



## Miss Me But Let Me Go

*When I come to the end of the road  
And the sun has set for me  
I want no rites in a gloom filled room  
Why cry for a soul set free?*

*Miss me a little, but not for long  
And not with your head bowed low  
Remember the love that once we shared  
Miss me, but let me go.*

*For this is a journey we all must take  
And each must go alone.  
It's all part of the master plan  
A step on the road to home.*

*When you are lonely and sick at heart  
Go to the friends we know.  
Laugh at all the things we used to do  
Miss me, but let me go.*

*Christina Rossetti*

CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF

# Shirley Jane Botker

WHO WAS BORN

December 6, 1930

Worthington, Minnesota

AND CALLED TO HER ETERNAL HOME

February 14, 2024

Milbank, South Dakota

MEMORIAL SERVICE

Sunday, February 18, 2024 - 2:30 p.m.

Trinity Lutheran Church

Clinton, Minnesota

OFFICIANT

Minister Jim Rach

MUSICIANS

Bonnie Stotesbery, Organist

Randy Stotesbery, Vocalist

Janine Teske, Vocalist

OBITUARY

Maria Botker

EULOGY

Mark Botker | Emma Botker | Lora Botker

SCRIPTURE READING

Mary Kramer

URN BEARERS

Emma Botker | Lora Botker | Greta Botker

PRIVATE INURNMENT

Clinton Cemetery

APPRECIATION

Shirley's family is grateful for your attendance at this service.

Your expressions of kindness and love are deeply appreciated. Following the service, please join the family for lunch and fellowship in church dining hall.

ARRANGEMENTS BY

Mundwiler & Larson Funeral Home of Ortonville, Minnesota

Shirley Jane Robertson was born December 6, 1930, to Carl and Minnie (DeFreese) Robertson at Worthington Hospital in Worthington, MN. Shirley grew up on a farm in Nobles County, was baptized and confirmed at First Lutheran Church in Worthington. She attended country school through 3<sup>rd</sup> grade, then attended the Worthington schools and graduated in 1949. Shirl would have graduated in 1948, but missed an entire year of school due to rheumatic fever, which left her bed-ridden for 4-5 months. Upon graduation, she worked as an office clerk at Minnesota Natural Gas Company in Worthington. In 1952, Shirley began her studies at Lutheran Bible Institute in Minneapolis to prepare herself for parish work in the Lutheran Church. She worked part-time at the headquarters of the Augustana Luther League in Minneapolis during this time. She went on to serve full-time at parishes in Duluth, MN, Helena, MT, Portland, OR, and then for a brief time in Omaha, NE.

Shirl married Donald Botker on July 9, 1965. To this union, two sons were born, Steven in 1967 and Mark in 1968. Steven passed away at age five from a farming accident in 1972. Steven had requested a sister to join the family, so the Botkers adopted Kim from Korea in 1974. Don and Shirl farmed in the Clinton area after marriage, and then moved to Ortonville in 1997 where they lived on the peninsula and then on the golf course.

Shirl enjoyed being a part of Christian Women's Club and Red Hatters. She was a dedicated volunteer at Someplace Safe, the Big Stone County Food Shelf, the Rice Hospice program, and she also served as a Girl Scout leader for many years. Shirl loved being an active member of Trinity Lutheran Church, quilting, teaching Sunday School, participating in the ladies groups and working in the kitchen were some of her favorites. Shirl could tell you exactly how many plates the church had at any given moment. She also enjoyed fishing, camping, bowling, gardening, sweet corn season, crossword puzzles, and making homemade cards. Overall, Shirl loved spending time with her family, attending their many sporting activities with popcorn in hand and getting a chance to chat with everyone around brought her so much joy.

Shirl would also look forward to planning the next family reunion or holiday gathering, making sure that she knew what everyone was bringing to the "planned potluck". She was a meticulous homemaker and an excellent cook. You would often find her in the kitchen around numerous recipe books and recipe cards, ready to make the next meal or snack, often to share with family, friends, or neighbors. Her grandchildren always knew exactly where to find the homemade Chex mix, frosted sugar cookies, and crescent rolls.

Left with her loving memory are son, Mark (Maria) Botker and their children: Emma, Lora and Greta of Clinton, MN; and daughter, Kim (Mike) Morris and their children: Jack and Julia of Fargo, ND; sister, Janice Robertson of Ashland, OR; many nieces, nephews, and extended family. Shirl was preceded in death by her parents; her husband, Don; son, Steven; sister, Dorothy (Howard) Kramer; brothers-in-law: Vernon (Marilyn) Botker and Norman (Dorothy) Botker; and sister-in-law, Leota (Iver) Moberg.

