

God Gave me special friends
Of all the blessings in my life
I count most gratefully
The special friends I knew and loved...
God gave them all to me.
He gave me friends to share my days,
My good times and my bad;
Close friends who made my life
worthwhile
When I felt lost or sad.
He gave me friends for me to love.
Who loved me in return;
Good friends who never hesitate
To show their warm concern.
So not a day went by
Without a sentimental thought
Of all the special things we shared
And the joys each friend has brought;
And not a day went by that
I didn't say a special prayer...
That God will keep my special friends
Forever in His care.

Celebrating
THE LIFE OF

Delores Runge

Celebration of Life

Wednesday, June 26, 2024

12 - NOON

Pipestone Performing Arts Center
Pipestone, Minnesota

Casket Bearers

Mark Thode Pete Hansen
Dave Halbersma Doug Halbersma
Duane Halbersma Dan Robards

Interment

Old Woodlawn Cemetery
Pipestone, Minnesota

Arrangements by
HARTQUIST FUNERAL HOME

IN LOVING
Memory



Delores Runge

March 6, 1931 - June 19, 2024

Delores Mae Runge was born March 6, 1931 to Harry and Clara (Lembcke) Runge in Pipestone, MN. She attended country school and Verdi School, graduating from high school there in 1949. She moved into Pipestone in 1950 with her parents and in January of 1951 started working for Dahlmeier Insurance and Western Union as well as part time at the Minnesota Playton Corporation. She went to work for the Pipestone County Star in 1955, doing office work. In 1958, she started setting type at the Star Office on a teletype setter on which she set all of the news stories for the Pipestone County Star, eventually including the news stories for the Lake Wilson and Jasper Journal newspapers. In 1968, she went to work at Nicollet Press, a commercial job printing shop owned and operated by Dennis Hansen and Ron Zetterlund. In 1985, after Nicollet Press closed, she went back to work at the Star Office where she worked fulltime until 1996 doing mostly proofreading work until the Coronavirus Pandemic hit in 2020.

At that time, she retired completely in March at age 89. Delores was involved with the Pipestone Performing Arts Center in various capacities, but especially selling tickets at many of the shows presented and was a member of the Board of Directors until February, 2012. She was a lifetime member of the Pipestone Historical Society and was also a member of Alcoholics Anonymous since 1974.

Among her interests were her many pen pals with whom she started corresponding in the eighth grade in Verdi and continued until her passing. Most of her pen friends lived in the United States, although she had a longtime pen friend living in New Zealand, and she made a trip there to visit her in 1989. Other interests were reading and flowers.

She is survived by two nieces, Carol (Dennis) Olson of Eau Claire, WI and Sharon (Scott) Tahtinen of Barron, WI; two great-nieces; one great-nephew, one great-great niece; two great-great-nephews; special friends, Dennis and Diane Hansen of Pipestone and their children, and the

children of her life-long friends, Lorraine and John Halbersma – Connie Robards, Douglas, David, and Duane Halbersma.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Harry and Clara Runge; brother, Harris in 2010; sister-in-law, Rita Runge of Barron, WI; and niece, Karen, as well as long time friend, Lorraine Halbersma.

Pen Pal

*I look into my mailbox
And this is what I see...
I see a pretty envelope
Awaiting there for me.
It has such pretty writing,
Full of quips and quotes,
There are little stickers
And also little notes.
I throw away the junk mail
And push the bills aside,
I open up the envelope
And let my heart be guide.
It could be from a guy
or maybe from a gal,
But this one thing I'm certain of;
It comes from my pen pal.*