

Gladys Erminnie (Youngdahl) Schmidt was born to Gunard Gustaf Youngdahl and May Erminnie (Messenger) Youngdahl on May 19, 1924 in Austin, MN. Gladys graduated from Austin High School in 1942.

As a young woman, Gladys served as a youth counselor in the summers at a number of Methodist youth camps throughout the United States. She volunteered with youth counselors in California, received educational training in North Carolina and also taught in a youth camp in San Pedro, CA.

In 1945, Gladys went to Mankato State College for her elementary education certificate. Some of her first teaching jobs in Minnesota were in Myron, International Falls and Detroit Lakes. Along the way, she went to Scarett Christian College in Nashville and Memorial Church in Minneapolis. After one year of working as Director of Christian Education, she decided that kindergarten teaching was her real calling.

In 1959, Gladys started teaching in Faribault, MN where she taught in several schools. In August 1961 she married Richard Wallace Schmidt. To this union, they were blessed with two children: Mark Wallace and Ruth Irene.

Upon retirement, Richard and Gladys moved to Deer River, MN where they loved their "northern" home.

Gladys Schmidt, age 97, of Alexandria died on Monday, September 13, 2021, at Knute Nelson in Alexandria.

Gladys is preceded in death by her loving husband: Richard; her parents: Gunard and May; sister: Dorothy Bornfleth; and her in-laws: Wallace and Helen. She is survived by her son: Mark of Osakis, MN; her daughter: Ruth (Darin) Helgeson of Montgomery, MN; grandchildren: Luke and Isaac Schmidt of Osakis, Colton (Brooklyn Henninger) Helgeson of Elysian, MN, Scott (Alexander) Helgeson of Faribault, MN, and Breonna (Kevin) Palacios of Faribault, MN; her brother: Gunard (Virginia) of Hollister, MO; two brothers-in-law: Thomas (Nancy) and Frank (Kay) Schmidt; and nieces and nephews.

The Day God Called You Home

*God looked around His garden
and found an empty space.*

*Then He looked down upon the earth
and saw your tired face.*

*He put his arms around you,
lifted you to rest.*

*God's garden must be beautiful,
for He only takes the best.*

*He knew that you were suffering.
He knew you were in pain.*

*He saw the road was getting rough,
and the hills were hard to climb.*

*So He closed your weary eyes,
and whispered, "Peace be thine".*

*It broke our hearts to lose you,
but you did not go alone.*

*For part of us went with you,
the day God called you home.*

In Memory of

Gladys Erminnie Schmidt

May 19, 1924



September 14, 2021

Funeral Service

Anderson Funeral Home
Alexandria, Minnesota

Thursday, September 16, 2021
5:30 PM

Officiant

Reverend Gary Taylor

Casket Bearers

Colton Helgeson Darin Helgeson
Gary Maurek

Burial

Minnesota State Veterans Cemetery
Little Falls, Minnesota