

# In Loving Memory

## Psalm 23

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 and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life; and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.



# Gladys Ryken

April 2, 1923 ~ June 4, 2023

Goglin Funeral Homes are honored to serve  
the family and friends of Gladys Ryken.



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In Loving Memory  
**Gladys Eileen Ryken**  
1923 ~ 2023

**Celebration of Life**

10:30 a.m.  
Friday, June 9, 2023  
Goglin Funeral Home  
Yankton, South Dakota

**Clergy**

Pastor Drew Riter

**Music**

*A Mighty Fortress Is Our God*  
St. Olaf Choir  
*How Great Thou Art*  
Pentatonix  
*Amazing Grace*  
St. Olaf Choir

**Urnbearers**

Amanda Cox    Carson Merkwan  
Casey Merkwan    Gary Merkwan

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**Graveside Prayer Service**

10:30 a.m.  
Sunday, July 2, 2023  
Yankton Municipal Cemetery

**Potluck Picnic**

North Picnic Shelter  
Prentiss Park  
Vermillion, South Dakota

Gladys was born to Martin and Emma Knutson on their farm west of Vermillion on April 2, 1923. Gladys graduated Meckling High School as class valedictorian. She soon met and married her husband of 58 years, Marvin L Ryken, Sr, living in Yankton and the family farmed south of Gayville. Gladys had five children, Marvin L Ryken, Jr (Kathy) of Walnut Creek, CA, Mary Ann Griffin, of Minneapolis, MN, Robert L Ryken of Chicago, IL, Linda K Merkwan (deceased 2018) (Gary) Gayville, SD and Sam K Ryken (Evonne) of Tacoma, WA. Gladys is also survived by 12 grandchildren and many great-grandchildren.

As a hard-working farm housewife, Gladys gardened and canned, raised chickens, milked cows, and managed other chores to feed a growing family. With children done with high school, Gladys began a second full-time work career as office manager for two agents at State Farm Insurance in Yankton. After her husband died in 1994, Gladys lived many years at the Memory Lane Apartments in Yankton and was an active pinochle player at the Yankton Senior Center. Gladys loved to travel to visit her children, and one year went to Norway to visit cousins. In recent years she spent most of each winter in Florida, where she developed a group of devoted friends. Gladys had a great sense of humor and deep trust in the Lord. With an open mind and open heart, Gladys knew that making the best of things would give her a happy life.

Gladys passed away peacefully surrounded by family and friends at Sanford Vermillion Care Center on June 4, 2023. She had just celebrated her 100th birthday.

Gladys is predeceased by her parents; her brothers, Henry, Arnold and Earl and her sister, Maxine. Gladys is survived by her sister, Marlene Imperatrice of Clovis, CA.