

Rita M. Knipfer was born July 3, 1931 in Carter County, the daughter of Harry and Elizabeth (Durm) Babb. She grew up on the family ranch near the Tie Creek area. Rita attended country school before attending High School in Ekalaka and graduating from Sheridan High School in Wyoming. Rita returned to Ekalaka to work at the welfare office. It was during this time that she met her future husband, Ernest Knipfer and the two were married on November 8, 1949. The couple was blessed with four daughters. They made their home on the 'Mill Iron' ranch near Box Elder. After Ernest passed away in 1998, Rita moved off the family ranch and had lived in Belle Fourche and Spearfish South Dakota and Ekalaka Montana. Rita loved the farm and working alongside Ernest. She was always there, helping where ever she was needed, from farming to lambing. Rita enjoyed reading, quilting and gardening and was involved with the Mill Iron Diligent Doers Homemakers Group. She was also a member of the Methodist Church in Camp Crook. Rita was a people person who truly enjoyed meeting and visiting with new friends. Rita is survived by her daughters, Ellen (Keith) Beach, Irene (James) Hendricks, Nita (Gary) Schallenberger all of Ekalaka, Karla Turbiville of Spearfish, SD; brother, Loyal (LaVonne) Babb of Rapid City, SD; 10 grandchildren; 17 great grandchildren; 2 great great grandchildren; and numerous nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her parents, Harry and Elizabeth Babb; husband, Ernest; grandsons, Kelcey and Klinton Hendricks; granddaughter, Becky (Beach) Coisman; great-grandson, Nicholas Schallenberger; and brothers, Leon and Lyle. In lieu of flowers, the family requests memorials be given to Fairview Cemetery of Camp Crook or a charity of your choice.

Rita Knipfer

July 13, 1931 - June 25, 2022



Rita Knipfer

Grief will not last, joy will return
For through our tears we clearly see
That while we part but for a time
With Christ we'll spend eternity.

Now remember me with smiles and laughter
Because that's how I'll remember you all
If you have to remember me with tears
Then don't remember me at all -

Love,

Mom & Grandma



FUNERAL SERVICE:

Saturday, July 9, 2022 11:00 am
Ekalaka Bible Church
Ekalaka, Montana
Officiating: Pastor Jon Champlin

PRAYER SERVICE:

Friday, July 8, 2022 7:00 pm
Ekalaka Bible Church
Ekalaka, Montana
Officiating: Tom Stieg

MUSIC:

Charlene Mehling

PALLBEARERS:

Kevin Hendricks	Jeremy Schallenberger
Jeanie Moran	Brian Beach
LeRoy Schallenberger	Joni Hendricks
Beau Hendricks	Andrew Turbiville
Steven Turbiville	Beth Owens

INTERMENT:

Fairview Cemetery
Camp Crook, South Dakota
Saturday, July 9, 2022 2:00 pm

ARRANGEMENTS BY:

Stevenson Funeral Home
Ekalaka, Montana

Lunch will be served at the Ekalaka Bible
Church following the funeral service.

Everyone is welcome.

