

Violet Mae Souther was born June 9, 1928 to Raymond and Julia (Long) Souther. She attended school for a time south of Larson, ND. She moved with her family south of Lignite and later north of Columbus, ND, where she attended rural school in Short Creek Township. The family later moved to the Cory farm east of Sawyer, ND and Violet attended school in Sawyer and later Minot High School.

At the age of 17 she worked as a waitress at the American Café in Minot. She also was employed at the LaPlaza and then Kresky's Dime Store until she married Henry A. Erber, Jr. on August 29, 1948.

Following their marriage they moved out to the Erber farm near Glenburn, ND and then to the Wilson farm east of Ruthville, ND. In 1958 they purchased a farm near Glenburn, where they lived until their divorce in 1960. Violet moved to Minot where she worked at the Oppen Valley Market as a checker.

On June 9, 1961 Violet married Thomas Hugh "Bus" Wilson, Jr. at St. Mark's Lutheran Church in Minot. They lived and farmed 13 miles northwest of Minot. On April 29, 1970 Thomas drowned in the flood in Foxholm. Violet continued to live on the farm until 1974 when they moved to Hawaii. In 1975 she moved back to the farm near Foxholm. She lived in the Minot area until entering Trinity Homes in Minot three years ago.

Violet was a member of St. Mark's Lutheran Church, Minot. She was a member of Prairie Rose Ceramics, and for many years she made ceramics in her home and sold them at her ceramic shop in Ruthville. Violet was a 4-H leader in Foxholm for many years and was a member of KW Mixette Homemakers. Violet loved to bowl and was a member of many bowling leagues over the years.

Those Who Shared In Her Life

Children, Henry (Linda) Erber, Glenburn, ND; Karen Lynne (John Pelham) Davenport, Lavergne, TN and Elaine Sue (Tracy) Steiner, Jackson, MN; son-in-law, Jim Davenport III, Laurel, MT; stepson, Ron (Susan) Wilson; stepdaughters, Gloria (Steve) Young, Jeri (George) Davis and Kathy (Dave) Brittingham; grandchildren, Jennifer Ahmann, Paul Erber, Anna Mae Cline, Terry Davenport, Tyler, Zachary, JT Steiner and Julynn Lavin Steiner; seven great-grandchildren; 13 step-grandchildren and 12 step-great-grandchildren; sisters, Deraine (Allen) Frelander, West Fargo, ND, Evelyn (Rod) Preskey, Glenburn, ND, Bonnie Kjelbertson of Virginia and Lavonne (Jim) Birney, Topeka, KS; numerous nieces, nephews and cousins.

Violet was preceded in death by her husband, Thomas "Bus" Wilson; granddaughter, Alexandra Steiner; sisters, Adeline Carroll and Rosemary Kallis; brothers, Sylvester McNabb, Julian and Donald Souther.