



CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF

*Laverna M. Lesmeister*

August 13, 1931

December 17, 2022

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

**Services At:**

Pedersen Funeral Home - Morris, Minnesota  
Friday — December 30, 2022 — 3:30 p.m.

**Officiating Clergy:**

Father Todd Schneider

**Readers:**

Adam Lesmeister  
Sarah Backman

**Organist:**

Darlene Hennen

**Musical Selections:**

*Lead Me Lord*  
*The Hands of God Shall Hold You*

**Soloist:**

Patricia Lesmeister-Nelson  
*"On Eagle's Wings"*

**Urbearer:**

Vern Lesmeister

In lieu of sending individual notes, we would like to take this opportunity to say a very heartfelt "Thank You" to everyone for your many acts of kindness and support during this difficult time.

Laverna Mae Rinkenberger was born on August 13, 1931 to Albert and Lydia Rinkenberger in Horton Township near Morris, Minnesota; she was the seventh of eight children. As a child Laverna attended country school and spent much of her time working on the family homestead, especially in the orchard.

In 1952, Laverna married James Lesmeister and the two would welcome six children: Kenneth, Jerome, Lois, Joyce, Vernon, and Allan. The family lived together in Morris for ten years before building a home farther out of town. Together they would enjoy playing cards, games, going outside in the snow, and watching television. Laverna spent many years taking care of her family and acting as the bookkeeper for Jim's company. In the past she also worked in the bakery at the local supermarket, was a waitress and bartender, and grocery clerk.

When not at work, Laverna enjoyed participating in the Eagles Auxiliary and the Daffodil Days, a branch of The American Cancer Society. She also loved to travel, Oregon being her favorite destination. When asked, Laverna said her biggest achievement was her family. She spent the last several years of her life enjoying her family and fellow residents at the Grandview Apartments in Morris, especially while enjoying a round of her favorite game – bingo.

Laverna passed away peacefully at her residence on Saturday, December 17, 2022; she was 91 years old.

Left to cherish her memory are her children: Ken (Diane) Lesmeister of Morris, Lois (Ace) Sperr of Morris, Joyce Ehalt of Morris, Vern Lesmeister (Karen Hagstrom) of Alexandria, and Al Lesmeister (Patti Severance) of Cyrus; brother, Joseph Rinkenberger; sister, Esther Lembecke; grandchildren: Troy, Tiffany, Kim, Nic, Matt, Kristin, Adam, Sarah, Rachel, Howard, Marilyn, Emily, Molly, Adrienne, Anthony, Michael, Tyler, Kandice, and Cody; 29 great-grandchildren, as well as many beloved nieces and nephews. She is preceded in death by her parents: Albert and Lydia Rinkenberger; brothers: Arthur, Marvin, and Francis Rinkenberger; sisters: Bernice Ashbaugh, Irene Lavallier; her son, Jerry Lesmeister; great-granddaughter, Addison Knott; as well as her daughters-in-law: Lee Lesmeister and Jeanne Lesmeister.

*In Loving Memory Of*



*Laverna Lesmeister*