



## Betty Ann Mertens

November 23, 1935 - March 18, 2020

Sutton, NE resident Betty Ann Mertens, 84, passed away Wednesday, March 18, 2020, at the Blue Hill Care Center in Blue Hill, NE.

Due to the COVID-19 restrictions, a private Rosary and Mass of Christian Burial will be conducted at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Sutton, NE with Father Michael Zimmer officiating. Services will be live-streamed from [stmaryssutton.org](http://stmaryssutton.org) beginning at 9:50 a.m., Wednesday, March 25, 2020. Private interment will follow at St. Martin-Loucky Cemetery near Deweese, NE. Visitation will be Tuesday, from 1 p.m. - 8 p.m., at Sutton Memorial Chapel in Sutton, NE.

Memorial contributions may be directed to St. Mary's Catholic Church in Sutton, NE.

Betty was born November 23, 1935, at home in Fairfield, NE to John and Christina (Petr) Hajny. Betty graduated from Fairfield High School in 1953.

On November 16, 1954, Betty married Raymond Mertens at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Sutton. They were blessed with two children. Betty drove a school bus for Sutton Public Schools for several years. She was also a dispatcher at the Clay County Sheriff's Office and drove the Sutton Ambulance. She worked for the City of Sutton as a groundskeeper and had

her own lawn service. She worked at Geneva Motors as a car detailer and worked as a custodian in the Geneva Public School System. She retired at the age of 70 and worked in volunteer positions packing backpacks, folding school newsletters, and participating in St. Mary's Altar Society.

Betty was preceded in death by her parents; her husband, Raymond; and her sister, Lorene.

Betty is survived by her daughter, Christine (Mertens) Wiard and husband Thomas Wiard of Gillette, WY; Thomas J. Mertens and Wife Kimberly Mertens of North Platte, NE; grandchildren, Matthew Wiard; Amanda and Brandon Gerhardt; Megan Wiard; Michael and Jenna Wiard; Ashley (Mertens) and Brad Palu; Alyssa (Mertens) and Eric Moeller; and Alexandra (Mertens) and Dalton Thomlison; great-grandchildren, Harmony and Gabriel Wiard; Eliza and Emmaline Gerhardt; Olivia and Brooks Palu; and Easton Moeller; brother and sister-in-law, John and Geri Hajny; and many nieces, nephews, other relatives and many friends.

# Tribute Wall

PS

“ We are sorry for your loss. Ray always fixed our vacuum cleaners, and she was always friendly and helpful when we came to the house. We will miss her upbeat and generous spirit. We pray that God will comfort you and that memories will come to mind of the good days to help you through your grief.

Pam & Delvin Stahl - March 26, 2020 at 08:19 PM

KB

“ Betty was such a pleasure to know and be around. I loved visiting with her and hearing her stories. One of my fondest memories is when she toured the Hastings College Campus with us as I was going back to school late in life - it was a very special day. I also loved her love for her dogs. She was so very special and will be greatly missed. My thoughts and prayers to her family and friends.

Kelly Boom - March 25, 2020 at 09:24 AM

CF

“ We are so sorry for your loss. Aunt Betty and Uncle Ray were always so fun to be around. Betty was a strong and loving person. She will be missed. Our thoughts and prayers, Carol and Stan

Carol and Stan Fraas - March 25, 2020 at 07:12 AM

RT

“ We have known Betty for most of the years she lived in Sutton. Judy's brother Tom married Betty's daughter Chris and we always felt part of her family then. Betty was a lot of fun and Judy will always have fond memories of having many dances with her at Amanda & Brandon's wedding. So sorry for your loss. She will be missed!!

Ron and Judy Traudt - March 25, 2020 at 07:11 AM

JB

“ Betty and I drove school bus during the same time. I enjoyed our talks and wonderful visits. Sending prayers during this difficult time for your loss. Betty will be missed.

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**Joyce Brown** - March 24, 2020 at 01:02 PM

SD

“ I haven't seen Betty for years but she was a wonderful person I thought as was her family, we knew Ray for years to since went to Lawrence to high school and to the dances, picture shows on the wall etc. My sympathy, love and prayers go out to her and the family and friends that are left. May she rest in peace.

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**Shirley Kalvoda Schendt Dove** - March 23, 2020 at 08:54 AM

DU

“ May she rest in peace. She was a very remarkable person. So full of ambition. She was a very busy person. Also, a remarkable personality.  
*Dolores Utecht*

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**Dolores Utecht** - March 23, 2020 at 08:35 AM

DG

“ We are sorry for your loss. It didn't matter where we saw Betty; the grocery store, downtown at any of the business's, etc., you always got a smile and a visit. Some were short and some were longer but always enjoyable.

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**Don and Esther Griess** - March 22, 2020 at 09:58 PM

PL

“ Aunt Betty had a special place in my heart. Not only was she warm and caring she was fun. My sincere condolences to her family. Keeping you in my prayers and thoughts.

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**Pam Livingston** - March 22, 2020 at 04:07 PM

RS

“ Betty was always an example of joy and her smile was infextious. She will be missed. Our prayers go out to all her family and close friends.

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**Ron and Ladona Soucek** - March 22, 2020 at 09:10 AM

RF

“ I am so sorry for your loss. Betty was a sweet lady and I really got to know her a little better doing her hair. She will be missed. I did sit w her for awhile Wed and held her hand. I felt so bad when I knew you wouldn't make it back in time. Again so sorry thoughts and prayers for you and your family.

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**Renee Fielder** - March 21, 2020 at 03:40 PM

EK

“ Our sympathy to all of you. Betty was a dear person. She drove the bus when our girls were in school, and she always made all the kids (and parents) feel they were special. Betty and Ray were such good neighbors to Ed's mother and to Margaret and Warren. (Betty could fold newsletters faster than anyone else, and the faster she talked the faster she folded! Loved her!)

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**Ed and Roselyn Korb** - March 21, 2020 at 07:52 AM

LS

“ I am so sorry for your loss. Betty was an amazing woman. She spoiled us every year with her garden produce. And her beef jerky. It was so addicting. Betty and Ray were always quick to offer any help they could. They are finally reunited again. She will be greatly missed.

Lonnie. Lisa. Alyssa. Alexa Stripe - March 20, 2020 at 05:58 PM

LN

“ We are so sorry for your loss. Betty was such a wonderful neighbor and friend. She was always willing to help out anyone in need. I will miss our long talks. Our prayers are with you and your family at this time. If you need anything, please let us know.

Lee and Janelle Nuss - March 20, 2020 at 05:44 PM

PE

“ I worked with Betty at the Geneva Public Schools. I absolutely loved visiting with her! She talked a lot about her family. She made jerky and shared it with my family and my kids will always remember her for that--they loved it. She was a dear lady and my family all thought the world of her. I am so sorry for your loss she was certainly one of a kind and will be dearly missed!!

Pat Engle - March 20, 2020 at 12:57 PM

SS

“ So sorry for your loss. Know our prayers are with you and your family.

Suzie Osterloh and Floyd Speigelmeyer - March 20, 2020 at 12:45 PM