Victor Nemecek

HYMNS: "We Gather Together" "The Supper of the Lord"
"Oh Lord, I am Not Worthy" "On This Day O Beautiful Mother"
"Song of Farewell" "Lead Me Lord" "Hail Mary Gentle Woman"

INTERMENT: Medicine Hill Cemetery ~ Harrold, South Dakota

Family was important to Helen, and she spent many hours exploring with her grandchildren, opening their world to the wonders of the past and present times. Although she never ran for office like her husband Wayne, she remained politically active until the week of her death, taking in the Republican Presidential Debate! The American Indian people and culture fascinated her, and she passed respect for their culture onto her children. In her final words, she asked everyone to pray the rosary for peace in our world. Only God knows what the future will bring, but we need His protection, and what a better advocate for our needs than the Blessed Mother.

Grandchildren (with Great-grands) are Tom & former wife Kae's: Kimberly & Wayne Peterson, Cheryl & Fred Schaefer's: Belle (Nick), Josie & Kevin Ries (Kade, Kolby, Zach, and Spencer), Mo (Lily) & fiancée Rusty Wernsmann, Sam & Kelly Schaefer's (Olivia and Noah), Paul & Blair Schaefer's, Paivi & Patrick Stone, and Jacob & fiancée Brittany Carmichael. Janet (deceased) & Rick Martinmaas': Jessica & Tim Boldt, Scott & Joni Martinmaas, Betty & Steve Clark's: Luke & JoAnna Peterson (Kelly, Trevor & Brady), Danielle & Eric High Bear (Logan, Wesley & Carson), Jim & Tammy Peterson's: Lacy & fiancé Zach (Andrew & Harolynn), Kally, Bailey & Jacob, Mica, Grady, & Shayney), and Charlie & Georgeen's: Chris (Gabriel)



Why do I Cry

By Helen Peterson

*God put tears
in my
eye*

*that I may
share joys*


*that I may
share sorrows*

*Sometimes —
just because
I need to
LEAK
a*

*bit of something—
what I don't know
not because of joy—
not because of sorrow—*

*Just because
I love you!!!*

Luze
FUNERAL HOME
Highmore, South Dakota
www.familyfuneralhome.net



*A
Life
Remembered*