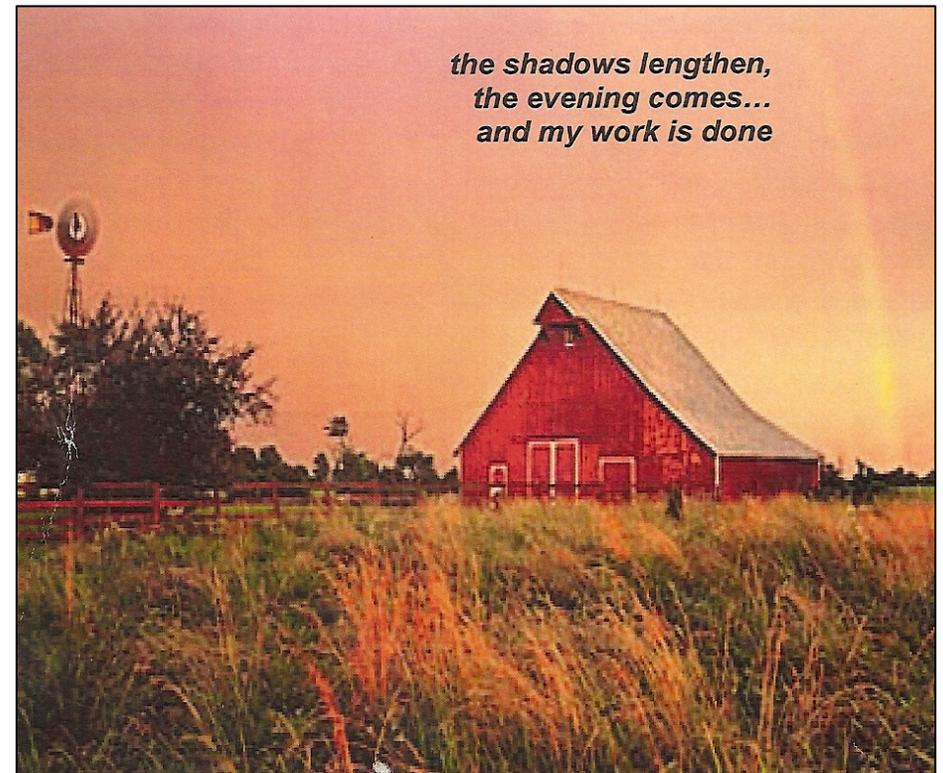


Vera E. Dean

Order of Service

- OPENING PRAYER.....Pastor Bob Ohnstad
- WELCOME.....Dale & Galen Dean
- FAMILY INTRODUCTION.....Dale Dean
- SHARING OF
MEMORIES.....Dale Dean
- SCRIPTURE READING and REFLECTION.....Pastor Bob Ohnstad
- SOLO - “How Great Thou Art”Brian
Bergeleen
- EASTERN STAR RITE.....Crescent Chapter 4
- SOLO - “If Heaven”Brian
Bergeleen
- PRAYERS.....Pastor Bob Ohnstad
- THE LORD’S PRAYER
- CLOSING REMARKS.....Dale Dean
- BENEDICTION.....Pastor Bob Ohnstad
- The family will proceed to G.A.R. Cemetery for graveside rites and invites everyone to Trinity Lutheran Church for some lunch and fellowship.



The Farmer's Creed

We believe a person's greatest possession is their dignity and that no calling bestows this more abundantly than farming.

We believe hard work and honest sweat are the building blocks of a person's character.

We believe that farming, despite its hardships and disappointments, is the most honest and honorable way a person can spend their days on this earth.

We believe that by our toil we are giving more to the world than we are taking from it, an honor that does not come to all people.

We believe when persons grow old and sum up their days, they should be able to stand tall and feel pride in the life they have lived.

We believe in farming because it makes all this possible.

Vera Dean, 92, of Oxnard, California and formerly of Miller, SD, passed away Thursday, December 3, 2009 in Ventura, California.



Vera was born in Marian County, Iowa during the annual spring flood so when her dad, Cornelius "Bud" DeGeest, arrived with the doctor, they had to tie the boat up to the door knob of the house. This was probably the christening of her renowned sense of humor. Vera moved to Hand County with her family as a child to accommodate her mother's, Grace (Wilson) DeGeest's, respiratory ailment. She went to country school and Ree Heights High School. As the

oldest child, she took on tasks that always livened up the story telling at family gatherings, like breaking "Old Silver", shocking grain with her sister Isabel for the thrashing crew and white washing the kitchen. She always said that while growing up on a farm in hard times, she never felt poor and never went hungry. This sense of self sufficiency was inherited by her sons.

As a young lady, she moved to Miller and worked at the hotel and the Pantry Lunch making friends with many other young adults who entertained themselves, and "the gang" made trips together documenting them with pictures and stories. It was during this time she met Leonard, who worked at the "Triple A Office" later known as the ASC. They were married on September 18, 1938. They lived in Miller where their siblings also stayed for High School a tradition that extended to the next generation. Sons, Dale and Galen were born in Miller at the hospital over the Tom Hogan's Grocery Store. They purchased a small farm south of Miller in the early 40's. Vera was "at home" on the farm tending to the chickens and milk cows as well as the laborious cooking and chores required to support all the other operations. Jobs at the Coffee Cup Café always brought home new recipes which she perfected on the old gas stove. Brothers

and cousins always had this place to come to in order to get started on their own. In the mid 50's the family moved to Miller where Vera worked at the Jones Drug Store and later the Rest Home. Mrs. Campbell called her the longest part time employee on record. These times were never work for Vera but rather a chance to socialize and share stories. During this time she became more active in the Eastern Star and she cherished the opportunity to dress up and participate.

The home in Miller was always a gathering spot for friends and relatives. The coffee pot was always on and "visiting" was a practiced science. Travel was always on the calendar. Leonard drove while Vera knitted afghans for every member of the family. Retirement farther extended their vacations to where ever their son's were living. California was a favorite winter time spot and they also loved going to the east coast. After a year at Good Samaritan in Miller, Vera moved to Dale's home in Oxnard, California. Later, her care giving was shared with Galen thanks to the great accommodations made by Southwest Air Lines. We have some great stories to tell you about these trips. Going for a ride in the car became one of Vera's last verbally expressed pleasures as her dementia advanced. "I am going to Miller in the big car". At the respite care facility where she passed away on December 3, 2009, the care givers expressed this phrase with us, "She has gone to Miller in the big car".

She is survived by sons: Dale (Lupe) of Oxnard, CA and Galen (Sharon) of Plate City, MO; sisters: Opal Roach of Miller and Mary Lou Seville of Pomona, CA; brother, Robert of Redfield; grandchildren: Greg (Amy) of Mumbai, India, Brad (Penny) of Tea, SD, Jeff (Karen) of Lawrence, KS, Brian (Cindy) of Milwaukee, WI, and Denise (Allen Landers) Auburn, AL and great grandchildren: Robin, Heather, Allen, Alisa, Alex, Ryan, Madelyn, Nathan and Drew.

Preceding her in death by her husband Leonard; her parents; and sisters: Isabel and Wilma.