









CELEBRATING A LIFE

Verna Nelsen

Born to Emmons & Alice Ellis

January 9, 1926

Stony Creek Township, Williams County, ND

Called Home to Her Heavenly Father

December 13, 2021 Williston, North Dakota

Funeral Service

Wednesday, December 22, 2021 at 1:00 PM Fulkerson Stevenson Funeral Home Chapel Williston, North Dakota

Officiating

Rick Clemes

Music

"You Will See" & "He Will Call"

Pallbearers

Brandon McLean

Damian Dunn

Bill Nelsen Tommy Hill Wesley Rutherford Ryan Sullivan

Honorary Pallbearers

All of Verna's Grandchildren

Great-Grandchildren & Great-Great Grandchildren

Final Resting Place

Hillside Cemetery ~ Williston, North Dakota

Arrangements By

Fulkerson Stevenson Funeral Home Williston, North Dakota



In Loving Memory Of

Verna Nelsen

January 9, 1926 - December 13, 2021



Thank you, God, for pretending not to notice that one of your angels is missing, and for guiding her to me.

You must have known how much
I would need her, so you turned
your head for a minute and
allowed her to slip away to me.

Sometimes I wonder what special name you had for her...
I call her "Mother"

Verna was born in Williston on January 9, 1926 to Emmons and Alice (Burns) Ellis. Verna grew up on the family farm east of Williston. She attended Stony Creek School where she was in an acrobatic group who performed at different events. While attending Williston High School, she worked at Mercy Hospital as a nurse's aide. She later began working at Good Samaritan Hospital and was there for many years.

On August 12, 1944 she married Fred Nelsen in Sidney, Montana. They farmed south of Williston in McKenzie County where they raised their family. Besides farming, Fred also worked for Burlington Northern Railway and Verna continued her career as a nurse's aide. They were married for 54 years before Fred passed away in 1998 and Verna continued to live at home until entering Bethel Home in 2004.

Verna liked being a homemaker and spending time with all her family. She was always cooking and baking and she shared all the goodies with her family. They were also the recipients of many beautiful quilts that she made. Coming from a musical family, she loved music and listening to her dad and brothers play all their musical instruments. She was a very kind person, was very patient, and had a good sense of humor.

Verna is survived by her sons, Gary (Shirley) Nelsen and Steven Nelsen; grandchildren, Kerry Pascal, Travis Nelsen, Tracy (Jeremy) Ledahl, Ginger (Brandon) McLean, Jennifer Elsbury, Trinity (Evan) Wrolson, Bill Nelsen; greatgrandchildren, Katrina Hill, Thomas Hill, Haley (Wesley) Rutherford, Shelby Nelsen (Ryan Sullivan), Corrina Ledahl, Jubilee Ledahl, Sigur Ledahl, Damian Dunn, Vince McLean, Brandon (Amber-Jo) Elsbury, Logan Mudge, Nevin Turner-Elsbury, Kyla Nelsen, Kasey Nelsen; great-greatgrandchildren, Deion Hill, J'Veion Hill, DecLynn Hill, Jameson Hill, Coen Nelsen, Jasper Elsbury, Rylee Elsbury, Hunter Elsbury.

She was preceded in death by her parents; husband, Fred; daughter, Barbara Nelsen; grandson, Valence Pascal; great-granddaughter, Kanitra Hill; sisters, Myrtle Ellis, Mabel Arnold, Violet Haskins, Helen Ellis, Lillian Sorenson; brothers, Edwin Ellis, Harold Ellis, Donald Ellis, Fred Ellis; brothers-in-law, Harold Arnold, Al Haskins, Merlin Sorenson, Harry Nelsen, Harold Nelsen, Frank Nelsen; sisters-in-law, Pat Ellis, Patsy Ellis, Laurene Lowe, Mary Nelsen, Irene Nelsen; as well as many nieces and nephews.

Mama's Bible

Mama's Bible, so ragged and worn,
Its pages are scribbled, ripped and torn.
Its been around for ages, she's had it for years,
Some pages smudged by rain and some by her tears

The name on the cover is faded, it's true.

There might be a page missing, or two.

To look at that book one might scoff and frown

They may say, "Why, there's no use in keeping it around.

"A new Bible, I'm certain, is what you must need,
With pages so perfect, and pictures indeed."
But friends, I know better and I'm here to persuade'
There's more in that ol' book, more than I can say.

For she read it and held it so close to her heart,
Its Knowledge and Wisdom and Love to impart.
She held it so tightly, through storm and through chill,
But ever much closer when her children were ill.

Her faith can be seen on each page and each line,
Her writings of love time after time.

She carried it high through thick and through thin,
So proud of the holy scriptures contained within.

Of all of the treasures in this world we can hold,

The Bible of mom so ragged and old.

Is far more precious than any other,

For it was given to her by her dear mother.