

Hazel was born September 21, 1922 in Pope County, Minnesota to Vance Hunter and Blanche (Nelson) Hunter. She was the third child of seven children – Vance, Isabel, Hazel, Florence, Luella, Helen and DeLoris. Her dad worked for a farming company which caused them to live at various farms throughout Minnesota. Hazel had fond memories of living on the Moon place and the Highcroft farm.

In the summer of 1938, she met the love of her life William “Bill” Apley at a barn dance. Bill was visiting from North Dakota for the summer. When he returned home he sent Hazel a wooden heart shaped box with stationary inside and asked her to write to him. With her Dad's permission she began sending love letters to North Dakota. On October 31, 1940 they were married in Glenwood, Minnesota. Hazel loved to tell the story how she and Bill only had 3 dates before they were married – one in each year of 1938, 1939 and 1940.

Upon their marriage they moved to the Black Hills of South Dakota where Bill worked helping to build the Pactola Dam. From there they briefly lived in North Dakota, and then moved to the Blunt area where Bill worked at various ranches. It was here they began their family of five children – Larry, Ted, Judith, Susan and Shirley. Bill left the ranching life to help build the Oahe and Fort Thompson dams. Eventually they moved to Miller where Hazel and Bill began a TV repair business.

Hazel was a loving mother who enjoyed baking, sewing, gardening, fishing, reading, bird watching and singing. She enjoyed playing Scrabble and card games. She welcomed all into her home with a smile and offer of food and a beverage.

Hazel was proud of her children's accomplishment in education, military service and all their endeavors. She excelled in supporting them through the many passions and difficulties of their lives. Often her support came with laughter and jokes such as “It's a long way from your heart – you'll live!”

Tending her legacy and preserving her stories are her children: son, Lawrence & Maritina (Tina) Apley, Phoenix, AZ, Larry's family: Melissa McGee-Apley, Gage, Hunter, TJ, Phoenix, AZ; Christine & David Apley-Gomez, Anthony, Adam, Eve, Avery, and Aaliya, Hereford, AZ; son, Theodore Apley, Independence, MO, Ted's family: Khristopher & Debbie Carpenter-Apley, Benjamin, Katrina Apley, Cyrus, all from Independence, MO, daughter, Judith Apley, Miller, Judith's family: Nelsina Apley, Miller, and Pandi Rezac family; daughter, Susan & Jim Apley-Ries, Phoenix, AZ; daughter, Shirley Apley, Huron; youngest sister, DeLoris Anderson of Littleton, CO, and many nieces and nephews.

Preceding her in death are her husband, Bill; grandson, James William Apley; daughter-in-law, Kathy Bailey Apley; great grandchildren: Malachi and Layla; parents: Vance and Blanche Hunter; brother, Vance, Jr.; sisters: Isabel, Florence, Luella, Helen and their respective spouses.



*Hazel M. Apley*

*September 21, 1922 - August 17, 2020*

## **Trees**

BY JOYCE KILMER

*I think that I shall never see  
A poem lovely as a tree.*

*A tree whose hungry mouth is prest  
Against the earth's sweet flowing breast;*

*A tree that looks at God all day,  
And lifts her leafy arms to pray;*

*A tree that may in Summer wear  
A nest of robins in her hair;*

*Upon whose bosom snow has lain;  
Who intimately lives with rain.*

*Poems are made by fools like me,  
But only God can make a tree.*

Arrangements Entrusted to

**Reck**  
FUNERAL HOME

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

IN  
*Loving*  
MEMORY

## **Hazel M. Apley**

September 21, 1922 - August 17, 2020

### **Visitation:**

9:00 a.m., Monday, August 24, 2020  
First United Methodist Church  
Miller, South Dakota

### **Funeral Service:**

10:00 a.m., Monday, August 24, 2020  
First United Methodist Church  
Miller, South Dakota

**Minister:** Pastor Teresa Whetsel

### **Casketbearers:**

Doug Fritzsche - Merle Jenner  
Rodney Hunter - Terry Augspurger  
Duane Aymar - Chancey Rezac  
Shannon Speck - Jim Keeter

### **Honorary Casketbearers:**

Lloyd Schwartz - Del Van Zee  
Del Jury - Gerald Palmer  
Marvin Palmer - Jim Ries

### **Musical Selections:**

"Gathering Flowers for My Master's Bouquet"  
"In The Garden"  
"Lily of The Valley"  
"Scottish Bagpipes-Amazing Grace"

### **Interment:**

GAR Cemetery  
Miller, South Dakota