

August 20, 2014

Obituaries

Mildred T. Denholm, 87

Mildred T. Denholm, 87, died Thursday, Aug. 14, 2014 at Brookings Health Systems. The Mass of Christian Burial was Tuesday, Aug. 19, 2014 at St. Thomas More Catholic Parish, Brookings. Visitation, with a Liturgical Wake Service, was Monday, Aug. 18, 2014 at Rude's Funeral Home, Brookings, SD.



Mildred T. Denholm, the youngest of four daughters of Frank F. and Elizabeth C. (Schuring) Niehaus, was born May 9, 1927, Andover, SD. While a youngster,

she and her family survived a tornado, which completely destroyed the family farm and home. She was active in all church and school programs and graduated from Andover Public High School in 1945. She was a cheerleader, active in school affairs to include band, Glee Club, operetta, orchestra, and was the pianist and organist at all events that required music. She went on to Northern State Teachers College in Aberdeen, SD, and thereafter taught in rural schools. Additionally, she attended the Aberdeen School of Business and later the Strayer Business College in Washington, D.C.

She was united in marriage to Frank E. Denholm, June 12, 1950. She became a legal and medical secretary and did court reporting, when Frank started the practice of law. Mildred was instrumental in the establishment of the Denholm Law Practice in Brookings, SD.

While Frank was a Special Agent with the FBI, Mildred pursued further study of music at the University of Utah and in San Francisco. The faculty at the University of Utah were persistent in urging her to continue her studies at the Julliard School of Music, when they discovered her musical ability and perfect pitch. She respectfully declined this opportunity. While living in San Francisco, Mildred worked as a management assistant in the supervision of more than 15 global buyers in foreign countries, for textile imports retailed in San Francisco. In Washington, D.C., she was employed in the Trust Department of Liberty National Bank, where she met and helped Mrs. Woodrow Wilson.

Mildred was at Frank's side with farming, as Sheriff's Matron, in the Law Firm, in campaigns, and in Congress. She was a member of the Congressional Women's Club and hosted the "First Lady's Breakfast." She entertained at the Grand Piano in foreign Embassies, in Washington, D.C. She was fondly known as the "Music Lady" in the Capitol of the USA. She was a member of P.E.O., Beta Sigma Phi, Chi Omega, past President of Kiwives of Kiwanis, past President of Women's Golf at Brookings Country Club, a past Officer and Life Member of the Hospital Auxiliary of Brookings, the Woman's Club of Brookings, Catholic Daughters of the Americas, and a member of St. Thomas More Catholic Parish, Brookings. Mildred enjoyed playing bridge, playing golf courses in numerous states of America, plus entertaining friends at home.

Together, Mildred and Frank designed and developed the growing Americana Addition to the City of Brookings, where they built their home at 1500 Franklin Ave., overlooking the golf course of beautiful Brookings.

Mildie (as fondly called by Frank) defined happiness as being at peace with yourself and with others. She had endless faith in people and God, and saw the beauty of all scenes, sounds, and things on her earthly journey on the pathways of the Master's Plan to life eternal. May she have the comfort, the faith, the love, and the peace of our Lord and Savior, now and forever... and ever.

Mildred is survived by her husband, Frank E. Denholm, Brookings; two sisters, Catherine M. Moore, Dickinson, ND, and Lillian M. (Herbert E.) Masching, Wahpeton, ND; along with many nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents and one sister, Josephine E. (Niehaus) Corbin.

Condolences may be sent to the family through www.rudesfuneralhome.com