

Gladys was born in her home in Haylend Township of Divide County, ND on February 26, 1919, a daughter of Ole and Ellen Heggstad. While in high school in McGregor she stayed with her sister Amy. She then worked as a nurse's aide in Williston.

On February 10, 1940 she married Elmer K. Olson at her parent's home and they established their home in rural McGregor also.



During those early years, Gladys was a devoted wife and mother of four children. She worked out in the fields as well as in her kitchen. Everything she did, she did very well, from driving and unloading a truck full of grain to baking delicious cakes, pies and donuts etc. She always had food on hand and she insisted that coffee be served on a table cloth. She enjoyed making all of the Norwegian delicacies and made Kransekake (Norwegian Wedding Cake) for all of her grandchildren's weddings at their request. Everyone who was privileged to sit in Gladys' kitchen had a memory to hold forever.

Gladys had an exceptionally kind heart and was often the first to step-up and help others. She readily welcomed guests, who in those early days were always unexpected. It was so important to her to never say or do anything that would be hurtful to others. She could be hurt very deeply but could regain her pleasant self and say, "Just let it go." She was a wonderful mother, grandmother and great-grandmother and taught many important life lessons in her own quiet, undemanding way.

Those Who Shared In Her Life

Husband Elmer K. Olson; daughters: Ardella (Kermit) Holte, Gloria Gunderson, Ardis (Edwin) Kirchgessner; grandchildren: Monte Olson, Mitchell Olson, Melissa Olson, MelVerne Olson, Nathan Holte, Sheldon Holte, Steven Holte, Sheri Reab, Natalie Crampton, Valerie Smith, Bryan Johnson; 25 great-grand children: nephew Lyle (Sandy) Forsgren.



Gladys was preceded in death by her parents, son Orrin Eugene Olson, sisters Amy and Ellen Josie, brothers Ole and Ole, and a nephew Dale Forsgren.



*In Loving Memory
Of
Gladys Irene Olson
1919-2008*