



Verna (Griess) Schmer

March 2, 1918 - July 5, 2015

Sutton resident, Verna (Griess) Schmer, 97, passed away peacefully on Sunday, July 5, 2015, at Hillcrest View Assisted Living in Sutton, NE.

Funeral services will be 1:00 p.m., Thursday, July 9, 2015, at the Federated Church in Sutton, NE with Pastor Mary Scott officiating. Interment will follow at the Sutton Cemetery in Sutton, NE. Visitation will be Wednesday, July 8, 2015, from 1 - 8 p.m., at Sutton Memorial Chapel in Sutton, NE.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be directed to Hillcrest View Assisted Living or the Federated Church in Sutton, NE.

Verna was born March 2, 1918, to Edgar and Rachel (Peter) Griess on the family farm in Fillmore County east of Sutton. She was baptized on June 2, 1918, at the Salem Free Reformed Church and was confirmed there also on June 4, 1933. She graduated from Sutton High School on May 21, 1936. During her early years, Verna worked as a cashier for the family cream and egg station, as a cook, baker, and waitress at Vi's Café on Highway 6; and also worked the sugar beets at Northport in western Nebraska. On May 20, 1937, she was united in marriage to Ervin Lester Schmer at the Reformed Parsonage by the Rev. Paul Traeger. To this union, two children were born: Sharon Ann and Gary Lee. After their marriage, Verna devoted herself to her family and farming. Ervin and Verna lived and worked on the farm until 1968,

when they retired, built a home and moved into town. Beginning in 1974, they enjoyed spending their winter in Zapata, TX. Although Ervin passed away on September 20, 1989, Verna continued to winter there until 2006.

She belonged to a 4H club, the Bixby Extension Club, Country Chorus, and the Federated Church Circle. Verna loved her flowers and garden and was proud to show them to family and friends. She also had a passion for playing cards, mainly bridge and pitch.

Verna is survived by her daughter, Sharon Griess of Sutton, NE; son, Gary (Deb) Schmer of Sutton, NE; grandchildren, Jerlyn (John) Williams of Prescott, MI; Brenda (David) Winter of Sutton, NE; Wesley W. (Kim) Griess of Sutton, NE; Rachel (Curt) Ellenz of Beloit, KS; Brian (Vicki) Schmer of Omaha, NE; Christina (Dusten) Olds of Gretna, NE; Kathleen (Joseph) Thompson of Greeley, CO; Elizabeth (Justin) Mentele of Salina, KS; 21 great-grandchildren; 6 great-great-grandchildren; sister, Ruth Reichert of Gering, NE; brothers, Ivan (Florence) Griess and Louis (Regina) Griess all of California.

Verna was preceded in death by her husband, Ervin; her parents; 4 brothers, Cornelious; William; Marlin; Curtis; 2 sisters, Elenora and Lenea; and son-in-law, Wesley Griess.

Tribute Wall

RG

“ So sorry for your loss. Your family is in our thoughts.

Rhonda gundert - July 08, 2015 at 03:29 PM

BD

“ I have such fond memories of Mrs. Schmer. I used to help her in her garden when I was very young and lived next door. She used to give me flowers to take home to my mom and she always had lemon drops! I will cherish my memories of her and Mr. Schmer. My thoughts and prayers go to the family, may you all cherish your memories like I will.

Brenda Veleba Dolezal - July 08, 2015 at 03:24 PM

KG

“ I am so sorry for your loss. I truly enjoyed sharing a love of genealogy with Verna. We spent several hours together comparing and assisting each other complete different family branches. She was a wonderful lady.

Kathy Griess - July 07, 2015 at 02:29 PM