

I'm Free

*Don't grieve for me, for now I'm free
I'm following the path God laid for me.
I took his hand when I heard him call
I turned my back and left it all.
I could not stay another day
to laugh, to love, to work or play.
Tasks undone must stay that way.
I found that peace at close of day.
If my parting has left a void
then fill it with remembered joy.
A friendship shared, a laugh, a kiss,
ah, yes, these things I too will miss.
Be not burdened with times of sorrow
I wish you the sunshine of tomorrow.
My life's been full, I've savored much,
good friends, good times,
a loved one's touch.
Perhaps my time seemed all too brief,
don't lengthen it now with undue grief.
Lift up your hearts and share with me
God wanted me now:
He set me free.*



In Loving Memory



Katheron Middle

September 13, 1932 ~ April 21, 2023

Katheron (Bakker) Middle, daughter of Peter and Ada (Tilstra) Bakker, was born September 13, 1932, at Shindler, South Dakota. Katheron grew up in Alvord, Iowa and attended Alvord High School where she participated in basketball and drama. She graduated in 1951. On September 26, 1952, Katheron was united in marriage with George Middle at Christ Lutheran Church in Alvord. After George was honorably discharged from the United States Army, the couple made their home in Rock Valley, Iowa. Katheron was an in-home daycare provider until fulfilling her high school dream of working in the nursing industry. She became a certified nursing assistant (CNA) and spent 28 ½ years working at Valley Manor, now Whispering Heights, in Rock Valley.

Katheron was a member of the First Reformed Church of Rock Valley where she taught catechism for many years. She was also a member of the Mary Circle and enjoyed making pigs in a blanket and being part of Bible fellowship. Katheron was involved in Christian Women in Rock Valley for many years. Katheron enjoyed playing cards with friends and watching or listening to ballgames.

Katheron found great joy in attending her children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren's activities. Her family loved all her home-made baking, cooked meals, and homemade crocheted items. She will be remembered as a loving and caring mom, grandma, great-grandma, and great-great-grandma. Katheron passed away Friday, April 21, 2023, at Hegg Health Center in Rock Valley at the age of 90.

She is survived by 5 children, Linda (Conrad) Baker of Canton, South Dakota, Kenneth Middle of Muscatine, Iowa, Duane (Lynn) Middle of Rock Valley, Judy (Greg) Ketcham of Spirit Lake, Iowa, and Debra Middle of Sheldon, Iowa; 11 grandchildren; 20 great-grandchildren; 10 great-great-grandchildren; sisters-in-law, Wilma (David) Henderson, Sharon Hord, Mary Jo Middle, Dee Middle, and Wanda Middle; and many nieces and nephews.

Katheron was preceded in death by her parents, Peter and Ada Bakker; husband, George Middle; son, Douglas Middle; daughter-in-law, Donna Middle; 3 brothers, Raymond (Bertha) Bakker, Gerrit (Joyce) Bakker, and Syrus Bakker; sister, Anna (Donald) Tiedemann; and in-laws, Matilda (William) Elwood, Herbert (Mary Alice) Middle, Sidney Middle, Lawrence Middle, and Duane Hord.

Remembering the Life of Katheron Middle

FUNERAL SERVICE

10:00 AM, Monday, May 1, 2023
First Reformed Church
Rock Valley, Iowa

OFFICIATING

Rev. Cliff Hoekstra

ORGANIST

Ruth Vande Stroet

FAMILY REFLECTIONS

Debra Middle

MUSICAL SELECTION

"He Is Here"

CONGREGATIONAL HYMNS

"How Great Thou Art"

"When Peace Like a River"

"In the Garden"

PALLBEARERS

Chad Middle ~ Cody Middle
Casey White ~ Blake Weber
Curtis Baker ~ John Busch ~ Philip Raak

HONORARY PALLBEARERS

Theresa Raak ~ Jennifer Jacobsma
Amanda Klein ~ Lindsay Middle
Christina Middle ~ Melissa Busch
Megan Weber ~ Kelsey White

INTERMENT

Valley View Cemetery
Rock Valley, Iowa

Katheron's family invites everyone for a time of food and fellowship in the church fellowship hall following the committal service at the cemetery.