

# Mary Christopherson

*We Celebrate...*

December 14, 1950  
Wahpeton, North Dakota

April 18, 2012  
Miller, South Dakota

## MASS OF CHRISTIAN BURIAL

10:30 a.m., Saturday, April 23, 2012  
St. Ann's Catholic Church ~ Miller, South Dakota

**CELEBRANT:** Father Chester Murtha

## CASKETBEARERS

Ron Welch                      Mark Ketelhut                      Mark Fulton  
Paul Fulton                      Travis Anderberg                      Bernie Huisman

## HONORARY CASKETBEARERS

Mary's Brothers & Sisters

**LECTOR:** Tyann Jones

**USHERS:** Brian Jones & Tyler Melroe

**EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS:** Marg Fauss & Mike Arth

## GIFTBEARERS

Mary's Brothers & Sisters

## MUSICIANS

Connie Schroeder                      St. Ann's Choir  
Steve Melroe                      Annie Fulton                      Lex Werdel

## MUSIC SELECTIONS

"Hail Holy Queen Enthroned Above" – "On Eagle's Wings"  
"Amazing Grace" – "The Old Rugged Cross"  
"Celtic Song of Farewell" – "Faith of Our Fathers"

## INTERMENT

St. Ann's Cemetery  
Miller, South Dakota

Arrangements Entrusted To



Miller, South Dakota  
[www.familyfuneralhome.net](http://www.familyfuneralhome.net)



*Mary Christopherson*

*1950 - 2012*





*Mary Christopherson*, 61, of Miller, passed away Wednesday, April 18, 2012 at Avera Hand County Memorial Hospital, Miller from pancreatic cancer.

Mary Carol (Arth) Christopherson was born December 14, 1950, to Paul and Caroline (Fischer) Arth in Wahpeton, ND. Mary grew up on farms north of Cayuga and Geneseo, ND. She

graduated valedictorian of her class in 1968 from St. Francis Academy, Hankinson, ND. She continued her education at Presentation College and Northern State University, graduating in 1972 with a Bachelors of Science degree in education.

Mary taught at Banner School in the Faulkton, SD, district from 1972 to 1975 and then in the Rice Lake School in the Highmore, SD, district from 1975 to 1976. From 1977 to 1980, she taught fourth grade in Milnor, ND, before moving to the Miller School District. Mary taught at Bates School and Mondamin before finally teaching in Miller until her retirement in 2010. Mrs. C's students have commented on her good sense of humor and many songs, while their parents noted how much she helped and cared for her students.



On August 3, 1974, she was united in marriage to Randy Christopherson in Orient, SD. These complete opposite personalities shared their lives and had three talented children and five beautiful grandchildren. Matthew Carter was born March 29, 1977. He and his wife Amy have two children: RyLeigh Ann and Carter Dean. Michael Alan was born November 2, 1979. He and his wife Corinna have two



children: Katelyn Marie and Emily Sue. Nicole Leigh was born March 14, 1981. She and her husband Joshua Biever have one daughter: Elizabeth Caroline.

Mary's grandchildren were the light of her life. They loved the poems she wrote and the buns she baked for them. They all loved to dance and do projects together.

Mary was devoted to the Catholic faith, her patron saint, the Blessed Virgin Mary, and the rosary. Her interests included dancing, baking, and collecting recipes and nativity sets. She cherished her friendships with fellow choir members and teachers.

She is survived by her husband, children, grandchildren, four brothers, and four sisters: Lawrence (Carol) Arth, Michael (Wava) Arth, Francis Arth, Marguerite (Don) Fauss, Thomas (Janet) Arth, Barbara (Steve) Melroe, Michele (Art) Gilbertsen, Denise Arth (Frank Racaniello); sisters-in-law, Mary Etta Arth and Theresa Arth; sister-in-spirit, Terice (Mark) Ketelhut, and many nieces and nephews.



She was preceded in death by her parents and grandparents.

Mary was adamant about having no flowers at her funeral. Instead, a handmade, wooden cross has been lovingly made by her nephew and godchild, Aaron Fauss, and placed on her casket.

