



Gladys Derrick

March 8, 1914 - December 23, 2009

Gladys Derrick, 95, Bismarck, ND, passed away on December 23, 2009, at St. Alexius Hospital in Bismarck, ND. In accordance with her request, there will not be a funeral service. She donated her body to the ND University School of Medicine in Grand Forks, ND. Gladys Irene was born March 8, 1914 at Buffalo, SD to Carl and Maude Cooper Cornell. She completed grade school in a country school near their ranch home and graduated from Buffalo High School in 1931. Gladys then attended Teachers College at Aberdeen, SD and received a teaching certificate. She taught a rural school near Buffalo three terms. Gladys also completed a secretarial course at a Business College in Sacramento, CA. She had a variety of office jobs throughout her working years. The last was during legislative sessions. Gladys married Harold C. Derrick July 4, 1937, at Redfield, SD. They moved to Bismarck in 1939. She has resided in Bismarck most of the years except when Harold served in the Navy. She greatly enjoyed spending time with her grandchildren & great grandchildren, sharing her knowledge that we will always take with us. Other passions were gardening, crocheting, visiting with people & a good game of cards. She is survived by her daughter Lee Speed & husband Dwight Boespflug, her granddaughters Genia Todd, Kayla Boespflug and two great grandchildren Tristan and Brienna Ekstrom, many nieces and nephews dearly loved by her. Her loving and warm heart will be greatly missed by family & countless friends, along with her dry sense of humor that amused all. The family would like to thank special friends that have helped Gladys over the

years. She was preceded in death by her husband Harold February 4, 2006, her parents, her brother Homer and his wife Opal Allinson, brother Alden and his wife Alice Toft and sister Edna and her husband Myron Brengle, also several nieces & nephews.

Tribute Wall

SB

“ Dear Mother. Where do I start & where do I end. There is a life time of memories for me that this computer would say T I L T!!!! if I wrote about them all. I want to say you did not give me life birth, but you and Grampa GAVE me the most wonderful life ever possible. You & Grampa chose me out of all the children you could have adopted, and that made me the luckiest person. I hope that I was able to give you the joy & happiness you gave to me. This December 21 it was my 45th adopted birthday. Years ago you gave me an article that is so dear to me and I will always cherish. I want to share that with friends & relatives. Not flesh of my flesh, Nor Bone of my bone, But still miraculously my own. Never forget for a single minute, You didn't grow under my heart, But in it. You signed it-- Me luffs Your Mother. I will miss you dearly, and hope to reunite with you & Grampa someday. I won't say Good-bye, as any one that knows you. Knows you never said that. I think Dwight was just beginning to get used to that. When you talked to him on the phone he would say to me, " She didn't say Good-By, she just hung upâ?? That was just your way. So for now take care. I love you. Thanks for everything. Your Loving Daughter Speed

Speed Boespflug - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

MS

“ Glad, I have so many good memories of our times together starting with the Kleppe campaign, then the legislature, and on through the years since. You had a wit about you that no one else can even attempt to match! You brightened up a day with a story, joke or prank but please try to behave yourself up there in your new home! You are going to be missed by many, but will live on in our hearts and mind. I love you, Mary Alice

Mary Alice Simonson - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

RK

“ Glad ... you will be missed by so many. Your kind heart ... your warm smile ... your caring, sharing personality ... you were always ready to greet your guests with a little humor, a little snack, and a HUGE dose of love. We will cherish the fond memories we have of you, Glad, as will our children.

Rod & Viv Knodel - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

AJ

“ Glad I will miss your pretty smile you were always kind and caring. I will always remember our Christmas eve talks after santa delivered the toys to the grand kids. Thanks for all the hello's and chic chats that we had at your house and the stores there was never a dull moment you'll be missed by lots of friend and family. I hope the bench is warm and the flowers are in full bloom while you and Harald chatting again. Thanks again for being a great friend. Anton

Anton Weekes Jr - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

DB

“ Dear Glad, I want to thank you for the time that we got to spend together and all the things you taught me. Thank you for teaching me that there is good in everybody and to overlook someone's faults. I will miss the long talks and the reading of "the Old Inkslinger". I will never forget all the laughs we had and the time we spent with you teaching me how to gardening. I know that you are now with Harold and are at peace once again, but we still will always miss you. Love, your favorite son-in-law and friend.

Dwight Boespflug - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

GB

“ I love you grandma and I will miss you so very much. I enjoyed all the good times that we had together and I will remember them and you forever.. You taught me so much in life and for that you will be in my heart forever.. I will never forget you.. Miss and love you so much.

Genia Boespflug - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

JK

“ I am so sorry to read about the loss of your Mom. I pray that God will be your comfort in the days ahead.

Judy Kunkel Kroh - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

NC

“ You and your family are in our thoughts and prayers in the loss of your Mom. Friends from old Provident Life days, Neva and Ron Carlisle.

Neva and Ron Carlisle - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

MD

“ Aunt Gladys, where do I start? You and Uncle Harold became extra grandparents to me. It seems like only yesterday I was a freshman in high school and I saved money from my summer job so I could ride the greyhound bus for my first visit. It became the first of many over the next 25 years. I was hooked, as your kindness and humor made me look forward to each coming summer. You and Uncle Harold inspired me as you were always interested in my activities and life back in Wisconsin. I will never forget the large breakfasts, how you kept my little sketches and sent me newspaper clippings/photographs, how you tried to help me convince Diane North Dakota was the place to live as well as all the history lessons. Most of all I will remember the long hugs good-bye at the end of each visit, so here is one more...I love you and will see you again someday. PS- Dennis Rodman, really?

Michael Derrick - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

LK

“ You certainly were a lot of fun over the years, Glad. I'll miss you a lot. Lela

Lela Knudsen - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

MP

“ My name is Marc Peteren, I was born in 1963. Aside from my parents, Earl and Karen, Glad and Awkie were probably the first people that I became friends with. Over the last 46 years there have been so many birthday parties, pizza dinners and summer vacations. So much laughter, stories and wonderful memories. I'm so glad I met Gladys in 1963, and that we were able to keep in touch all these years. MARC

Marc Petersen - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

ML

“ I just noticed the obituary, did not know you had lost Glad, I am so sorry. Where do I start? Harold came out to my folks' place hunting one year, dad and he always stayed in touch after that, one of the first calls I got after dad passed away, was from Harold. I'm thinking my dad John Njos, Sr knew Glad from the old days in Buffalo, Lores Njos was dad's nephew, and dad would talk about Glad's dad as well. When I was interested in going to college at BSC, dad called Harold and I'll never forget the kindness Harold & Glad extended, from encouraging me to go, a letter from a friend of theirs who was in administration at the college, to having my roommates and I over for chili supper one evening. I remember the evening to this day, what a generous couple. I always admired both of them a great deal, I remember later visiting them and a little grand daughter they were so proud of. Later, Glad came to several of my art shows at the Radisson with her granddaughter. Our sympathies to you all, on the loss of your mother and grandmother, a woman who I thought would live forever, she and Harold seemed invincible. I was just one person, who they perhaps didn't realize the impact they had on my life - but Harold's kindness and encouragement to me to go into Commercial Art, literally took my life in a positive direction I may have never known. I still have the letters. God Blessings to you now, including Lynetta and family, I know how you loved her. Marsha Njos Lehmann Bowman, ND

Marsha Lehmann - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

JC

“ Dear Auntie Bean, You were the best! the most unique 95 yo in the whole world!, the funniest, smartest, and ok you win for the highest forehead in the whole world too. I will miss you more than words can say. As soon as I can stop feeling so sad I will try to be the person I know you want us all to be.....I will try hard to always see the humor in everything, like you could. I will continue to play practical jokes on people, like you would want and most of all promise to keep in touch with my Cornell cousins, and your daughter and family, as I know you would want more than anything. Thank you for taking over for your brothers and sister and becoming "Mom and Dad" to all your nieces and nephews. Thank you for keeping us informed. I love you very, very much. I will look in the mirror and be proud of my high Cornell forehead....because it will remind me of you. Peace and joy in your reunion with the Lord and your loved ones. your niece, Janice

Janice Ilene CornellSuratt - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

WK

“ I have known Gladys for many years. She was a very kind and special lady who saw the good in everyone. My thoughts go out to her family-I know she will be missed.

Wendy K - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

BN

“ My deepest sympathy to Lee & her family. I know too well the emotion of losing parents, & especially a Mom. Some of my best memories of youth are running with Lee & staying at the Derrick home. A time when I found myself most jealous of Lee, was at Christmas while under the Derrick Christmas tree, you found beautiful gifts, hand wrapped by Mrs. Derrick with trinkets & treasures attached to the outside. Such beautiful gifts! You found yourself not wanting to spoil the outside of the box, but desperately wanting to get to the inside. Mrs. Derrick had a way of making all holidays, events very special. She was very good, very kind to me. I have & always will respect Mr. & Mrs. Derrick. I love you Lee. Bo

Barb Bobe Nies - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

AV

“ Debbie, As you know, your Gladys and myGladys were very good Friends, and I cherish remembering that. Harold and Gladys and my Gladys had some wonderfulvisits and get-to-getheres over the years.I am so sorry that I can't attend the funeral service due to my own ill health; but my thoughts will be with youGladys was a wonderful caring person; and, we will miss her.

ALAN VAN VLEET - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

LH

“ It's hard to imagine life without "Grandma Bean". I will miss my phone visits with her. I'd get an update on who all had been to see her that day and all the food they had brought. She was a godsend when my husband Jeff was in the hospital in Bismarck for six weeks before he died. Around 5 o'clock every day, she would call the hospital and say, "Now you come up here and have something to eat before you go to the motel." I received so much comfort from her! I will especially miss her sense of humor and that little "snort" when she laughed. We love and miss you, Gladys Irene!

Lynetta, Nick, and Will Henderson - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

PK

“ Coming to Bismarck in 1962 we were fortunate to move next to Glad, Awkie, and Speedwe were young and inexperienced and she was always right there to give us a hand in whatever we might need....our friendship has continued over these many years and we cherish many memories of this dear family...Every time we see a beautiful sunset our thoughts will go to Glad as she truly delighted in the evening sky and would most often call us to ask if we had seen the the beautiful colors of the heavens.....We will miss our Sunday time spent with Glad and will always be with her family in spirit.
Petersens

Pete and Karen - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

DS

“ I already miss Gladys so much. I lived across the hall from Gladys and Harold about seven years ago and just within that year I had many a stomach ache from laughing. Her sense of humor was just to great. She started to write me notes and putting them under my door in the wee hous of the morning. She'd wake up many mornings at 2:00 or 3:00 a.m. and cook a full course meal because she was hungry and then she'd get her notes written. One morning I woke at 3:00a.m. and decided to beat her to the draw and so I quickly wrote my note and half stooped over I opened the door very quietly and to my surprise there she was bending over and was in the process of putting a note under my door. We almost knocked heads that morning and can you see two women giggling in the hallway at 3:00 a.m. We still laughed about that whenever we mentioned it. Somehow she became #3 smart a-- and I became #1 wise a-- .I moved away for five years, but only a few blocks so I could still come over and visit Glayds and Harold. I moved back to the apartment a year ago and did move downstairs so Glayds would not have such easy access to my door!! I will miss my nightly visits with her and doing small jobs for her. She'd always say "I saved it for Diane because she can fix anything". If she only knew how I fixed it...Gladys had many friends and I feel like I knew everyone like they were part of my family. She'd always make sure that I could come and meet her family and friends if I was home. You never felt unwelcome in her home. I will chuckle many times to myself when I think of the good laughs we had together. We will always have an empty void in this apartment building without our Gladys, but will share many happy memories of her.

Diane Sellheim - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

PV

“ My deepest sympathy to the family of Gladys Derrick. Gladys or "Glad" was the Boulevard Witch and she would do the craziest things for so many people. Glad decorated our corner fence one year for my birthday with watermelon placemat, balloons and such. It was crazy! Over the years I had a chance to enjoy our time together going over memories not only what envolved me but the family and relatives. They all provided fun and laughter every time. Glad and Harold were a really special couple and now they are together. Watch out up there! Patty Vollan

Patty Vollan - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

JL

“ Auntie Bean was the perfect family matriarch, taking time to make us all feel special and loved. My sisters and I were raise a long distance from her, but when we became reaquainted in recent years, she shared with us family stories we had not heard before and helped us feel a real part of the Cornells growing up on the South Dakota plains. We only wish we could have heard so many more. She'll be forever young in my heart. Her zest for life, great memory, sense of humor and love of the "zany" totally belied her 90 years. Thanks, Auntie Bean for the memories, love and laughter you gave to us all. There's now a new, bright and very twinkly, mischievous star in the heavens. We'll miss you greatly. We'll love you always. Joy

Joy Cornell Lathrop - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

SB

“ Bean, We are going to miss you so much. It will never be the same when March rolls around and we won't be taking our yearly trip to visit you on your birthday. We've had such good times with you and Awk. Our computer will never be the same, now that we can't print wonderful pictures of you. Losing you has left a big hole in our hearts. We can look back and remember all the good laughs we had. We'll see you again someday.

Steve & Cathy Brengle - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

GH

“ To: Debbie {Speed} & family Your Mother was in my life since Jr. High, I'm now 67. We {MacQueens lived across the street from Glad & Harold. There was never a dull moment between her and my dad. Always kidding each other with the best humor! Glad was one of the many people I know with the best sence of humor and quick wit. I know she loved to garden and spent hours making their yard so beautiful. I can share a story about my Mom. On her service programs we had little hearts with flower seeds in them. Glad planted hers in a pot out her door. Nothing bloomed the first summer after my mom died. But the second year on my Mom's birthday, Sept. 2nd. Glad called me and told me that one of the flowers had bloomed. What a special remembrance for me. So, she was an excellent gardner. I didn't see or talk to her too much after my Mom had moved. When we would be in touch with each other eiter Harold or Glad would have a good joke for me. I will miss those stories but I have many to remember. What a classy lady Glad was. I can't evan imagine all the lives she touched in her lifetime. What a superior woman she was.

Gail "MacQueen" & Tom Hansen - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

BP

“ WE HAVE KNOWN GLADYS FOR CLOSE TO 20 YEARS AND HAVE ALWAYS KNOWN HER TO BE FULL OF LAUGHTER AND JOY-SHE LOVED HER FLOWERS AND MOST OF ALL HER FAMILY-SHE LOVED TO JOKE WITH PEOPLE AND HER SENSE OF HUMOR SURPASS'S NONE. SHE WILL BE GREATLY MISSED BY MANY-OUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS GO OUT TO HER FAMILY, WHICH WAS HER LIFE.

BOB & MARLYS POTTER - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

KB

“ Grandma Glad, I am going to miss you so much..... I will never forget all the times that we had together. All the words of wisdom that you have given me to always make me a better person.I love you wish you were here but I know that you have gone to that better place and probably met grandpa on the bench that he was waiting for you on so that you guys can be together and watch over each and everyone of us. You will always be in my heart. Love You very much Kayla

Kayla Boespflug - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

BB

“ Thank You Gladys, for helping all of us take life with more grace, humor and dignity. I look foreward to meeting up with you again to learn and laugh!

Boneva Braaten - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

“Gladys Irene will remain in our hearts forever. We will fondly remember the big day when she rode in the Athol City Parade on the lead Harley. What a day that was! Not only was she named Parade Marshall, but she threw in the game ball at the Ashton-Athol State Tournament just before she was inducted into the Athol Hall of Fame. She proudly wore her bright red game shirt which read: Gladys Irene Honorary Team Member ASHTON-ATHOL "WIPERS" Following the game, she was presented with the game ball to which she replied, "I think my friend Mary is behind this!" I believe it is safe to say that without Gladys, the city of Athol would be nothing but a one-horse town with a busted down elevator. Which is exactly what it really is. OK, I will let you in on a little secret. Gladys, Mary my mom and I have had great fun at the expense of Athol, South Dakota which is located about 12 miles north of Redfield. One year for her birthday, Mom created a coupon book I helped from Athol complete with Coupons from the Athol Feed & Seed, the Athol Bakery, the Athol Starbucks-Located in the new Mini-Mall, the Athol Aquatic Center, the newly remodeled Athol Dew Drop Inn complete with indoor toilets, and a half-off coupon to the Athol Weekly Reader. I could go on and on because we had a book full of these fun and totally fictitious business locations all hailing from Athol. Our fun all began when Mom would drive to Redfield to visit and as she passed the Athol corner, she would call Glad and say, "Hi Glad, I just wanted to tell you that I'm driving past that town that makes me think of you!" Some how, Gladys always knew which town that was. I doubt I will ever meet a person who had more fun than Gladys. Her phone calls were a kick! She called one day with concern for her Lakers Team, she loved her Lakers and said, "Hi, I just wanted to let you know that I will be gone for a while because I am flying to L.A. to be a character witness for Kobe Bryant's trial." Then she asked me for any tips on Pro Basketball Trial wardrobe selections??? A few years ago I received a three page letter telling me about her experience at the Circus. She told me that she and Harold lived in Redfield for a short time when they had just married. While they resided here, she attended a rather historic Circus, because it was the merging of 5 different small circus groups. She

talked of the rain, the mud, the elephants and other circus animals arriving on the train. She had witnessed the first performance of what we know today as the Carson/Barnes Circus. She wanted me to research this story further and then went on to tell me all about "Gargantua" the huge gorilla that was part of the performance. While I won't repeat what "Gargantua" did to the crowd, I will tell you that this unfolded into a very interesting piece of history that Glad witness back in the 1920's. My research resulted in a newspaper story about this event. It was fun to dedicate this story to Glad as she provided so much of the information. Many local people had never heard this story...now, Thanks to Glad, they know it, too. I have always felt that Glad was a wealth of potential book titles:Example: 1 Static Panties and the Bank...2 Who needs a dryer sheet... 3 If you drop them, walk away...I have an entire file of "Maxine" cartoon strips. Everyone of them reminds me of Glad...only Glad was...more funny and more fun!Years ago in Appropriations Committee, Glad used to grade the daily behavior of Senator Ernie Pyle with stars and smily faces if he held his temper and Blace X's if he was mad. One day he became quite vocal regarding a particular issue attached to a Bill that was in committee. When the hearing was over, she handed him a calendar page with a cigarette hole burnt through the middle of that day...Last year for Christmas, Glad sent me a recipe for Lavender Fudge. She thought this was a hoot... but you know, it wasn't too bad, chocolate and flowers really does go together. Kind of leaves a chocolaty soapy taste in your mouth...hmmmmm.I am a lucky person to be able to call her my friend. I will treasure my mem

Kari Schultz - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

ML

“ To my pal, Glad. I am missing you so much. I have so very many memories of our friendship. We made a good team solving so many problems--from cooking and gardening to what political office you should run for or be appointed to because you were qualified for most of them or so you told me. I loved our little contests when the South Dakota magazine came out to see whose home town was mentioned the most - Buffalo or Renner. I'm sure I could write a fun book on some of the experiences we shared and I smile now as I think of them. Now Harold has his "cute" bride at his side. Thanks for being my very good friend.

Mary Lee - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

JS

“ To our dear Auntie and Grandma Bean, You were so special to all of us who had the blessing of having you and Uncle Awk in our lives. Thank you for keeping us laughing, your gardening tips and most of all your love which will be in our hearts until we meet you again. With Love " Kick" {Joan}.

Joan Cornell Scheel - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM