

Gladys Mildred Swenson was born October 9, 1917, in Canby, MN the daughter of Carl and Ella (Samuelson) Swenson. In March of 1920 at the age of four, she moved with her family to Bowbells, ND. At the age of fifteen she worked on a ranch in Wyoming for seven months. In 1934 she drove to New York City with a friend in a new 1934 Ford Coupe. She worked and lived for two years.



She returned home to Bowbells, ND for Christmas in 1936 and stayed. She met Hilbert Pfeifer at a house party through his sister Marie Cron. It was love at first sight. They courted and were married January 28, 1938 in Kenmare, ND. They moved to Minnesota where they lived for a year, working together for a family on a farm in Lafayette, MN. They then moved back to Bowbells, ND, working for Sandy Wiper, helping with the farming and housework.

After Hilbert, Jr., Dwight, and Dwaine arrived, they decided to rent a farm, buy machinery, cows and 500 chickens. With the arrival of Gerald, Norris and Ella Marie the family was complete.

In 1950, with six children, Hilbert and Gladys started their own farm. Gladys was a devoted loving farm wife because of the values of hard work, faith in God and love of the land they had a wonderful family farm life. Hilbert and Gladys retired from farming in 1978. They moved off the farm and into Bowbells in 1986. In the winters they lived in Arizona.

In 1997, Gladys's husband Hilbert passed away. In 2001 she moved to assisted living in River Falls, Wisconsin where her daughter lived. She resided in Wisconsin for four years. When Ella Marie and her husband, Jerry moved to Hastings, MN, Gladys moved into Hastings Regina Assisted Living, where she resided until God called her home on October 2, 2008.

Gladys was a member of Bethlehem Lutheran Church, Bowbells, and Bethlehem Lutheran Women's Organization. She was a member of the American Legion Auxiliary and Lakeside Homemakers Club. Gladys's lifetime interests were her loving family, gardening, golf, bingo, cards, cross-stitch, music and shared laughter.

Those who shared in her life, sons, Hilbert B. (Joyce) Pfeifer, Jr., Dodge Center, MN, Dwaine (Carolyn) Pfeifer, Phoenix, AZ, Dwight (Iva) Pfeifer, Mesa, AZ, Jerry (Ollie Ann) Pfeifer, Bowbells, ND and Norris (Rynnene) Pfeifer, Enterprise, AL; daughter, Ella Marie (Jerry) Gustafson, Hastings, MN; 17 grandchildren; 23 great-grandchildren; sister, Arlene (Art) Eklund, Crosby, ND; brother, Elden Swenson, Bowbells; sisters-in-law, Ester Swenson, Port Angeles, WA, Marion Swenson, Irene Swenson and Dorthea Pankow, all of Bowbells; special nephew, Reiny Pfeifer; and numerous nieces, nephews and cousins.

Gladys was preceded in death by her husband, Hilbert; her parents, Carl and Ella Swenson; brothers, Manfred, Bertil, Henry, and Donald Swenson; and sister-in-law, Judy Pfeifer.

In Loving Memory



Gladys M. Pfeifer
1917 ~ 2008