



Connie was born on July 22, 1938, in Fairmount, North Dakota to Edward and Minnie (Mahler) Steffens. Connie was raised in Fairmount where she graduated from Fairmount High School. After high school, she continued her education as she attended Dakota Business School in Wahpeton, ND, and went to work for Home Gas Company for a couple of years.

January 3, 1959, she married Thomas Polifka in Fairmount, ND. After they married Thomas and Connie moved to Sacramento, CA, but eventually settled back to West Fargo in 1962. Their union brought forth four children, daughters Stephanie, Kelley Lynne (who passed away in 1966), Kimberly, and son Michael. When her children were in school and for more than three decades, she served with distinction as a Paraprofessional at South Elementary School in West Fargo, North Dakota. In 2000, the couple retired to Big Pine Lake near Perham, MN.

Connie was a gentle, kind and patient soul who cherished time with her family. She was a woman of faith and spent many years teaching Sunday School. She found solace in reading, joy in baking and cooking and even taught herself to play the piano during her youth.

Her love of family extended not only to her children but also to her grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Her immediate family includes daughters Stephanie (Todd) Barney and Kimberly (Mark) Kroll; son Michael (Laura) Polifka; and she was the adored grandmother of Nicholas (Farryn) Barney, Alexander (Brittney) Barney, Kellyn (Brock) Saewert, Thomas Kroll, and Ian Kroll. She found immense joy in her great-grandchildren: Nikolai and Bodie Barney, Murphy, Rafe, and Rosalynn Saewert.

She is survived by her sisters Cleo Myhra and Cheryl Awe, and her brother, Terrance Steffens; brothers-in-law, Neil (Judy) Polifka, Owen Polifka, and John (Sharon) Polifka. Connie is preceded in death by her beloved husband Thomas in 2011, her daughter Kelley Lynne in 1966, her sister Carol Carraher, and her brothers Delmer, Lowell, and Orman Steffens.

 May she rest in eternal peace. 





Safely Home

I am home in Heaven, dear ones;
Oh, so happy and so bright!
There is perfect joy and beauty
In this everlasting light.

All the pain and grief is over,
every restless tossing passed;
I am now at peace forever,
Safely home in Heaven at last.

Did you wonder I so calmly
trod the valley of the shade?
Oh! but Jesus' love illumined
every dark and fearful glade.

And He came Himself to meet me
In that way so hard to tread;
And with Jesus' arm to lean on,
Could I have one doubt or dread?

Then you must not grieve so sorely,
For I love you dearly still
Try to look beyond earth's shadows,
Pray to trust our Father's Will.

There is work still waiting for you,
So you must not idly stand;
Do it now, while life remaineth
you shall rest in Jesus' land.

When that work is all completed,
He will gently call you Home;
Oh, the rapture of that meeting,
Oh, the joy to see you come!



Constance "Connie" Polifka



Funeral Service

11:00 AM | Monday, September 30, 2024
Vertin-Munson Funeral Home | Wahpeton, North Dakota

Age

86 Years | 1 Month | 29 Days

Officiant

Jeanne Putnam

Organist

Owen Polifka

Hymns

"Borning Cry"
"Softly and Tenderly"
"Amazing Grace"

Honorary Pallbearers

Nikolai Barney | Bodie Barney | Murphy Saewert
Rafe Saewert | Rosalyn Saewert

Pallbearers

Nicholas Barney | Alexander Barney
Kellyn Saewert | Thomas Kroll | Ian Kroll

Interment

Fairmount Cemetery | Fairmount, North Dakota