



Luella M Becker

May 11, 1931 - December 21, 2010

Luella May Becker, 79, of Bismarck, died Dec. 21 at St. Vincent's Care Center. A memorial service will be held at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, at the corner of Washington and Divide, Bismarck on Jan. 4 at 11 a.m. Cremation has taken place and interment will be at Sim's Cemetery, rural Almont, at a later date. Lu was born to George and Inga Johnson Wanstrom of Almont, ND, on May 11, 1931. Following her high school graduation in Almont, she attended Dickinson State College and Valley City State College to obtain her teaching certificate. In 1954, Lu married Kenneth Becker of New Salem. Lu was a loving, busy mom of four children and an elementary teacher for over 30 years. She began her career at a small country school near her family farm, where she taught briefly, before teaching one year in Jamestown. After Ken graduated from Jamestown College, the couple spent one year in Wilton. Lu resumed her teaching in Underwood, where she taught for ten years. After a short one-year stay in Harvey, the Beckers moved to Minot and Lu taught at nearby Surrey from 1967 until her retirement in 1993. Lu learned to love sports and avidly followed her husband's 30-year coaching career, rarely missing one of his games. The couple moved to Bismarck following her retirement, where they enjoyed an active life, traveling, attending their grandchildren's activities, sporting events and spending winters in California until Ken's death in April of 2007. Lu's outgoing personality, loyalty and kind heart garnered her many treasured friends through the years. Many of her loyal friends were there to care and comfort her through months of cancer

treatments and complications from Parkinson's Disease. Lu loved her caregivers and neighbors at the Primrose and was grateful for the special loving care of the nurses, aids, staff at St. Vincent's and hospice during her short stay. She retained her wonderful sense of humor until her final days with family and friends. Lu was a member of Good Shepherd Lutheran Church and Mary Circle. She is survived by one son: Dwight Teri Becker, LaQuinta, CA; three daughters: Julie Jim Arbach, Washburn; Nancy Doug Johnson, Omaha, NE; Patti Jeff Court, Phoenix AZ ; seven grandchildren: Brandon Allison Arbach, Kayla Alain Green, Bismarck; Tanner and Jacob Court, Phoenix; Rosie Augustine Gamboa, LaQuinta CA; Geronimo Loera, Monterey CA; Sgt. Juan Duran, Colorado Springs CA ; five great grandchildren; one brother Charles Wanstrom, Mandan and two sister-in-laws; Fern Ray Albrecht, Bismarck, and Dorothy Becker New Salem, along with numerous nieces, nephews and many wonderful friends. Lu was preceded in death by her husband Ken, parents George and Inga, brothers Elmer and Wilbur Wanstrom.

Tribute Wall

LH

“ Patti, Nancy and Family: I am so saddened to hear about your mother's death. I can't imagine your loss. May your memories bring you peace. I have so many fond memories of your mother, your family and your house on Forest Road. My thoughts and prayers are with you all. Lorri

Lorri Lokken Haberman - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

JS

“ Patti and family, I was so sorry to read your mom's obituary in the paper. Just wanted to let you know that I have been thinking of you! Thoughts and prayers to you and your family!

Jodi Stewart - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

DF

“ Our thoughts and prayers go out to the Becker family at this difficult time. Take comfort knowing that your mother was a special person because of her consistent kindness and devotion to teaching, but mostly because she was a coach's wife. Growing up I remember riding to games with my Mom and the other coaches' wives and the constant giggling that seemed to fill the whole trip. She was the ringleader. Besides your Mom being a great person and loving mother, being a coach's wife earns her a automatic bid to the big show. You are all in our prayers.

Dan & Maria Leidholt and Family - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

RW

“ Both Kenny and Lu left this earth too soon. I feel sure that they are happily reunited and are being blessed by our Lord in Heaven. Kenny and I played sports and were close friends while growing up. We graduated from New Salem High School together. class of 1950

Robert and Nancy Wilkens - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

DT

“ I have a lost a very dear friend. We shared so much in ND and CA. Wish I could hug all of you as you are very special to ne. You had a wonderful and very special Mom. I will miss her! Love and Prayers, Darlene

Darlene Treider - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

DT

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Darlene Treider - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

SW

“ With sadness I say good bye to one of my dearest friends. We have been friends since 1971, when I started teaching in Surrey. I so enjoy reading the guestbook of the former students in her 4th grade class. Lu gave 100% percent to her job. The students in Surrey were so blessed to have her as a teacher. I was so blessed to call her my dearest friend for all these years. Lu and I kept in close contact for all these years. My sincerest sympathy to her family. You have lost a jewel.I have lost a true friend. Sherryl Whitted

sherryl whitted - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

KW

“ *Becker Family, It is true, all Surrey students wanted to be in Mrs. Becker's class even if just for the stickers she was constantly giving us. I was in her room nearly 30 years ago. Still, I can remember her beautiful white hair and that her lipstick was always perfectly applied. She was never too busy for a kind word, gentle smile, or a quick giggle. I count myself quite fortunate for having crossed paths with her. Thank you for sharing Mrs. Becker with hundreds of us ... we're better people for it.*

Karla Weiser-Walsh - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

DK

“ *Ms. Becker was the teacher all the kids wanted, as she was the fun teacher. She never forgot a name of a student.*

Debbie Kraft - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

SR

“ *My 4th grade reading teacher in Surrey.*

Sandy Kraft Rice - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

NL

“ *Mrs. Becker was my 3rd grade teacher and one of my absolute favorites. It was a pleasure to know you.*

Nick Leet - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

SL

“ *I was so fortunate to have you as my 3rd grade teacher. Rest in Peace Mrs. Becker!*

Sarah Leet-Storkson - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

MA

“ *My 4th grade teacher, One of the best!!*

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

TS

“ *Julie, Whitey, Nancy, Patty and families, Our deepest condolences and prayers go out to you! I had tremendous respect for both of you parents. One of the things that comes to mind is when our oldest son Chad was a senior in high school Coach and your mother drove down to Garrison from Minot to watch him play a football game. They were so loyal to their former athletes. I will remember them always.*

Tracy & Myrt Scott - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

EF

“ *Our prayers are with you. Lu was the greatest and I had the greatest respect for her as a teacher and friend. Erdina*

Erdina Fiedler - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

DR

“ *Dear Julie, Jim and Family, We are so sorry to read your Mom has passed away. God gave us memories of our loved ones and the grace to endure while separated. Our Deepest Sympathy to you all Diana, Hugh, Nick & Cody*

Diana & Hugh Raugust - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

VK

“ *I will miss Lu so much. She has been a big part of my life. We taught together for many years and then both moved to Bismarck, where we have spent many happy hrs together. God knows she is in a much better place . Vada*

Vada Kingsley - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

JW

“*Julie, Whitey, Nancy, and Patty, Our deepest sympathies and prayers go out to each of you and your families during such a difficult time. May you find comfort in remembering all of the wonderful memories. May it also comfort you to know your Mom is now at peace, no longer in any discomfort and most of all, with your Dad. God's blessings to each of you, please let us know if we can help in any way. Jackie and Reed*

Jackie Wilke - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM