

## *For My Grandma*

I know we are all feeling a little bit sad,  
That we've lost our Grandma,  
our friend and our mom  
Together we have cried an ocean of tears  
As we feel so empty and hold many fears.

But Grandma would want us to know  
she's in a good place  
And that she's watching us all  
with a smile on her face  
As we have made her so proud,  
as proud as can be  
That she has raised such  
a beautiful and special family.

Thinking back now I really must say  
I feel lucky and privileged to  
have known Grandma to this day  
For in my life, you have played a special part  
The memories I will treasure  
and keep close to my heart.

For me I am glad my little baby she got to meet  
And for all of us, be grateful, her life is now complete  
To each one of us she has loved and cared  
And a family, be thankful for the good times we shared

Although she has gone we will always be together  
And her spirit will live on each one of us forever  
When you look to the sky, look for the brightest star  
As that will be Grandma looking down on us from afar.

And now I would like to thank the good Lord above  
For blessing us with our Grandma with her kindness and love  
Dear God, if it is not too much fuss  
Take extra special care of our Grandma  
as she is very dear to us.

Grandma, if you are listening say a prayer for us every day  
Be sure to protect us and guide us on our way  
We know when God called you, you had to go  
But we want you to know Grandma,  
we miss you and love you so.

-----Ilona Blake



I N L O V I N G  
*Memory*

**Myrtle Cooper**

**November 11, 1921 - February 13, 2021**



Myrtle Cooper, 99, of Highmore, passed away Saturday, February 13, 2021 at Highmore Health.

Myrtle was born on November 11, 1921 in Buffalo County, SD to Bernard and Clara (Abernathy) Gregg. She was the third born of nine children. When she was a baby the family moved to "the pocket" near the Missouri River in Hughes County. She grew up on a ranch helping her dad and herding sheep with her sister, Mildred. Myrtle had many stories to tell about life during the dirty thirties. She attended an elementary one room country school, graduating from Harrold High School in 1940. After high school, she attended Notre Dame Academy in Mitchell to pursue a teaching diploma. Her first teaching position was at the De Grey School and paid an annual wage of \$700. She rode horse back over two miles morning and night.

In 1946, Myrtle took a break from teaching and married Billy Cooper of De Grey, where they made a home and raised their four children. She kept busy working side by side with Billy on their ranch, milking cows, raising a big garden, and tending to all the "other" animals. She was a good friend and mother figure to anyone that needed it.

Myrtle returned to teaching after all the kids were in school. Attending night classes and summer school, she received her bachelor's degree in education. After Billy passed in 1974, Myrtle remained on the ranch, continued teaching until she retired in 1986 and moved to Harrold to be closer to family.

She was an active member of the St. John's Catholic Church and community, serving as a 4-H leader, school board member, Mid Dakota Rural Water board member, and an active member of the Helping Hand Club. Myrtle enjoyed attending grandkids' activities, making quilts, crocheting, and tending to her roses. She also sold Stanley Home Products for over 40 years.

Myrtle will be greatly missed by her four kids: Kathryn (Norman) Galinat, Will (Norma) Cooper, Mary (Bruce) Norman, and Susan (Mike) Roberts; her grandchildren: Shannon (Stacey) Galinat, Kristin (Lee) Kinney, Darrin (Anna) Galinat, Derrick (Jamie) Galinat, Heidi (Chad) Justus, Heather (Shad) Sweeney, Steven (Heather) Norman, Tyson (Myra) Norman, Adam (Leigha) Norman, Tara (Clint) Buchholz, Jason (Lacey) Roberts, and Allison (Cory) Berndt; her sister, Joyce Norris; 24 great-grandchildren; and many nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her husband; parents; three sisters, and four brothers.

**Rosary:**

9:00 a.m., Saturday, February 20, 2021  
St. Mary's Catholic Church  
Highmore, South Dakota

**Rosary Leader:**

Theresa Westcott

**Visitation:**

9:30 - 10:30 a.m., Saturday, February 20, 2021  
St. Mary's Catholic Church  
Highmore, South Dakota

**Funeral Service:**

10:30 a.m., Saturday, February 20, 2021  
St. Mary's Catholic Church  
Highmore, South Dakota

**Celebrant:**

Father Paul Josten

**Casketbearers:**

Myrtle's Grandchildren

**Honorary Casketbearers:**

Myrtle's Great-Grandchildren &  
Ladies of the Helping Hand Club

**Musician:** Chantrel LaMont

*"How Great Thou Art"*

*"On Eagle's Wings"*

*"Song of Farewell"*

*"Amazing Grace"*

**Interment:**

Chapelle Cemetery  
Harrold, South Dakota

*Arrangements Entrusted to*  
*Luze Funeral Home - Highmore, South Dakota*  
*[www.familyfuneralhome.net](http://www.familyfuneralhome.net)*