



The LORD is my *Shepherd;*  
I shall not want.

He maketh me to  
lie down in green pastures:

He leadeth me beside the still waters,

He restoreth my  
*soul.*

He leadeth me in the paths of righteousness  
for His name's sake. Yea though I walk through the  
valley of the shadow of death.

*I will fear no evil:  
for Thou art with me;*

Thy rod and Thy staff they comfort me.

Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies

Thou anointest my head with oil; My cup runneth over

Surely goodness & mercy shall follow me  
all the days of my life;

And I will dwell in the house  
of the LORD *forever.*  
- Psalm 23



In Loving Memory of

*Gertrude Kooiker*

August 18, 1937 - February 10, 2024

In Loving Memory of  
*Gertrude Kooiker*  
✝

**Funeral Service**

Friday, February 16, 2024 - 10:30 AM  
Christian Reformed Church  
Luverne, Minnesota

**Officiating**

Pastor Joseph Steenholdt

**Scripture**

Psalm 23   John 14:1-7   Isaiah 40:31

**Music**

Organist - Phyllis Vos  
Duet - Ron and Jane Cote  
"Amazing Grace"  
"Supper time"

**Congregational Hymns**

"Blessed Assurance" - Songs of Praise #48  
"In The Garden" - Insert

**Casket Bearers**

Amy Lou Reisch	Sheila Van Hofwegan	Kyle Kreun
Travis Van Hofwegan	Wendy Kooiker	Morgan LaBouve
Brian Kooiker	Casey Kooiker	Amanda Holm

**Interment**

Hillside Cemetery  
Lake Wilson, Minnesota

*Following the service, friends are invited to join the family for  
food and sharing in the church fellowship hall.*



Arrangements By  
**HARTQUIST FUNERAL HOME**  
Scan the QR code to view Gert's Life Tribute video.

**Gertrude Margaret Kooiker** was born on August 18, 1937 to Peter and Clazina (Bodewitz-Franken) Bloemendaal on the family farm north of Lake Wilson, Minnesota, Murray County. She grew up in the Lake Wilson area, attending District 23 School and graduating from Lake Wilson High School 1955. On October 28, 1955 she was united in marriage to Jacob Kooiker at Chandler Reformed Church in Chandler, Minnesota. The couple made their home and raised four children in an eight-bedroom farmhouse west of Hardwick, Minnesota. On April 30, 2011, Jake preceded Gert in death. She then moved to Luverne, Minnesota.

Gert was a baptized and professing member at the Chandler Reformed Church and later became a member of the Christian Reformed Church in Luverne. In recent years, she was a faithful viewer of the Christian Worship Hour with Pastor Harold Salem. Gert was a dedicated and hard worker who worked alongside her husband Jake on the farm. In 1974, she also started working outside her home at many different jobs: Blue Mound Inn, Sathers Cookie Co., Luverne Bakery, Bob's Shoe Repair, Fey Industries, K-Products for ten years, Luverne Elementary School food service for 15 years and an Avon saleslady for 35 years.

On Saturday, February 10, 2024, Gert died at the Luverne Hospice Cottage at the age of 86 years, five months and 24 days.

Gert was a loving mother, homemaker, and a remarkable cook. In her early years, she loved to ice-skate on the farm pond. She would go rollerskating every weekend in her teenage years and enjoyed bonfires with wiener roasts and making her so good potato salad. She had a blast dressing up for Halloween and surprising people in her different costumes. She also enjoyed preparing meals for her family and friends, camping, gardening and canning, and attending auctions and county fairs. Gertrude loved her children and grandchildren and participated in many of their activities. She deeply cared for everyone she knew. God gave her strength and a strong will to fight off the cancer in her body. She was an iron-willed woman! Her favorite saying in recent years was that she was taking one day at a time.

Gert is lovingly remembered by her children, Lois (Lawrence) Van Hofwegen of Castlewood, South Dakota, Cindy Kooiker of Luverne, Ivan (Debbie) Kooiker of Luverne, and Robert (Lorna) Kooiker of Pipestone, Minnesota; nine grandchildren; 13 great-grandchildren, with one more on the way; brother, Pete H. Bloemendaal; brother-in-law, John Jr. (Sherry) Kooiker; and a sister-in-law, and Beverly Kooiker. She was preceded in death by her husband, Jake Kooiker; parents, Peter A. and Clazina Bloemendaal; step-father, Henry Franken; father and mother-in-law, John and Johanna Kooiker; brothers-in-law and spouses, Willis Kooiker, Herman Kooiker, Don (Louisa) DeBoer, and Lawrence (Cynthia) Lundberg; and sisters-in-law and spouse, Clara (Harvard) Rozeboom and Joyce Bloemendaal.