**Sharon Marguerite Johnson** was born March 11, 1944, in Oakes, North Dakota, to Lambert "Kelly" and Gertrude (Even) Johnson. She graduated from Wahpeton High School in Wahpeton, ND. Upon graduation from high school, Sharon went on to obtain her Bachelor of Science degree in Elementary Education. She would go on to further her career with a Lifetime Teaching Certificate in Minnesota, and obtaining enough credits to equal her Masters in Education.

Sharon's teaching career would span over four decades, teaching at various schools including Circle of Nations in Wahpeton, ND, White Bear Lake Catholic Diocese School, Wahpeton Public School, Breckenridge Public School, and St. Mary's Catholic School in Breckenridge, MN. She was also a speech and debate coach as well as a judge for many years.

Sharon was actively involved in the community as a Confraternity of Christian Doctrine (CCD) teacher, Cub Scout den mother, delegate for the Minnesota Republican Party, Pro-life advocate, member of the Breckenridge Retired Teachers, member of the American Legion Auxiliary Hafner-Miller Ross Post, and a member of the Eagles Aerie 2749. She spent many volunteer hours for the Spirit of '76 Bicentennial Celebration and other local events. In her down time, she would enjoy big band, classical, and 50's music as well as concerts and theater.

Always putting others ahead of herself, Sharon loved her family more than words could say. She would spend countless hours sewing clothes for her children and grandchildren. Sharon also would create beautiful needle work pieces, and taught her grandchildren. Nana shared many fun times baking and would love to plan trips to educational and historic places across the United States.

Tradition and history were important to Sharon. She loved to take her grandchildren to look at Christmas lights, prepared with hot cocoa and snacks. While driving around, she would share past stories of when she grew up as the daughter of Kelly Johnson, Richland County Sheriff, and living in the historic sheriff's residence in Wahpeton.

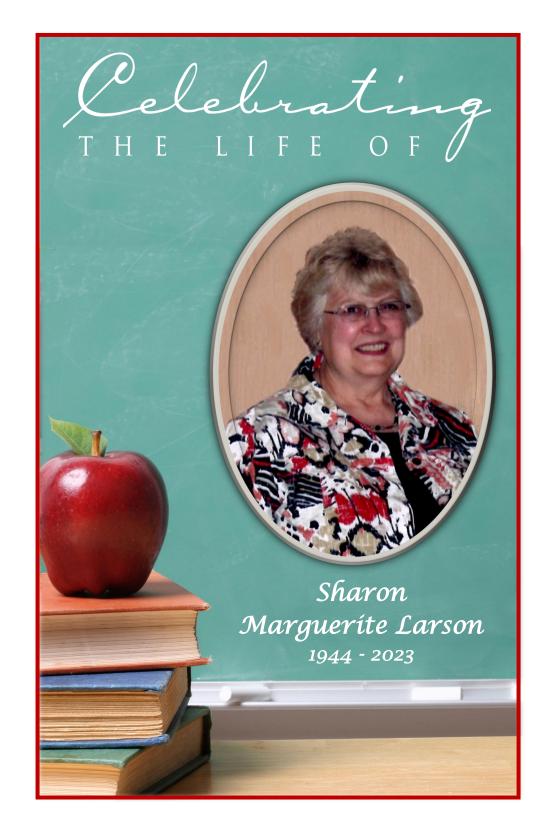
Some of the best memories her grandchildren have are of feeding ducks at Chahinkapa Park, picnics, going out for breakfast, camping, traveling, reading books, and telling them stories about her life as they fell asleep. They will miss her special tea parties and pinata birthdays as well as the fun they had opening Nana's Christmas stockings that she had made special for each of her children and grandchildren.

Sharon had an unbelievably strong moral compass, and was a wonderful role model for her children, grandchildren, and students. She wanted children to see the beauty in the world, have dreams and be able to realize them, know where they come from, and above all, show kindness and respect to others.

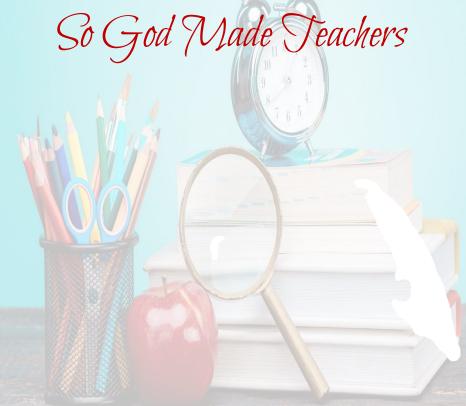
Sharon is survived by her children, Kelly Elaine Larson, Wahpeton, ND, Chad (Kashia) Larson, Fort Worth, TX, Cody Larson (Jennifer Stirling), Wahpeton, ND, Corey (Trisha) Larson, Norfolk, VA; grandchildren, Madelyn, Sophie, Greta, Gavin, Mya, Aiden, Zoie, Ellie, Violet, Thea; and former husband, Robert A. Larson, Breckenridge, MN.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Lambert and Gertrude; brothers, baby John, twins Larry and Gary, and James Johnson.

She will be sadly missed by many special lifelong friends, colleagues, cousins, and former students.



God understood our thirst for knowledge,
And our need to be led by someone wiser;
He needed a heart of compassion,
Of encouragement, and patience;
Someone who would accept the challenge
Regardless of the opposition;
Someone who could see potential
And believe the best in others...



Vertin-Munson Funeral Home - Wahpeton, ND Funeral Directors: Walter Reghi | Shanna Grumbles | www.vertinmunson.com



# SHARON M. LARSON

# -8888888888888888888888888888888888888

#### **BORN**

March 11, 1944 - Oakes, North Dakota

### **ENTERED ETERNAL REST**

September 3, 2023 - Breckenridge, Minnesota

#### MASS OF CHRISTIAN BURIAL

10:30 a.m., Tuesday, September 12, 2023 St. John's Catholic Church Wahpeton, North Dakota

#### HONORARY PALLBEARERS

All of Sharon's Grandchildren

#### **PALLBEARERS**

Cal Tisher, Steve Nicolia, Vern Rossman Mike Manock, Jason Johnson

**OFFICIANT** 

**ORGANIST** 

**CANTOR** 

Father Paul Kuhn

Mary Jane Pauly

Karen Kreller

#### **READERS**

Madelyn Larson - Sophie Larson - Greta Larson

# **CONGREGATIONAL HYMNS**

Hymn No. 436 - "Here I Am"
Hymn No. 534 - "Prayer of St. Francis"
Hymn No. 329 - "I Am The Bread Of Life"
Hymn No. 665 - "Hosea"
Hymn No. 706 - "Hail Mary Gentle Woman"
Hymn No. 832 - "Song Of Farewell"
Hymn No. 739 - "Lead Me Lord"

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The family wishes to express their gratitude for your kind expressions of sympathy and for honoring Sharon with your presence at the service.

~ The Sharon Larson Family ~