

The Life of Gladys Dirks

Services for Gladys Dirks, 100, of Groton will be 2 p.m., Thursday, May 26 at St. John's Lutheran Church, Groton. Rev. Craig Grams will officiate. Burial will follow in Union Cemetery, Groton.

Visitation will be held at Paetznick-Garress Funeral Chapel on Wednesday from 5-8 p.m. with a prayer service at 7:00 p.m.

Gladys fell asleep Monday, May 23, 2016 at Golden Living Center, Groton.

Gladys was born on October 17, 1915 at her home near Watertown, SD to Bessie Martin. She attended school in Florence, SD. At the age of 14, she moved to Groton and lived with relatives. As a young woman on the farm, she was very involved in the farming operation. Working in the fields and handling teams of horses. She loved sharing stories of 'the old days'.

Gladys was united in marriage with Martin J. Dirks on October 16, 1949 in rural Groton. They were blessed with two children, Charles and Mary Ann. Gladys worked at home taking care of her family. She tended an extensive garden, growing produce & canning much of her

crop. To supplement the family income, Gladys did ironing, garment alterations & mending for many local families. She was also leader of the Hummingbird 4-H Club throughout the 1960's & 1970's. Gladys loved to bake, and will be fondly remembered for her apple pie and jelly rolls. She enjoyed flowers and was an active member in the Andover and Groton Garden Clubs.

After Martin fell asleep on October 23, 1999, Gladys moved to Hecla for several years. In 2004, she became a resident of Golden Living Center. She was a well known resident who enjoyed visiting with residents & staff. She had a kind word for all & made the most of her time with various activities. Gladys never missed bingo, it was one of her favorite games & she was pretty good at it! She enjoyed scrapbooking, making cards and many different types of arts and crafts. She was skilled at crochet, embroidery and quilting.

Celebrating her life are her children, Charlie (Jennifer) Dirks of Groton, and Mary Ann (Gene) Freudenthal of Hecla, her grandchildren, Kari and Korey (Wanda) Freudenthal and great-grandchildren, Kristofer, Faith and William.

Preceding her in death was her husband of 50 years and her mother.

Casketbearers will be Korey Freudenthal, Dale Ringgenberg, Tim Flihs, Dale Boyton, Tom Paepke, RJ Jouannet and Dale Nelson.

