

*"For those I love...for those who love me...
When I am gone, release me, let me go...
I have so many things to see and do.
You mustn't tie yourself to me with tears,
be happy that we had so many years.
I gave you my love.
You can only guess
how much you gave me in happiness.
I thank you for the love you each have shown,
but now it's time I traveled on alone!
So grieve a while for me, if grieve you must.
Then let your grief be comforted by trust.
It's only for a while that we must part,
so bless the memories that lie within your heart.
I won't be far away, for life goes on.
So if you need me, call and I will come.
Though you can't see me or touch me, I'll be near.
And then, when you must come this way alone...
I'll greet you with a smile and say
'Welcome Home'."*

Arrangements Entrusted To



Miller, South Dakota
www.familyfuneralhome.net

"Providing Comfort To Families"





Aileen Gerdes, 88, of Miller, passed away Thursday, June 27, 2013 at the Good Samaritan Society of Miller.

Aileen was born April 20, 1925 in Miller to Joe and Meryle (Biddle) Roalstad. When she was four years old, her family moved to a farm 5 ½ miles west of Miller in Midland Township. She went to grade school at Speirs School, which was ½ mile from their farm and she walked to

school all eight years. She graduated from Miller High School in 1943. She then moved to DeSmet and worked in the Social Security office. On January 7, 1944, she married James Gerdes. They lived in Miller for two months and then moved 3 ½ miles south of Miller where they lived for fifty-four years before they moved into Miller. They wintered in Brownsville, Texas for twenty years. In 2008, she moved to the Prairie Good Samaritan Center.

Aileen worked in the kitchen at the Prairie Center from 1976 to 1985. She was a lifelong member of the Miller First United Methodist Church. She also was involved in the Methodist Women's Circle, Hand County Extension Club, Eastern Star, P.T.A. and Farmer's Union. Aileen is survived by her four children: Roger (Marcia) Gerdes of Miller, Suzy (Larry) Blaseg of Miller, Sandra (Harvey) Ramirez of Sioux Falls, Sheryl Bedard of Sioux Falls; five grandchildren; and eight great grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Jim on June 23, 2003; her parents; one brother, Dale Roalstad and two sisters, Doris Macheel and Joyce Curren.

In Loving Memory

Aileen Gerdes

April 20, 1925
Miller, South Dakota

June 27, 2013
Miller, South Dakota

PRAYER SERVICE

7:00 p.m., Sunday, June 30, 2013
Reck Funeral Home
Miller, South Dakota

FUNERAL SERVICE

2:00 p.m., Monday, July 1, 2013
First United Methodist Church
Miller, South Dakota

OFFICIATING

Pastor Mark Johnsen

CASKETBEARERS

Joe Blaseg
Trevor Ekle

Michael Blaseg
Nathan Blaseg

Shane Bertsch
Matthew Blaseg

SHARING OF MEMORIES

Amy Bertsch

USHERS

Gene Norton & Wayne Moncur

PIANIST

Linda Blackburn

SOLOIST

Shane Bertsch

"The Old Rugged Cross" & "In the Garden"

CONGREGATIONAL HYMN

"Amazing Grace"

INTERMENT

G.A.R. Cemetery
Miller, South Dakota