



Ardeth Larson

May 19, 1928 - October 18, 2007

Ardeth I. Larson, 79, Bismarck, passed away October 18, 2007, at a Bismarck care center. Services will be held at 11:00 a.m. Monday, October 22 at Charity Lutheran Church, Bismarck, with the Rev. Scott Bauman officiating. Burial will be in Washburn Cemetery. Visitation will be held from 5:00 p.m. until 9:00 p.m. on Sunday at Eastgate Funeral Service, 2302 East Divide Avenue, Bismarck, and will continue one hour prior to services at the church. Ardeth was born May 19, 1928, near Devils Lake, North Dakota, the daughter of Donald and Clara Opdahl Smoke. After graduating as an "eight-week wonder" from Valley City State Teacher's College, she taught in one-room country schools and in Brinsmade between 1946 and 1949, from which she gained many fond memories. Ardeth married Merle A. Larson of Sheyenne on July 18, 1949, after which they settled in Bremen. In 1954, they moved to Washburn. Ardeth moved to Bismarck in 1994 and lived there until her death. Ardeth assisted her husband Merle in many capacities as he owned and operated the grain elevator in Washburn for over 25 years. She also worked as a teacher's aide at Washburn Elementary School. In her spare time, she enjoyed volunteering at local libraries and was active in the American Legion Auxiliary, serving as President of the local chapter, and at First Lutheran Church. After moving to Bismarck, she became a member of Charity Lutheran Church. Despite the many activities she participated in and enjoyed over the years, Ardeth made her family her primary devotion. Her graciousness of spirit and regard for others will be missed by her children and by many who knew her. Ardeth is

survived by her four sons, Douglas Jane of Bismarck, David, Washburn and Las Vegas, NV, Dwight Heather and their four children, Edina, MN, and Drew, Minneapolis, MN; her brother, Loyal Smoke, Limon, CO; and her sister, Lois McKay, Aberdeen, SD. Preceding Ardeth in death were her parents; her husband, Merle; and two brothers, Albert and Leroy Smoke.

Tribute Wall

CC

“ *My thoughts and prayers are with all of you during this difficult time.*

Candace Christianson - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

RS

“ *So sorry to learn of your mom's passing - we were out of town for about 10 days and sorry to have missed the funeral. Ardeth was such a sweet lady and reminded us so much of her mom, your grandma Clara. Your mom always spoke so fondly about her boys, her daughters-in-law and her grandchildren. We formerly lived in Washburn and Clara was our "adopted grandma". Our sympathy - and may God and your warm memories comfort you.*

Rod & Marilyn Stenslie - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

RL

“ *Miss. Smoke was one of my favorite teachers at the Brinsmade grade school. I have fond memories of her. She will always be remembered.*

Reubne Liechty - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

JS

“ *Our thoughts and prayers are with you all. Ardeth was one of the "neighborhood moms" growing up in Washburn. I have several memories of our families, and am so glad that I had the opportunity to share being a part of her life and your family as a whole. She will be greatly missed by many! Gods Blessings, JoDee Nordquist& John Sayler*

JoDee and John E. Sayler - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

JG

“ Dave and family Meeting your mother was such a pleasure, she was a very kind and beautiful person. We know you will miss her always remember the good times. Love from Jim and Francy

Jim & Francy Gleason - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

GJ

“ Ardeth was one of the most dearest and kindest person to our family. When someone would mention Ardeth, a feeling of warmth and friendliness would come over me. She was so caring and always had a beautiful smile. My prayers are with the Larson boys and their families for the loss of your mom. Merle and Ardeth hold a special place in our heart. Jerry and Glynda Leidholm Janz

Glynda Janz - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

DM

“ Ardeth and I were best buddies from early grade school. Our homes were approximately 1/4 mile apart and we kept the path between them well worn. We both gave birth to boys within a few weeks of each other - we both named them Douglas, not knowing that we had picked the same name. Our birthdays are 8 days apart, we always sent a card to each other with long messages. Birthdays & Christmas every year for all of these years. Your Mom and Dad were fortunate to have 4 dedicated sons. I am so thankful that all of you were with her those last days. Even though she may not have been able to convey her thanks, I can assure you that she would have had she been able. She was so proud of her boys, her family. I have lots of great memories of our times together. Cherish the memories! You are in my thoughts and prayers. You will miss your Mom, and be thankful that she is no longer in pain. Love and hugs to all of you. Della "Lee"

Della Brown Montgomery - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

RL

“ We are sorry we won't be able to attend the service for Ardith, but want you to know that our thoughts will be with you. Roy & Eva Leidholm

Roy and Eva Leidholm - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

KS

“ Thoughts and prayers are with you!!

Kevin & Melinda Schirado - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM