



Lillian Wiest

June 26, 1923 - December 27, 2012

Lillian Wiest, 89, Bismarck, died December 27, 2012, at the Baptist Home, Bismarck. Services will be held at 1:00 pm Friday, January 11, at Faith Lutheran Church, Bismarck, with Rev. Gary Heaton officiating. Burial will follow in the spring at Memory Gardens Cemetery in Valley City, North Dakota. Visitation will be held one hour prior to the service at the church. Lillian Anundson was born June 26, 1923, in Valley City, North Dakota, to John and Anna Bjerke Anundson. She was preceded by four brothers and seven sisters, and would be followed by another sister. She attended school in Valley City until she, along with several siblings, was separated from her mother and sent to a children's home in Lake Park, Minnesota. She continued her education there until reunited with the rest of her family in Valley City, where she eventually graduated from high school.

She worked at several businesses in Valley City, most notably Auction City and Haroldson's Office Supply, where she would develop what came to be lifelong friendships with her bosses, who she impressed with both her warmth and work ethic. Being one of the "greatest generation," she saw her four brothers and one sister off into military service, two before Pearl Harbor with the North Dakota National Guard, and the rest following that terrible day. Another of her sisters left for the coast and a job as a wartime "Rosie Riveter." After the war, she was happily reunited with all of her siblings, and continued to work and live in Valley City. Lillian married Luther F. Wiest on June 28, 1957, at Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Valley City. The couple continued to

live in Valley City until 1965, when Northwestern Bell Telephone transferred Luther to Bismarck, North Dakota, where they would live out the rest of their lives. They had no children, but welcomed their nephew Glenn Elliott into their home in September 1968 following the death of his mother, Lillian's sister Alpha or "Debby." They raised him until he departed for college in 1973, watching him complete his education at Simle Junior High and Bismarck High School. Luther, a Korean War veteran, and Lillian were both active members of the Veterans of Foreign Wars post in Bismarck, as well as the Telephone Pioneers following Luther's retirement from Northwestern Bell in 1984. Lillian worked part-time for some years afterwards in the North Dakota Tax Department. Lillian retired in 1996 to care for Luther after he suffered a stroke, and faithfully did so until Luther's passing in June 2007. After several health setbacks in late 2011 and early 2012, Lillian entered the Baptist Home in Bismarck, where she lived until passing away on December 27, 2012, following a severe stroke. Lillian was preceded in death by Luther's and her parents and all of both her and Luther's siblings, and by three of her nephews, part of the numerous group known to each other as "the cousins." She is survived by the rest of those nieces and nephews, including Glenn.

Tribute Wall

BA

“*RIP Aunt Lil. You will be missed by all of your nieces and nephews, which I am proud to say I am one of many. Since your passing, memories of that large family have been flooding back to me. I am so grateful for old photos to spark them as well. I so remember the "Anundson" Family Gatherings. Oh my what a crew that was! You have finished your earthly journey and now you have joined your beloved Luther and all the others that passed before you. I will forever remember your smile and infectious laugh and your love of family will live in us forever. Barb Schuler Orner*

BarbyO - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

JL

“*In memory of Aunt Lillian: We say "good-bye to the last living child of John and Anna Bjerke Anundson. Our thoughts and prayers are with Lillian's family and friends at this time of remembering. It is with regret that David and I cannot be with you to share the sadness as well as to remember and rejoice in the growing up years of many fun filled family gatherings and special occasions. A large family seems to be a thing of the past. We can savor it as a part of our history and incredibly unique experiences. May the spirit of good times past outweigh and outlast the sorrow we feel at the moment. May the memories linger. May we all find peace as we come to the end of an era. May we all celebrate with gladness a life well lived. Joanne*

Joanne Stiles Laird - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

AS

“*RIP Lillian, you were an awesome neighbor, the neighborhood will miss your "Hello, I am ok and have a good day waves and your beautiful smile.*

Annette Scholl - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

JL

“ *In memory of Aunt Lillian: We say "good-bye" to the last living child of John and Anna Bjerke Anundson. Our thoughts and prayers are with Lillian's family and friends at this time of remembering. It is with regret that David and I cannot be with you to share the sadness as well as to remember and rejoice in the growing up years of many fun filled family gatherings and special occasions. A large family seems to be a thing of the past. We can savor it as a part of our history and incredibly unique experiences. May the spirit of good times past outweigh and outlast the sorrow we feel at the moment. May the memories linger. May we all find peace as we come to the end of an era. May we all celebrate with gladness a life well lived.*

Joanne

Joanne Stiles Laird - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM